



Commission for Energy Regulation

An Coimisiún um Rialáil Fuinnimh

Metering Code

Proposed Changes for the Single Electricity Market

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(Proposed changes are highlighted in red text)

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PREFACE

1. The Single Electricity Market (“SEM”) was developed by the Commission for Energy Regulation and the Northern Ireland Authority for Energy Regulation pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding dated 23 August 2004 and the subsequent All-Island Energy Market Development Framework agreed in November 2004 between Noel Dempsey TD, the Minister for Communications, Marine and Natural Resources and Barry Gardiner MP, the Minister with Responsibility for Enterprise, Trade and Investment in Northern Ireland. This Metering Code constitutes the Ireland metering arrangements for the SEM.
2. The Metering Code specifies the minimum technical, design and operational criteria to be complied with for all commercial metering and data collection equipment and the associated procedures as required for the operation of an efficient electricity market.
3. Metering Equipment shall be provided by ESB Networks and shall comply with the provisions of the Metering Code.
4. The Metering Code is divided into six sections:
 - (a) Definitions;
 - (b) General Provisions;
 - (c) Meter Approval, Certification and Testing;
 - (d) Meter Data Management;
 - (e) General Technical Criteria;
 - (f) Load Profile Metering.
5. This Preface is provided to Users and to prospective Users for information only and does not constitute part of this Metering Code.

1.0 DEFINITIONS

All definitions contained in the Distribution Code apply with the following additions:

Actual Metering Point	The physical point at which electricity is metered.
Applicable Laws	has the meaning given in the Trading and Settlement Code
Business Day	Any day other than a Saturday or Sunday or a public holiday in the Republic of Ireland.
Board	means the Electricity Supply Board;
Charging Period	The period over which an electricity trading account is settled.
Check Meter	The meter nominated to provide electrical energy measurements at a metering point for verification or substitution.
Competent Authority	has the meaning given in the Trading and Settlement Code
Data Aggregation	The process of accumulating demands by Supplier and time period for settlement purposes using meter readings or by using estimates and later reconciling to actual meter readings.
Data Collection System	A computer based system that collects or receives data on a routine basis from Metering Equipment.
Defined Metering Point	The physical location at which the overall accuracy requirements as stated in this Code are to be met. These Metering point locations are fully defined in the relevant Connection Agreements.
Demand Period	Demand period means the time period over which active power is integrated to produce Demand Values. Each demand period shall be of 15 minutes duration, one of which shall finish at 24:00 hrs.

Demand Value	Demand values, expressed in kW or kVAr are four times the value of kWh or kVArh recorded during any demand period. The Demand Values are 15-minute demands and these are identified by the time of the end of the Demand Period.
Director of Legal Metrology (DLM)	Independent Government Body responsible for ensuring that equipment complies with this Code.
Distribution System Operator (DSO)	Means the Board in its capacity as distribution system operator licensed pursuant to section 14(1)(g) of the Electricity Regulation Act, 1999;
Export	An electricity flow into the Distribution/Transmission system from a user.
ESB Networks	means the Board acting in its capacity as Licensee of the Distribution and Transmission businesses licensed pursuant to section 14(1)(g) and 14(1)(f) of the Electricity Regulation Act, 1999;
Final Customers	means a person being supplied with electricity at a single premises for consumption on those premises.
Grid Code	has the meaning given in the Trading and Settlement Code
Import	An electricity flow out of the Distribution/Transmission system to a user.
Legal Requirements	means any requirement under Applicable Laws, any applicable Licence, any applicable Grid Code or any requirement, direction, determination, decision, instruction or rule of any Competent Authority
Licence	has the meaning given in the Trading and Settlement Code
Locally Attached Device	A hand held unit (also known as local interrogation unit) or portable computer (laptop), which can extract meter data and store it for retrieval later at a different location.

