

RoI Electricity
2014 Market Design Release
Assurance Approach

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Gemserv Assurance

Gemserv Limited
10 Fenchurch Street

London

EC3M 3BE

Company Reg. No: 4419 878

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7090 1000

Fax: +44 (0) 20 7090 1001



I Change History

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Name	Role/Organization	Responsibility	Date
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III Circulation

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RMDS	Market Design	Publication to Market participants

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1. Introduction

The CER has approved the introduction of a Market Design Release (MDR), comprising two non-Schema impacting changes. The changes are planned for implementation at different times – MCR1137 in April 2014 and MCR1033 in September 2014. These changes apply to the Republic of Ireland (RoI) Retail Electricity Market only and no issue of co-ordination with the NI Market is expected. The plans leading up to the implementation will be co-ordinated by the RMDS.

The two Market Change Requests included in the Release are discussed below:

MCR 1033 – Add MP Business Reference to response Market Messages.

MCR 1033 concerns populating the Market Participant Business Reference on a number of 300 series Market Messages thereby facilitating the identification of readings and the events that triggered them. Currently the Market Participant Business Reference is available but not populated. ESB Networks assess the changes required to Central Systems to support this MCR as of high complexity.

MCR 1137 – Downloadable Meter Point Files to show only Billable Meters.

MCR 1137 introduces a change to the contents of the Downloadable Meter Points Data file whereby only billable meters will be shown. At present non-billable meters are shown also. ESB Networks assess the changes required to Central Systems to support this MCR as of low complexity.

Only Suppliers operating in the RoI and ESB Networks will be impacted by these changes.

For MCR1033 those suppliers that wish to take advantage of the additional information available may need to introduce changes to their market-facing systems. Suppliers who do not wish to make use of the information will not need to make any changes.

For MCR1137 Suppliers will need to be aware that non-billable meter information is to be removed but it is unlikely they need to make any changes to their systems.

In order to gain confidence that all market participants are properly prepared for cut-over, the industry requires, via its Assurance Strategy, an assurance plan. This document describes the approach that is proposed for this assurance.

2. Glossary

The following terms and acronyms are used within the electricity market in Ireland:

Term/Acronym	Expanded Form	Meaning
DMPD	Downloadable Meter Points Details file	
EMMA	Electricity Market Message Application	The hardware and software components that transfer market messages to/from market participants from/to the central Hub.
IM	Interval Metered	Denotes that consumption is measured at regular intervals throughout the day – also known as Quarter Hourly in the Republic of Ireland.
IPT	Inter-Participant Test	
Market, the Market		The Republic of Ireland electricity market
MDR	Market Design Release, Release	The MCRs and associated changes are to be applied to the Market Design and operational procedures.
Market Infrastructure		The technical arrangements for the harmonised retail market, comprising central market hub, communications channels and EMMA installations.
Market participant, Participant		Any organization that actively trades within the Market. This includes ESB Networks, TSO, Suppliers, Self-Suppliers and Generators
NIM	Non-Interval Metered	Denotes that consumption is based on cumulative meter readings taken periodically,

		typically two-monthly – also known as Non Quarter Hourly in the Republic of Ireland.
RMP Extranet	Retail Market Participants' Extranet	A Web-based facility that allows Market Participants to look up Meter Point Details
Webforms		Software installed on EMMA that allows market messages to be created and displayed in an easily readable form

3. The Assurance Plan

The approach to assurance is tailored to the specific requirements of the MDR and, in line with the Assurance Strategy, it is planned to carry out Assurance in the most efficient and effective way using existing techniques.

The following techniques are to be used:

- Self-Assessment, in which market participants provide answers to a targeted questionnaire and, where required, supply evidence to support those answers. Market participants will be asked about changes/additions to their business processes and internal test plans. This will be used to verify that market participants have assessed the impact of the changes on their systems and procedures and, where applicable, plans to incorporate these into their systems and carry out appropriate internal testing;
- Formal Assessment, where the Assurance Body verifies the preparedness of market participants by walking through key aspects with the participant's expert staff. This technique will be used in conjunction with ESB Networks since the changes being applied here potentially have a market-wide impact and one of them is significantly complex;
- Inter-Participant Testing in which participants carry out a number of prescribed market scenarios, which have been specifically defined for this MDR, in conjunction with each other using the whole target market infrastructure. This will apply only for MCR1033 and only to the Suppliers that requested the change, plus any other Suppliers who wish to participate;
- For MCR 1137 ESB Networks will be asked to provide the updated Meter Point Data Files to the Assurance Body and the requesting Suppliers, who will be asked to verify that the requirements of the MCR have been met.

