Market Change Request

Number		Title	Priority
MCR	**0174**	Allow incomplete set of reads for multiple meters to be accepted by ESBN	*Medium*

PART 1 CHANGE REQUEST:			
Name of Requesting Organisation	**RMDS on behalf of Airtricity**		
Contact name	**Jessica Gregory (RMDS) Karen Cahill (Airtricity)**		
Date Change Request Raised	**7.05.2009**	**Originating Discussion Request**	
		DR	**0166**

Date	Version	Reason For Change
21.05.2009	1.0	Market Change Request raised containing no changes from the associated Discussion Request
02.07.2009	2.0	Appendix 2 included

Detail of Change Request
See DR 114   **The issue**   Currently when Market participants submit reads via market message 210, validation is in place within the Central Market System (CMS) which prohibits the acceptance of an actual read as part of an incomplete set of reads for a site with multiple meters. That is, at a site with multiple meters, if a customer is only able to gather one read due to the other meter being obstructed or broken, the 210 message would be submitted with 1 actual read and 1 blank read. The CMS identifies an incomplete set of reads and rejects the 210 message with the 303R market message.   The issue with this is that valuable read data is being lost. There are some legitimate cases where it is

Detail of Change Request

very difficult to read both meters (e.g. no access to one of the meters). If a customer is able to provide a partial set of actual reads for their meters, it is better than not providing any actual reads. The argument is that customers are asking for their reads to be used but the reads are continually being rejected by ESBN as they fail validation in terms of being a complete set of reads. These actual reads should be kept and used to build a more accurate read history for the customer.

This MCR is only concerned with customer reads on the 210 message.

It must also be noted that ESB Networks manages and maintains the meter reading data integrity. They have put controls in place (through various validations in messages for example) in an attempt to streamline the management of meter readings. Any proposed solution should not jeopardize the integrity of meter data.

Proposed Solution

Technically the central market system, market messages and supply systems would need to change in order to send and accept the incomplete set of reads. The schema would also need to change to accommodate the proposed solution.

Market Message Change:
- A new field could be added to the 210 message within segment **Supplier provided read**. The field could be labeled something like "No read collected" and would be an Integer (Boolean) on/off flag. The field could use the following values to denote on/off: 1 relates to a logical value of True/on while 0 relates to logical value False/off
- The field would only be relevant where there were multiple devices. If it was checked and only one device was submitted, the 210 would be rejected with 303R message.
- If multiple devices existed and this field was checked it would allow the Reading field to be left blank. That is, message validation within ESBN would allow for an incomplete set of reads providing the new checkbox was checked. The new checkbox would need to be marked for each device where a read could not be obtained.
- If a supplier checked the new field for all devices, the 210 would be rejected with 303R. That is, at least one device has to have a read.

The combination of an actual and blank read would be accepted into SAP. The actual read would be handled as per normal. If it was plausible, it would be accepted. If the read was implausible it would undergo the standard implausibility process and be estimated. The blank read would be automatically estimated.

A question was raised as to whether usage factors would be negatively affected if an estimate and actual

Detail of Change Request

read was submitted. It was confirmed by ESBN that the usage factor will be updated in all instances where there is a mixture of actual and estimated readings when a schedule meter reading order is billed.

Reason for Change Request

A requirement from Suppliers and Networks to accept more actual customer reads in order to improve reading history.

Scope of Change Request

Correction to Document ation	Business Process	Market and MP Systems	MPCC	Readings Processor	Market Gateway	Schema	Web Forms

Identification of Baseline Products Impacted

Description of Trading and Settlement Code Impact (if any)

Market Design Documents impacted by Request

- MPD 14: Reading Processing Non QH v6.1

- Message document: 210 Supplier Provided Reading

Date of IGG where discussed	*28.05.2009*
Change Request xref (if applicable)	*N/A*

PART 2 MARKET ASSURANCE:				
Applicability				
ESB Networks	Suppliers	TSO	SSA	Generators
X	X			

Scope of Test

Connectivity	DTT	MSA	IPT	Other
			No. Of Scenarios	

Date of Issue of Change Request	
Date Response is Required	

PART 3 RESPONSES AND MODIFICATIONS:
Collation of Impact Assessment (*from Form C*)
Not Applicable
Modifications Included
Not Applicable
Reason for Modifications
Not Applicable

PART 4 ASSESSMENT & RECOMMENDATION:
Part 4(a) ASSESSMENT
Summary of Impact Assessment