Main Meter	The meter nominated to provide electrical energy measurements at a metering point.
Maximum Demand	The highest Demand Value registered over a period of time for tariff and other purposes.
Maximum Import Capacity (MIC)	means the amount of electricity expressed in KW and kVA referred to as being the “Maximum Import Capacity” connection agreement between ESB Networks or the TSO as appropriate and the customer.
Meter	A device for measuring and recording units of electrical energy.
Meter Certificate	The statement issued by the ESB Networks confirming that the Meter or Metering Equipment complies with the requirements of the Metering Code.
Meter Reconciliation Statement	The statement of the comparison of the cumulative energy recorded in the Meter Register with the summated energy derived from the Demand Values recorded remotely.
Metering Equipment	Meters, time-switches, measurement transformers, metering protection and isolation equipment, circuitry and their associated data storage and data communications equipment and wiring which are part of the Active Energy and Reactive Energy measuring equipment at or relating to a site.
Meter Registration System Operator or MRSO	Means the unit of the ESB Networks business which discharges the functions described in condition 8 of the DSO licence and provides the services described in condition 9 of the DSO licence.
Public Electricity Supplier (PES)	ESB in its capacity as Public Electricity Supplier.
Rated Measuring Current	The rated current of the Meter used for the purposes of measurement.

Reactive Energy	The integral with respect to time of the Reactive Power.
Register	A device, normally associated with a Meter, from which it is possible to obtain a reading of the amount of Active Energy or Reactive Energy that has been supplied by a circuit, or a Demand Value.
Relevant Meter Operator	The entity obliged under licence, issued by the Commission, to operate and provide for the installation, testing, calibration and data collection of a defined set of metering points.
Settlement Period	The time period over which energy values are integrated for settlement purposes as defined in the Trading and Settlement Code. It is an integer multiple of the Demand Period.
Settlement System Administrator	The party so identified in the Trading and Settlement Code.
The Commission	Means the Commission for Energy Regulation
Trading & Settlement Code	The code of that name which sets out the rules for wholesale market settlement and the responsibilities of parties to the code to be developed pursuant to the Act.
Transmission System Owner (TSO)	means the Board as owner of the transmission system, licensed pursuant to Section 14(1)(f) (Licensing of Transmission System Owner) of the Act;
Transmission System Operator (TSO)	means the EirGrid as operator of the transmission system, licensed Pursuant to Section 14(1)(e) (Licensing of Transmission System Operator) of the Act. Pending the coming into operation of Eirgrid's TSO licence, this function is discharged by ESB National Grid Business Unit pursuant to S.I. No 49 of 2000.

2.0 GENERAL PROVISIONS

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 This code sets out the minimum standards for the measurement and recording of metered quantities of electricity for the purposes of electricity trading and transport in Ireland.

2.2 Scope

2.2.1 The Metering Code applies to the Transmission System Owner (TSO), Transmission System Operator (TSO), the Distribution System Operator and the following:

- (a) Generators;
- (b) Independent Suppliers;
- (c) PES.
- (d) Final customers

who for the purposes of the Code are deemed to be the Users.

2.2.2 In the event of any conflict between any User's obligation pursuant to any Legal Requirements and this Metering Code, such conflict shall be resolved according to the following order of priority:

- (a) requirements under Applicable Laws;
- (b) any applicable requirement, direction, determination, decision, instruction

- or rule of any Competent Authority;
- (c) applicable Licence;
- (d) applicable Grid Code;
- (e) this Metering Code; and
- (f) the Trading and Settlement Code.

2.3 Objective

2.3.1 For all Commercial Metering Equipment, this Code specifies the conditions governing the following:

- (a) technical, design and operational criteria;
- (b) accuracy and calibration;
- (c) approval, certification and testing;
- (d) meter reading and data management.

2.4 Derogations

2.4.1 If a User finds that it is, or will be unable to comply with any provision of the Meter Code, then it shall without delay report such non-compliance to the Commission and shall, subject to the provisions of 2.4.2 make such reasonable efforts as are required to remedy such non-compliance as soon as reasonably practicable.

2.4.2 Where the non-compliance is:

- (a) with reference to Plant and/or Apparatus connected to the Distribution System or Transmission System and is caused solely or mainly as a result of a revision to the Meter Code; or
- (b) with reference to Plant and/or Apparatus which is connected, approved to connect, or for which approval to connect to the Distribution System or Transmission System is being sought;

and the User believes either that it would be unreasonable (including cost and technical considerations) to require it to remedy such non-compliance or that it should be granted an extended period to remedy such non-compliance it shall promptly submit to the Commission a request for a derogation from such provision in accordance with the requirements of 2.4.3 and shall provide the Commission with a copy of such application.

