

Case No. 12-M-0476 et al.
EDI Business Working Group (BWG)/
Technical Working Group (TWG)
Final Minutes – February 2, 2018

Administration

- Review/Modify Agenda: The Draft Agenda was adopted.
- The Draft Minutes from the 1/19/2018 meetings were adopted as final without modification.
- DPS Staff Remarks: None.

Regulatory Update

The BWG Chair noted the he had received several calls concerning a new UBP requiring ESCOs to offer budget billing plans to their customers (and set budget plan payment amounts) and the EDI requirements thereof. DPS Staff was contacted and the intent was that the new UBP apply only to circumstances where the ESCO issues the bill to the customer (Dual billing and ECB). A requirement for ESCOs to offer budget plans already exists but under Utility Consolidated Billing, the utility handles the plan administration with the customer, e.g. sets the budget plan payment amount.

Utilities will file clarification request and Staff will take appropriate action from there. The new UBP requirement should not have an EDI impact.

Updates to EDI Implementation Plan(s)

a. Current EDI Standards Matrix

The BWG Chair reviewed changes since the last meeting. Jean Pauyo (O&R) noted that O&R determined they would not support the optional 814E REF Reference Identification (Public Aggregator) Segment. Pauyo provided a brief update on O&R's progress to date for Phase II testing of Interval Usage transactions. No other utility updates were provided.

b. Working Group EDI Standards Development

- The latest draft versions of all the EDI Standards documents are on posted on the EDI Report Preparation web page.
- The Change Control web page has been updated and includes a new request to be discussed during today's meeting.
- The Testing and Certification web page now include updates to Utility EDI contacts and Established EDI Service Providers (EDISPs).

Established EDI Service Provider Update

A new EDISP, Znalytics, successfully tested with National tested with Grid and the EDISP Matrix web posting has been updated to reflect this. Prior to posting, each of the utilities reviewed the EDISP Matrix and modifications were made to reflect other updates. All EDISPs were asked to review the EDISP Matrix to double-check the utility modifications.

Gary Lawrence (ESG) asked if it was necessary for a utility to be involved in the Phase I testing process. The BWG Chair acknowledged that from a practical perspective, an Established EDISP could perform the testing but the regulatory change applicable to Phase I testing shifted responsibility from DPS Staff to utilities. As a result, a utility needs to be involved in the Phase I testing process to report the final result to DPS Staff.

DERS related EDI changes

The BWG Chair noted that draft modifications to the TOPs, Supplements and EDI Standards guides were available on the EDI Report Preparation web page. The new postings include DERS related modifications to the 814HU, 867HU and 867HIU. A workpaper showing proposed modifications to gray box notes in the 814HU, 867HU and 867HIU guides was reviewed.

The design objective is that a DERS receive the same 867 transaction information that an ESCO would receive. The BWG Chair requested that utilities review the 867HU and 867HIU transactions to see if there would be any customer privacy concerns. For example, the Gas Pool ID segment could possibly need to be masked if it reveals the identity of the customer's current ESCO. Since the DERS could also be an ESCO (or partnering with an ESCO), the current ESCO might not want its identity revealed. The BWG Chair was also unsure of the tax applicability for DERS services so the relevance of the utility's tax exemption status for the customer is unclear. Even so, that status isn't necessarily sensitive.

The TWG Chair suggested that so long as the DUNS number for the DERS was different from the DUNS number for the ESCO, the Gas Pool ID segment would be suppressed as a function of the current process.

NFG ECB Prohibition Order Requirements

The Mike Novak (NFG) reviewed a workpaper reflecting changes from the last working group meeting. No further modifications were suggested. Novak noted that Staff agrees with NFG's assertion that if the proposed new segments were also used to communicate changes in customer APP status to non-ECB ESCOs currently serving the customer, no information not currently available in the ineligible customer lists provided by utilities to ESCOs would be made available under EDI.

ESCO Bill Credits to non-APP Customers

Barbara White (Ambit) discussed their proposal to modify the EDI Standards to support sending bill credits to non-APP customers: 814C for Utility Rate Ready (URR) and 810UBR for Utility Bill Ready (UBR). With the proposed change, if an ESCO offered a price guarantee to a non-APP customer they could apply credit to a customer bill issued by the utility.

The BWG Chair noted that the AMT~7 segment was initially developed to support APP Credits but in consideration of the Rest Order, the segment was later modified to optionally handle all ESCO Pricing Adjustment (EPA) credits (at present, utilities are only required to process APP Credits). In retrospect, if utilities are expected to track APP credits, use of this segment would lose the distinction between APP credits and other credits.

The TWG Chair pointed out that for URR, there was no way to modify the AMT~7 segment to provide a tracking attribute and that to preserve the ability to track APP credits, a new segment would be needed to address Ambit's non-APP objective. It was noted that under UBR, new codes could be added to permit tracking. Although no explicit Order has been provided by the

Commission, the BWG Chair believes that based upon past conversations with Staff that there is an expectation that utilities will be required to track APP credits. If utilities are required to track every type of credit, e.g. new credits that might emerge from the REV proceeding, adding new segments for each credit type could complicate UBR EDI transactions. The TWG Chair suggested a compromise would be a new segment for generic non-trackable credits. Alternatively, if utilities are not expected to track ESCO credit types, the existing segment would meet Ambit's needs without modification.

Utilities will need to contact Staff to understand if there are any credit tracking requirements before determining the appropriate path for EDI Standards development to satisfy Ambit's request.

Other Business

None.

Establish Date/Time for Next Meeting

The next meeting combined BWG/TWG meeting is scheduled for Friday 2/16/2018 at 10 AM.

Attendees

Jennifer Teel – Big Data Energy	Veronica Munoz – Accenture
Jim Wade – Customized Energy Solutions	Jasmine Acosta – Customized Energy Solutions
Gary Lawrence – Energy Services Group	Jennifer Lorenzini – Central Hudson
Kim Wall – Hansen Technologies	Janet Manfredi – Central Hudson
Jodi Larison – UGI Energy Services	Samantha Curry – Starion Energy
Sergio Smilley – National Grid	Amy Delooza – Agway Energy Services
Ed Bynoe – National Grid	Mike Day – IGS
Jean Pauyo - O&R	Mike Novak – National Fuel Gas Dist.
Dave Parnell – Direct Energy	Thomas Dougherty – Marketwise
Pete Foster – NYSEG/RGE	Rebecca Sweeney – DPS Staff
Barbara Goubeaud –EC Infosystems	Travis Bickford – Fluent Energy
Jeff Begley – NOCO	Michelle Ferrara – NYSEG/RGE
Barbara White – Ambit Energy	Nicole Baier – National Fuel
Angel Alvarez – Con Edison	Emilie Somolie – Clean Choice Energy