Recommendation on Implementation Plan	

Part 4(b) RECOMMENDATION			
ACCEPTANCE	**REJECTION**	**NO RECOMMENDATION**	**COMMENT**
Reason for Recommendation			
Date of Recommendation			

Appendix 1a

Market Message 210 – Full message structure
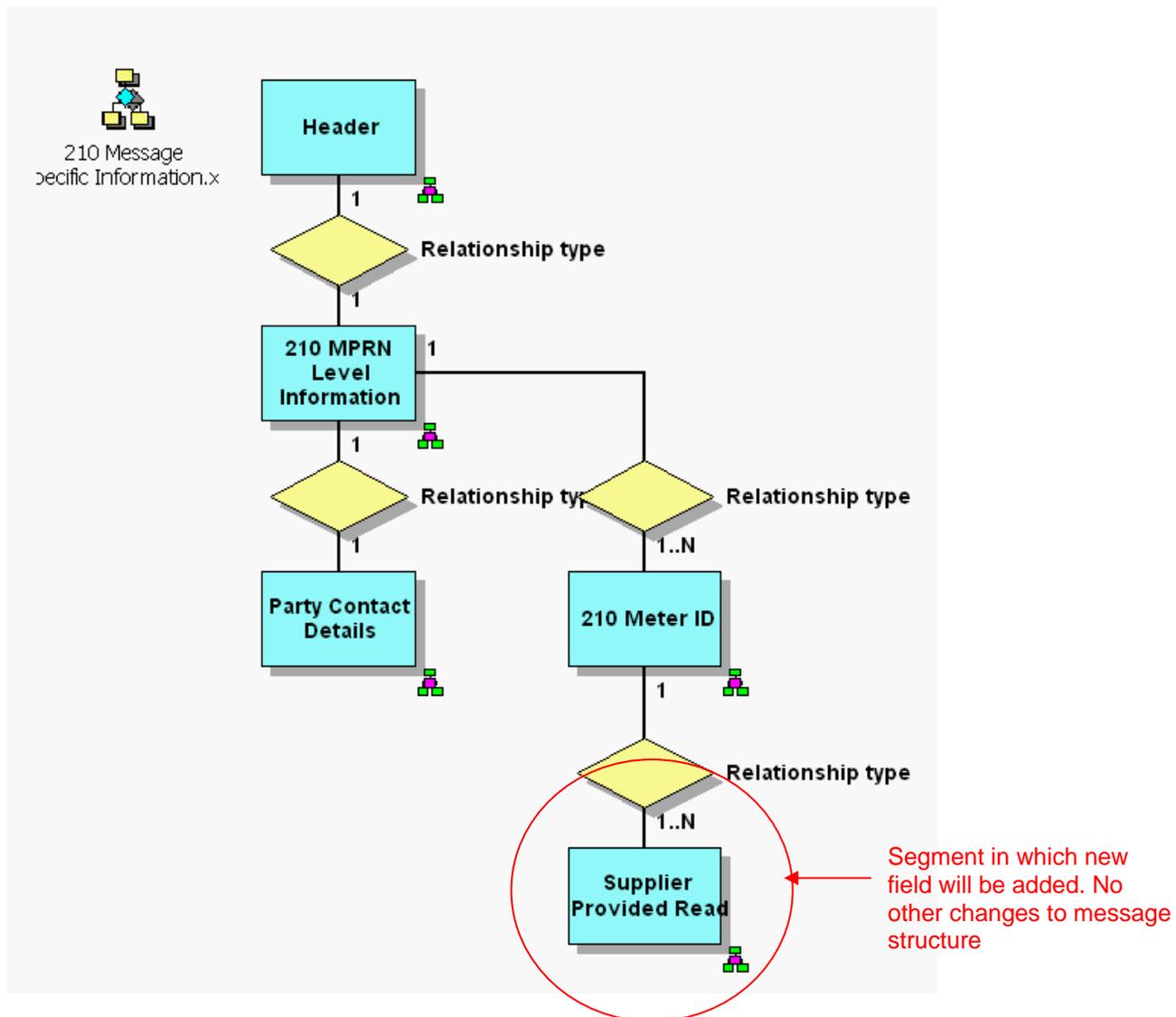
Appendix 1b – Supplier Provided Read Segment with new field added
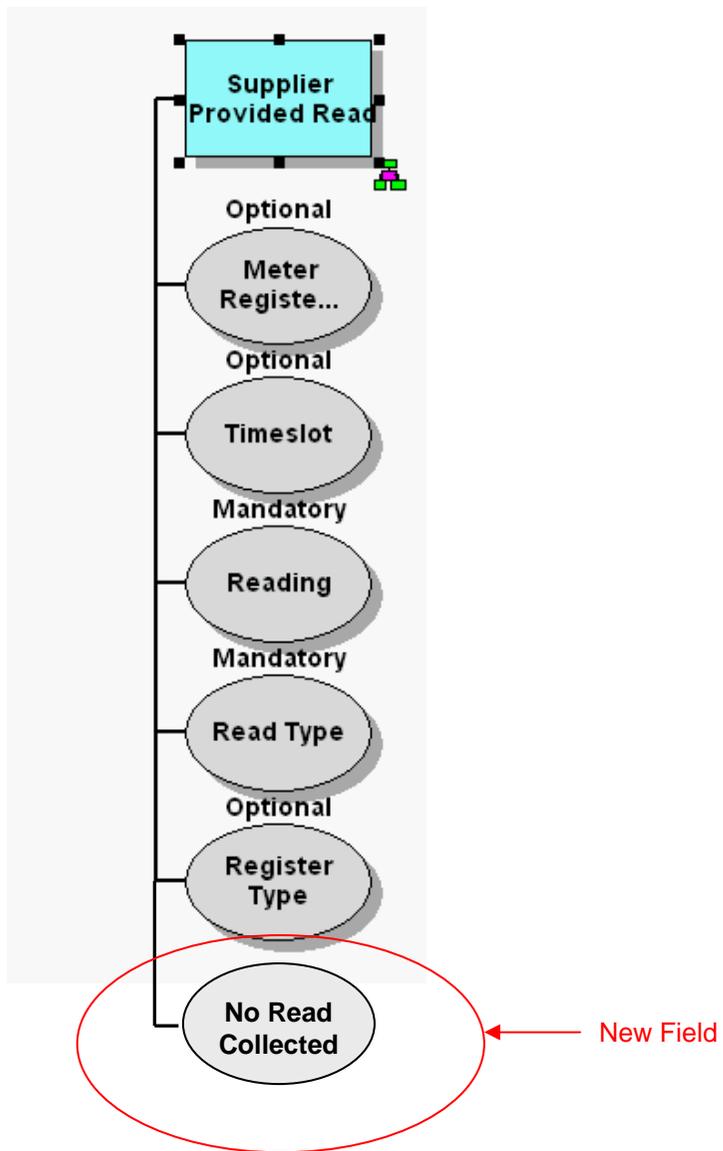
Appendix 2