2.4.3 A request for derogation from any provision of the Meter Code (refer to Annex 1) shall contain:

- (a) the issue number and the date of the Meter Code provision against which compliance or predicted non-compliance was identified;
- (b) identification of the Plant and/or Apparatus in respect of which a derogation is sought and, if relevant, the nature and extent to which the non-compliance exists;

- (c) identification of the provision with which the User to the code is, or will be, unable to comply;
- (d) the reason for the non-compliance; and
- (e) the date by which compliance will be achieved (if remedy of the non-compliance is possible) subject to 2.4.2 (b).

2.4.4 If the User finds that it is, or will be, unable to comply with any provision of the Meter Code, then it shall, subject to the remaining provisions of (2.4) make such reasonable efforts as are required to remedy such non-compliance as soon as reasonably practicable.

2.4.5 On receipt of any request for derogation, the Commission shall promptly consider such request and provided that the Commission considers that the grounds for the derogation are reasonable, the Commission shall grant such derogation unless the derogation would, or it is likely that it would have a material adverse impact on the security and stability of the Distribution System or Transmission System or imposes unreasonable costs on the operation of the Distribution System or Transmission System. In its consideration of a derogation request by the User, the Commission may contact the any of the Users to obtain clarification of the request or to discuss changes to request.

Derogation from any provision of the Meter Code shall contain:

- (a) The issue number and the date of the Meter Code provision against which the derogation applies;
- (b) Identification of the provision with which the derogation applies;
- (c) Identification of the Plant and/or Apparatus in respect of which a derogation applies and, if relevant, the nature and extent to which the derogation applies including alternate compliance provision;
- (d) The reason for the non-compliance requiring derogation;
- (e) The date by which the derogation ends if compliance will be achieved, or by which such derogation expires.

2.4.6 To the extent of any derogation granted in accordance with 2.4 above, the User seeking the derogation/ and or the other Users shall be relieved form its obligation to comply with the applicable provision of the Meter Code and shall not be liable for failure to so comply but shall comply with any alternate provision as set forth in the derogation.

2.4.7 The Commission shall:

- (a) Keep a register of all derogations which have been granted, identifying the name of the person in respect of whom the

derogation has been granted, the relevant provision of the Meter Code, any conditions that apply and the period of the derogation; and

- (b) On request from any User, provide a copy of such register of derogations to such User.

2.4.9 Where a material change in circumstance has occurred a review of any existing derogations, and any derogations under consideration, may be initiated by the Commission at the request of a User or at the instigation of the Commission.

2.5 Modifications

2.5.1 Proposed modifications to this Code shall be forwarded to the Commission for approval.

2.6 Meter Provision

2.6.1 Metering shall be provided, installed **as soon as is reasonably practicable**, maintained, **and inspected** by ESB Networks to the standards specified in this Code.

2.6.2 Records of relevant meter data, and identification and specification details of meters shall be established and maintained by the relevant meter operator.

3.0 METER APPROVAL, CERTIFICATION AND TESTING

3.1 The Director of Legal Metrology has responsibility for meter type approval, meter certification and meter testing. For compliance with the provisions of this code these functions will be carried out by the relevant meter operator.

3.2 The relevant meter operator shall maintain records relating to the calibration of all Metering Equipment including the dates and results of any tests, readings, adjustments. Records shall also include any other details as may be reasonably required by the Director of Legal Metrology. Any such records shall be complete and accurate and retained for the life of the relevant item of Metering Equipment.

3.3 The relevant meter operator shall make arrangements to seal all metering equipment, data collection equipment and associated modems and telephone links.

3.4 Test terminals shall be provided for Main and Check Meters to facilitate on site tests. These terminals shall be in close proximity to the Meters.

3.5 Meters shall be tested if a divergence occurs between the main and check Meters that is more than 1.5 times the prescribed limit of error.

3.6 Any affected User may request a test to be carried out and should bear the reasonable costs of such testing if the Meter is found to be operating within the prescribed limits of error. Tests will be organised such that all relevant

Users are aware of the tests, are invited to witness them if required and the test results are made available to the User involved.

- 3.7 Care shall be taken in carrying out tests to ensure that any interruption to measurement is avoided or minimised.
- 3.8 Where a test indicates that an error exceeds the limits of error then these errors shall be recorded before promptly adjusting, repairing or renewing the Metering Equipment (or part thereof) or replacing any defective components. The Metering Equipment shall be restored to service and proved to be operating within the prescribed limits of accuracy as soon, as is reasonably practicable. In such cases, substitute data shall be provided for settlement purposes in accordance with the MRSO procedures.
- 3.9 Records of the pertinent data required for successful testing / calibration shall be established and maintained by the relevant meter operator.

