The Single Electricity Market (SEM)

Ireland Metering Code

Decision

13 June 2007

AIP/SEM/07/257

1. Overview

For successful implementation of the Single Electricity Market (SEM), it is necessary to ensure that the full suite of legislation, licences, Codes, and market trading arrangements, i.e. the Trading and Settlement Code (T&SC) and Agreed Procedures, are consistent.

To this end, on the 20th April 2007, the Regulatory Authorities published a Metering Code with proposed minimum changes to facilitate SEM go-live.

Comments were received from two parties.

Today, the Regulatory Authorities publish the revised CER-approved Metering Code after consideration of those comments.

This document gives an overview of the changes made, the industry's comments, and gives responses to those comments.

2. Changes, Comments and Responses

2.1 Changes Made

The changes to the Metering Code comprise three main areas:

- Alignment with the T&SC obligations and definitional changes (throughout);
- Changes arising from the concept of below de minimis SEM participant generation and multiple Generator Units on a site connected to the distribution network, requiring Main, Check and potentially sub-metering (paragraphs 5.4.1 and 5.4.5); and
- Ensuring that the definitions in the Metering Code apply to all Relevant Meter Operators (definition of Relevant Meter Operators).

No changes to technical standards were made to the Metering Code, deferring such changes to the all-island harmonisation work ongoing as part of the wider All-Island Project.

Please note that a review of the capitalisation of terms in the main text of the document has been carried out.

2.2 Comments Received, and Responses

Formal comment was received from ESB Networks and SONI.

2.2.1 SONI Comments

New paragraph 1 to the Preamble

This new paragraph sets out some background to the SEM and states that the Metering Code constitutes the Ireland metering arrangements for the SEM. SONI does not believe that this background is necessary for the purposes of the Metering Code which is a document which principally sets out the minimum technical, design and operational criteria for all metering and data collection equipment. It is not intended that the Northern Ireland Metering Code will contain an equivalent provision.

Response: The preface to the Ireland Metering Code does not form part of the Metering Code. The new paragraph provides informative context for Users to interpret the updates to the Metering Code. Such preambles, as indeed there is a similar informative preamble in the Northern Ireland Grid Code which comprises the Northern Ireland Metering Code provisions, can be reexamined during the wider harmonisation work on the technical codes North and South. The preamble was broadened to indicate, however, that the Metering Code also applies to metering used for broader commercial purposes.

New paragraph 2.2.2 to the General Provisions

New paragraph 2.2.2 imports the priority provisions set out at paragraph 2.4 of the Trading and Settlement Code. SONI does not believe that such a provision is necessary for the purposes of interpreting the Metering Code and it is not intended that this provision will be incorporated into the Northern Ireland Metering Code.

Response: Agreed. This new paragraph has been removed. Consequential impacts to added definitions have been made.

Paragraph 2.6 of the General Provisions

These changes introduce new provisions requiring the meter operator to maintain records of the meter data and identification and specification details to align with the requirements of the Trading and Settlement Code. SONI believes that the provisions of the Trading and Settlement Code is the correct place for such obligations and it is not intended to introduce similar changes to the Northern Ireland Metering Code.

Response: In M.8 of the Northern Ireland Metering Code, there is reference to the registration and records of meters being maintained by the meter Registrant (which may be NIE or the relevant User). The Registrant must make those records available to NIE. Therefore, the Northern Ireland Grid Code does provide NIE the ability to maintain a record of all meters. The paragraph 2.6 of the General Provisions was added to the Ireland Metering Code to reflect this provision at a high-level, and to reflect the drafting of paragraph 3.71 in Version 2.0 of the T&SC.

2.2.2 ESB Networks Comments

Definition of ESB Networks

The definition of ESB Networks was reverted to the old definition in the ESB Networks response.

Response: This reversion to the old definition has been accepted, following the utilisation of the term Relevant Meter Operator

Definition of Import and Export

The units of kW and kVAr were added in the definitions in the ESB Networks response.

Response: The Metering Code already contains definitions of the Unit for the more specific requirements of Demand, etc. The broader definitions of Import and Export should remain silent on a standard utilisation of units (kW, kWh, MW, MWh, kVAr, MVAr, leading or lagging) as it may imply a requirement for industry standardisation that is not intended. The units were removed from final version of the Metering Code.

Proposed change to paragraph 5.4.1

5.4.1 For connections greater than 10 MVA, and for generators below 10MVA who opt to become market participants and who are price makers thereby necessitating dual polling by ESB Networks and Eirgrid, Main and Check Metering shall be provided. Main and Check Meters shall operate from separate CT and VT windings.

Response: The intention behind this change is deemed appropriate, and has been implemented in the final Metering Code subject to certain drafting changes.

Proposed change to paragraph 5.4.5

5.4.5 Where sub-metering of certain generator units is required, with the agreement of ESB Networks a customer may supply metering class CTs and VTs for use on the sub-circuits. This equipment must be to ESB Networks specifications and rating. Such equipment shall be subject to sample acceptance testing by ESB Networks for each site.

Response: The intention behind this change is deemed appropriate, and has been implemented in the final Metering Code subject to certain drafting changes.