MCR 0174 - Incomplete Set of Reads v2.0 – Impact by ESBN

It is important for Suppliers to understand that the change proposed may have an effect, albeit minimal, on data aggregation data accuracy between time periods.

Explanation as to how change affects aggregation

When a combination of actual and estimate reads are billed for a site which has two meters, both reads get allocated an Actual Usage Factor (AUF) effective to the reading date, and an estimated Usage Factor (EUF) effective from reading date + 1 to 31.12.9999. These are included on the relevant 300 message. Once an AUF has been calculated it is never changed by any later readings, unless it is withdrawn and replaced. This is currently what takes place if a meter reader supplies a combination of actual and estimate reads for a multi-meter site.

The following simple example illustrates how aggregation and re-aggregation work: For billing period 1, a set of two estimate reads are obtained at a site with two meters. This results in no new Usage Factor update for billing period 1. Therefore, the existing EUF is used for Data Aggregation purposes. Billing period 2 has two actual reads submitted. This allows an AUF and an EUF to be calculated. The newly created AUF applies to both billing periods 1 and 2. Billing period 1 will account for a different amount of consumption when re-aggregated due to the AUF created from billing period 2 replacing any previous EUF. This allows for more accurate calculations during data aggregation.

As stated earlier, when an AUF exists, it will never be changed by any future billing. This means that once MCR 0174 has been implemented, sites for which a Supplier provides an incomplete set of customer reads will be handled as currently happens when a meter reader supplies an incomplete set of reads i.e. a combination of estimated and actual readings will result in calculation of an AUF and extrapolation of an EUF, for billing period 1. This will never be changed even if, for billing period 2, two actual readings are submitted. This can be seen to dilute the accuracy of the data aggregation for those periods.

It must be stressed however, that the distortion would only arise in the distribution of the consumption over time periods in the data aggregation, but not in the total consumption to be aggregated. This change is thought to have a low impact on data aggregation.