4.0 METER DATA MANAGEMENT

4.1 Meter Data Access

- 4.1.1 Where any User is required to carry out a process necessitating meter data, the relevant meter operator shall specify the form and time period in which such data shall be provided or may be obtained.

4.2 Meter Measurement and Data Management

- 4.2.1 Metering Equipment shall be installed such that Metering Data held in the Metering installation is protected from direct local or remote electronic access by suitable password and security controls.
- 4.2.2 The data will be validated and substituted or estimated data will be provided where appropriate by the relevant meter operator. The data shall be processed and aggregated to rules set out by the Meter Registration System Operator (MRSO)
- 4.2.3 As a minimum, for each registered meter, [7] full years of data shall be retained.

4.3 Metering Equipment Failures

In cases where data is not available due to a failure or in cases where the Main Meter has been proven to have operated outside the prescribed limits of error, data substitution and estimation rules maybe used. These data estimation and substitution rules can employ CHECK, SCADA meters and for dispatchable generators instructed quantities and station energy and any other means deemed appropriate. These data substitution and estimation rules will be provided by the relevant meter operator for approval by the Commission.

5.0 GENERAL TECHNICAL CRITERIA

5.1 Introduction

This section defines the general technical requirements for the Metering Equipment required for the measurement and recording of electricity transfers at Defined Metering Points (DMPs). The provisions of this code shall apply equally to main and check Meters.

5.2 References

The following Standards are referred to in the text:

- (a) I.S. EN 60687 – Alternating Current Static Watt-Hour Meters for Active Energy (Cl. 0.2S and 0.5 S)
- (b) I.S. EN61268 – Alternating Current Static Var-Hour Meters for Reactive Energy (Cl. 2 and 3)
- (c) I.S. EN60521 – Cl. 0.5, 1.0 and 2.0 for alternating-current wathour meters.
- (d) I.S. EN 60044-1 – Current Transformers
- (e) I.S. EN 60044-2 – Voltage Transformers
- (f) I.S. EN 60044-3 – Instrument Transformers – Combined Transformers
- (g) IEC Standard 61036 - Alternating Current Static Watt-hour Meters for Active Energy (Cl. 1 and 2)
- (h) I.S. EN61107 – Data Exchange for meter reading – direct local data exchange.
- (i) Data Protection Act (1988)

5.3 Metering Point

- 5.3.1 The Defined Metering Point shall be at the connection point on the Distribution or Transmission System as applicable, as defined in the relevant connection agreement to the system.
- 5.3.2 The Actual Metering Point may be different from the Defined Metering Point subject to the approval of the relevant meter operator . In these cases the accuracy requirements of the Metering Code shall apply at the Defined Metering Point and Section 5.7.5 shall apply.
- 5.3.3 Metering Equipment shall be capable of determining Active and Reactive Energy flows (as required) during each Demand Period across each Defined Metering Point.

5.4 Main And Check Metering

- 5.4.1 For connections greater than 10 MVA, Main and Check Metering shall be provided. Main and Check Meters shall operate from separate CT and VT windings.
- 5.4.2 CT and VT windings and cables connecting such windings to Main Meters shall be dedicated for such purposes and such cables and connections shall be securely sealed.

5.4.3 CT and VT windings and cables connecting such windings to Check Meters may be used for other purposes provided the overall accuracy requirements are met and evidence of the value of the additional burden is available for inspection by the Settlement System Administrator.

5.4.4 The Main Meter, Check Meter and additional burdens shall have separately fused VT supplies.

5.5 Measurement Parameters

The Relevant Meter Operator shall at all times have in place a policy document approved by the Commission, which will specify, but will not be limited to, the following policies:

- Thresholds for meters which will measure KWh only;
- Use of Time switches;
- Use of Unmetered connections
- Thresholds for Maximum Demand meters
- Thresholds for Profile Metering

Changes to such policies requested by the Users or Relevant Meter Operator form time to time shall be submitted to the Commission for approval.

5.5.1 For each separate circuit the Metering Equipment shall be capable of measuring the following parameters:

(a) Import kWh;

and, in addition, for connections with an MIC greater than the threshold specified in the relevant meter operator policy document

(b) Import kVAh

5.5.2 For connections with an MIC threshold as specified in the relevant policy the following maximum demand (MD) values shall be registered per Charging Period;

(a) Import kW;

(b) Import kVA

The meters shall register MD over 24 hours and will be capable of separately registering four additional MD values for programmable time periods.