3.1 Applicability

The types of assurance applicable to different types of Market participant for this MDR are as follows:

Participant Type	ESB Networks	Supplier	Small Supplier	Self-Supplier	TSO (EirGrid)
Self-Assessment	MCR1033 & 1137	MCR1033 & 1137	MCR1033 & 1137	No	No
Formal Assessment	MCR1033 only (Changes to Central Systems' population of MPBR on MM300, MM300S, MM300W Cut-over plan)	No	No	No	No
IPT	MCR1033 only	MCR1033 only Requestors plus volunteers	MCR1033 only Requestors plus volunteers	No	No
Other	MCR1137 only Provide updated DMPD	MCR1137 only Requestors to validate content of DMPD	No		

3.2 Self-Assessment

In the self-assessment stage market participants will be provided with a questionnaire that elicits their awareness of the changes and details of their approach to readiness for the MDR. Where applicable, to support their answers the market participant will also be expected to provide evidence that demonstrates their approach (for example copies of documented processes, screen shots from a system and/or database, XML prints of Market Messages).

The questionnaire and evidence can be provided by e-mail to RMDS, who will forward them to Gemserv to be assessed at Gemserv's offices. Any necessary clarifications will be sought by e-mail or 'phone. When Gemserv is satisfied that the responses are adequate, the market participant and RMDS will be informed and the market participant will be eligible to carry out the next stage of assessment. For ESB Networks this is Formal Assessment and for Suppliers Inter-Participant Testing.

3.3 Formal Assessment

Participants that are subject to formal assessment will be provided with the same questionnaire as for the Self-Assessment. Following evaluation of this and any necessary clarifications, which are carried out at Gemserv's offices, a visit will be made to the market participants' offices.

At this visit evidence of the design, implementation and testing of the MDR will be verified by inspection of the corresponding documents, test records etc. and an assessment will be made of the effectiveness of the market participant's change project. Any perceived deficiencies will be raised with the market participant, who will be expected to take the necessary corrective action and provide evidence to Gemserv. When Gemserv is satisfied that the market participant has completed the necessary and sufficient activities to minimise the risk of introducing the changes RMDS will be informed and the market participant will be eligible to carry out Inter-Participant Testing (if applicable).

3.4 Inter-Participant Testing

A series of Inter-Participant Tests (IPTs) will be compiled to exercise the MDR changes in a live-like environment. Each test is defined in terms of a scenario that sets out:

- The objectives.
- The initial conditions, which must prevail before the test starts. ESB Networks will usually identify or create the data required for IPT but each market participant will be responsible for ensuring that any initial conditions required in their own systems are created. In all cases market participants should co-ordinate through RMDS for the creation of initial conditions.
- The steps that must occur within the test (in business terms). Each market participant must interpret the business steps into the activities that they will carry out using their own business processes and execute these just as they would if they were operating in the live Market.
- The conditions that must prevail at the end of the test if the test has been successful. Each market participant is responsible for ensuring that they complete the test from their own perspective and should notify RMDS when this is the case;
- The requirements for evidence to be gathered by both the Supplier and ESB Networks for assessment by Gemserv

The scenarios are identified by:

- Analysing the changes and identifying all of the separate test conditions that may occur;
- Identifying test scenarios that will exercise each test condition;
- Eliminating scenarios that cannot occur in practice or that are highly unlikely;
- Further refining the scenarios by, for example, including more than one condition in a scenario.

The proposed set of Market Scenario Tests can be found in Appendix B. Only the Suppliers who requested the changes will be required to carry out the tests. Any Supplier may request to run scenarios from Appendix B and such a request will be supported provided that the additional central resources required are available.

Whilst executing the tests market participants will gather evidence showing how the test progressed and will submit this to RMDS. This will include all Market Messages sent and received by ESB Networks. When each market participant has completed the tests applicable to them, they should review the test record. If any test did not meet the market participant's own success criteria and/or did not comply with the Market Design a re-run should be requested as soon as possible through RMDS.

The evidence collected by the market participant during their testing is to be sent to RMDS at: RMDS@esb.ie. RMDS will forward the evidence to Gemserv who will assess the evidence to verify whether the test ran according to the IPT scenario.

Appendix A. Key Assurance Dates

	MCR1033	MCR1137
Participant Questionnaire issued	30 th June 2014	7 th March 2014
Participant Questionnaire returned	21 st July 2014	14 th March 2014
Site visit to ESB Networks	During period 21 st July – 1 st August 2014	N/A
Inter-Participant Testing Window	5 th – 22 nd August 2014	N/A
Gemserv report to CER	29 th August 2014	19 th March 2014
CER Go/No-Go decision	5 th September 2014	25 th March 2014
Cut-over	Wednesday 17 th September 2014	10 th April 2014

Appendix B. Inter-Participant Tests

Below are the IPT scenarios proposed for the testing for market participants at IPT. Those Suppliers taking part will be expected to run a specified selection of the scenarios. ESB Networks will be involved in all scenarios.

MCR	Ref.	Trigger	Target Messages	Scenario	Number of IPTs
1033	1	MM016	MM300 MM300W	NIM CoLE with reading provided, followed by withdrawal and replacement of that reading using MM210	1
	2	MM016	MM300 MM300W	NIM CoLE with reading provided, followed by replacement of the CoLE using second MM016	1
	3	MM252	MM300S	NIM special read request	1

Appendix C. Assumptions

1. For IPT there will be a test Hub available for use, separately from the live Hub.
2. For each supplier operating in RoI there will be a test EMMA available for use in IPT.