5.5.3 For connections where electricity is traded on a seasonal time of day (STOD) tariff, approved by the Commission, the metering shall provide the following registers;

(a) Eight energy registers selectable over the calendar year for three phase connections.

(b) Four energy registers selectable over the calendar years for single-phase connections.

5.5.4 For connections with an MIC of less than the threshold specified in the relevant policy document, only import kWh shall be measured (except where supplies are unmetered by agreement as per the threshold specified in the relevant policy document). Where required meters shall be suitable for multi or time of use tariffs controlled by [an integral clock].

5.6 Metering Equipment Standards

5.6.1 The Meter shall be enclosed in a cabinet or otherwise installed in a manner which shall conform to the manufacturer's stated environmental conditions. The installation shall provide protection from moisture and dust ingress and from physical damage, including vibration. In addition, the cabinet or meter must be sealed to prevent unauthorised access.

5.6.2 A Current Transformer (CT), in accordance with I.S. EN 60044-1(or equivalent European standard) and a Voltage Transformer (VT), in accordance with I.S EN 60044-2(or equivalent European Standard) shall be provided for Metering as required.

5.6.3 Where a combined unit measurement transformer (VT & CT) is provided the 'Tests for Accuracy' as covered in Clause 8 of IEC Standard 60044-3 covering mutual influence effects shall be met.

5.6.4 Meters in accordance with I.S. EN 60687, I.S. EN61036 or I.S. EN60521 as appropriate (or equivalent European Standard) shall be connected to the CT and VT, except where the meter is direct connected, and shall be located in a secure environment adjacent to any associated data logging and telecommunications equipment.

5.6.5 All Meters shall include a non-volatile Meter Register of cumulative energy for each measured quantity. The Meter Register(s) shall not rollover more than once within the normal Meter reading cycle.

5.6.6 Whole current meters will be installed in accordance with the relevant meter operator's policy as set out in the National Code of Practice for Customer Interface document.

5.7 Equipment Accuracy And Error Limits

5.7.1 The accuracy of the various items of measuring equipment shall conform to the relevant IEC standards (or equivalent European Standards).

5.7.2 For the purpose of this Code the rated circuit capacity in MVA shall be determined by the lowest rated primary plant (e.g. transformer rating, line rating, etc) of the circuit. The Metering Equipment provision and accuracy requirements shall anticipate any future up-rating of the installed primary plant. The primary plant maximum continuous ratings shall be used in this assessment.

5.7.3 The accuracy class or equivalent, is based on the MVA capacity of the connection and shall as a minimum be as follows, subject to operating within the combined limits of error set out in 5.7.6 below:-

Equipment	Equipment Accuracy Class			
Equipment Type	For connections			
	> 100 MVA	10-100 MVA	1 - 10 MVA	< 1 MVA
Current Transformers	0.2S	0.2S	0.5S	0.5S
Voltage Transformers	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.5
Meters	0.2S	0.5S	1.0	2

5.7.4 VT, CT and Meter Test Certificates shall be made available for inspection by the DLM.

5.7.5 Where the Actual Metering Point and the Defined Metering Point do not coincide, then, where necessary, compensation for power transformer and/or line losses shall be provided to meet the overall accuracy requirement at the Defined Metering Point. The compensation may be applied locally within the Metering equipment or remotely. In both cases, compensation factors and the justification for them must be recorded. These records shall be made available for inspection.

5.7.6 For the measurement of Active and Reactive Energy, Metering Equipment shall be tested and calibrated to operate within the overall limits of error as set out below, after taking due account of CT and VT errors and the resistance of cabling or circuit protection. Calibration equipment shall be traceable to a recognised national or international standard.

Condition	Limits of Error at Stated Power Factor ACTIVE ENERGY			
Current Expressed as a Percentage of Rated Measuring Current	Power Factor	Limits of Error for Connections		
		>100MV A	10 - 100 MVA	1 - 10 MVA

120% to 10% inclusive	1	±0.5%	±1.0%	±2.0%	+/- 3.0%
Below 10% to 5%	1	±0.7%	±1.5%	±2.5%	+/- 3.5%
Below 5% to 1%	1	±1.5%	±2.5%	±3.5%	+/- 4.0%
120% to 10% inclusive	0.5 lag	±1.0%	±2.0%	±3.0%	+/- 3.5%
120% to 10% inclusive	0.8 lead	±1.0%	±2.0%	±3.0%	+/- 3.5%

Condition	Limits of Error at Stated Power Factor REACTIVE ENERGY				
	Power Factor	Limits of Error for Connections			
Current Expressed as a Percentage of Rated Measuring Current		> 100MVA	10 - 100 MVA	1 - 10 MVA	<1 MVA
120% to 10% inclusive	0	±4.0%	±4.0%	±4.0%	+/- 4.0%
120% to 20% inclusive	0.866 lag	±5.0%	±5.0%	±5.0%	+/- 5.0%
120% to 20% inclusive	0.866 lead	±5.0%	±5.0%	±5.0%	+/- 5.0%

5.7.7 Records shall be made of the pertinent data required for a successful test and calibration as per the requirements of Section 5.7.6 above.

5.7.8 Where existing measurement transformers do not comply with all of the conditions of this Code, then these shall be acceptable provided each of the following conditions are met:-

- (a) New measurement transformers are installed (fully compliant with this Code) when a significant electrical plant alteration is to be carried out;
- (b) Where the transformers are not wholly dedicated to settlement Metering, then the additional burdens must be quantified and accounted for in calibrations and testing.

The burden should not be changed without notification of the relevant meter operator.

The main Meter, check Meter and additional burdens shall have separately fused VT supplies.

6.0 Quarterly Hourly Metering

6.1 Introduction

This Section describes the technical requirements for Quarter Hourly metering. These requirements are additional to those described in section 5.

6.2 Measurement Parameters

6.2.1 For each separate circuit the Metering Equipment shall be capable of measuring the following parameters:

- (a) Import kWh
- (b) Import kVAh

For each separate circuit the Metering Equipment of Generators and customers with their own generation shall be capable of separately measuring the following parameters:

- (c) Export kWh
- (d) Export kVAh

6.2.2 For each separate circuit, and for each 15 minute Demand Period, the Metering Equipment shall be capable of recording the following Demand Values:

- (a) Import kW
- (b) Import kVA

For each separate circuit, and for each 15 minute Demand Period, the Metering Equipment of Generators and customers with their own generation shall be capable of recording the following Demand Values:

- (c) Export kW
- (d) Export kVA

6.2.3 Where quarter hourly metering is installed and is being read remotely and being used for billing purposes, this data shall also be used for any requirements of approved STOD tariffs etc. This has not been approved.

6.3 Data Storage

6.3.1 Data storage facilities for metering data shall be provided as follows:

- (a) a storage capacity of 96 periods per day for a minimum of [20] days for all Demand Values;

- (b) the stored Demand Values shall be integer values of kW or kVAr, or pulse counts, and have a resolution of better than ~ 0.1% (at full load)
- (c) the accuracy of the energy values derived from Demand Values shall be within + 0.1% (at full load) of the amount of energy measured by the associated Meter;
- (d) the value of any energy measured in a Demand Period but not stored in that Demand Period shall be carried forward to the next Demand Period;
- (e) in the event of a Metering Equipment power supply failure, the Metering Equipment shall protect all data stored up to the time of the failure, and maintain the time accuracy in accordance with Section 6.6 below;
- (f) to cater for continuous supply failures, the clock, calendar and all data shall be supported for a period of 10 days without an external supply connected;
- (g) any "read" operation shall not delete or alter any stored metered data; and
- (h) Metering Equipment shall provide any portion of the data stored upon request by the Data Collection System;
- (i) Data storage shall be provided internal or external to the Meter by way of a data logger;
- (j) Meters that provide data to data loggers external to the Meter shall provide an output per measured quantity.

6.4 Data Communications

- 6.4.1 Load profile metering will be equipped with standard communications ports for local and remote downloading of load profile data and other meter data.
- 6.4.2 All data communications equipment shall conform to the relevant International Telecommunications Union (ITU) standards and recommendations for data transmission over telecommunications systems.
- 6.4.3 Site specific Isolation requirements may also apply in accordance with established good practice and in line with the specific requirements of the Telecommunications Service provider.
- 6.4.4 Meter data collection systems shall remotely interrogate Metering Equipment to extract data at appropriate intervals as set out by the Relevant Meter Operator.
- 6.4.5 Remote interrogation shall be by means of dial-up telephone, leased line, mains borne, packet switching data networks or other suitable system, using Meter and communications equipment protocols as specified by the relevant

meter operator and other data systems required for trading and settlement purposes.

6.4.6 In the event of failure of communications facilities, Meter data shall be read by a Locally Attached Device and transferred to the central data collection system as set out by the relevant meter operator.

6.4.7 For new and replacement Meters, the following data shall be capable of remote interrogation:

- (a) Demand Values
- (b) Max Demand and Energy Registers

6.5 Password Security

6.5.1 To prevent unauthorised access to the data in the Metering Equipment a security scheme, as described below, shall be incorporated for both local and remote access. Separate security levels shall be provided for the following activities:

(1) Level 1 - Password for read only of the following metering data, which shall be transferable on request during the interrogation process:-

- a) Outstation ID;
- b) Demand Values ;
- c) Cumulative measured quantities;
- d) Maximum Demand (MD) for kW or kVAr per programmable Charging Period;
- e) Multi-rate cumulative Active Energy;
- f) Alarm indications; and
- g) Outstation time and date.

(2) Level 2 - Password for:-

- a) corrections to the time and/or date; and
- b) resetting of the MD.

(3) Level 3 - Password for programming of :-

- a) displays, tariff schemes and other functions; and
- b) the passwords for levels 1, 2 and 3.

(4) Level 4 - Password for removal of Metering Equipment cover(s) necessitating the breaking of a seal for:-

- a) calibration of the Metering Equipment;
- b) programming the level 3 password and the level 4 password.

In addition to the functions specified for each level it shall be feasible to undertake the functions at the preceding or lower level.

6.6 Timekeeping

- 6.6.1 Metering Equipment shall be set to Co-ordinated Universal Time (UTC) with the facility to switch annually to Daylight Saving Time (DST). No switching shall occur for quarter hourly data.
- 6.6.2 Time adjustments may be performed as required by communications with the Data Collection System.
- 6.6.3 The commencement of each Demand Period shall be within ± 20 seconds of true time. The duration of each Demand Period shall be accurate to within $\pm 0.1\%$ except where time synchronisation has occurred in that period.

6.7 Reconciliation of Display Reading

- 6.7.1 Cumulative total energy registers from Meters are read remotely each day and are compared with the electronically recorded total energy for the day as part of the ongoing data validation by the ESB Networks.

On a random sample basis of 5% of these metering sites, a manual read will be taken every twelve months for checking purposes.

- 6.7.3 If the cumulative total energy register is not available remotely, then a manual read will be taken at twelve monthly intervals for checking purposes.
- 6.7.4 Within twenty (20) business days from the date of a manual Meter reading a Meter Reconciliation Statement shall be produced. The difference between the latest manual Meter register readings and previous manual Meter register readings shall be calculated and compared with the electronically recorded total energy for the time interval involved.
- 6.7.5 The calculations shall be recorded and differences greater than [0.1%] shall be highlighted and referred for checking. Where the checks confirm the discrepancy the MRSO and other parties as required shall be informed and appropriate actions shall be taken in accordance with the procedures set out by the MRSO.

ANNEX 1: METER CODE DEROGATION – APPLICATION FORM

METER CODE DEROGATION – APPLICATION FORM		
DEROGATION APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY:	DATE OF SUBMITTING APPLICATION:	DEROGATION APPLICATION NUMBER: (to be assigned by CER)

METER CODE DEROGATION – APPLICATION FORM

Contact Details for Derogation Applicant

NAME:

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

**METER CODE CLAUSE FOR WHICH
DEROGATION IS SOUGHT:**

**PLANT/APPARATUS FOR WHICH
DEROGATION IS SOUGHT:**

EXTENT OF NON-COMPLIANCE:

REASON FOR NON-COMPLIANCE:

**LENGTH OF TIME FOR WHICH
DEROGATION IS SOUGHT:**

**PROPOSAL FOR REMEDYING NON-
COMPLIANCE**

**(MILESTONES FOR REMEDYING NON-
COMPLIANCE, COSTS, RISK FACTORS THAT
MAY DELAY COMPLIANCE ETC.)**

**DETAILS OF SUPPORTING
DOCUMENTATION FOR APPLICATION (IF
ANY) ATTACHED**