

ReMCoWG Meeting Minutes

Date:	26 th June 2019	Time & Location	13:00 – 14:00 – UR Offices – Belfast
Chair:	Lindsay Sharpe - ReMCoDS		
Attendees:	Name	Location	
	Alice Mooney, Patrick Moran	ReMCoDS	
	Alan Keegan, (Observer)	CRU	
	Carl Murphy, Elaine Sexton	ESBN	
	Gemma McHale, Joan-Edel Smith, Kerri Webb	NIE Networks	
	Sarah Fuller	Gemserv	
	Neil Patterson	Power NI	
	Sean Doolin	Electric Ireland	
	Roisin McCann, Cian Fitzgerald	Energia	
	Tadgh Gunnell	Pinergy	
	Siobhan Melvin, Andrew McCorrison	SSE Airtricity	
	Niall Kelly	Click Energy	
	Seamus Ferry, Niall Colley	Budget Energy	
	Ben Lambon	BGE	
Apologies:			
Version Number	1.0		
Status	Draft		

Agenda:	
1.	Introduction
2.	ReMCoSG Meeting Feedback
3.	Actions from Previous ReMCoWG
4.	Actions – New ReMCoWG Actions
5.	Retail Market Design Update
6.	De-harmonisation Update
7.	ESBN/NIE Networks Update
8.	CRU SMART Metering Update
9.	Next Steps & AOB

1 – Introduction

L Sharpe enquired if everyone was happy to sign off and approve the last Working Group Minutes of 1st May 2019.

All Agreed.
Approved.

2 - ReMCoSG Meeting Feedback

L Sharpe presented the ReMCoSG Meeting Update.

There has been one ReMCoSG Meeting since the last ReMCoWG which was rescheduled and held on 05.06.2019.

Refer to slide for details.

L Sharpe reported that the topics brought up at the ReMCoSG were De-harmonisation, the TIBCO upgrade, v12.00.00 Release and the Secure Meters DR Test.

The next ReMCoSG Meeting is scheduled for 21.08.2019.

3. Actions – Previous ReMCoWG

L Sharpe provided the Action Items Update.

There were no open ReMCoWG Actions.

4. Actions – New ReMCoWG Actions

2 new Actions were logged at this meeting.

162	MCR0176 – ESBN to look into the volumes of rejections in the Email Validation		
Discussion at ReMCoWG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Section 5 Retail Market Design Update for details. 		
Forum Logged: WG	Assigned to: ESBN	Status: New Action	Due Date: 04.09.2019

163	TIBCO Upgrade – Suppliers to revert to ESBN/NIE Networks via ReMCoDS by 10/07 with their preference with regard to date and timings for their EMMA Upgrade.		
Discussion at ReMCoWG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Section 6 ESBN/NIE Networks Update for details. 		
Forum Logged: WG	Assigned to: Suppliers	Status: New Action	Due Date: 10.07.2019

5. Retail Market Design Update

L Sharpe provided the Retail Market Design Update.

Market Release v13.00.00

L Sharpe presented slides on v13.00.00 Scope, Governance, the Plan and the Milestone Plan.

Refer to slides for full details.

L Sharpe reported that there are seven MCRs included in the release for December 2020. The first five on the slide are pertain to the Smart Meter program. The other two are: MCR1135 Web Service which was just approved at the IGG which preceded this meeting and MCR0176 Email Validation. There are no NI specific MCRs included in the v13.00.00 release. At the next ReMCoWG, ReMCoDS will present a high level plan as to when all the MCRs will be re-versioned.

S Melvin stated that although there are no NI specific MCRs there are some changes in the release which will impact NI. There is a new rejection code as part of MCR0176. She asked if de-harmonisation happens before the v13.00.00 release, will the rejection code come into NI, and if this has been decided.

G McHale replied that the rejection code would not be coming into NI. J-E Smith referred to the email they had received from SSE and advised that NIE Networks is currently looking into see what happens in the background regarding invalid email addresses.

S Melvin added that MCR0176 is ten years old. This MCR was probably raised when emails were relatively new in the market and on-line signups weren't as frequent or common. She asked ESBN if they know what level of rejections they are receiving at the moment, or which ones ESBN is manually changing or deleting. SSE already has most of the validations built in their systems.

G McHale replied that this MCR as discussed as part of the prioritisation exercise, and from memory the view was that this MCR was still required. She is not sure whether the volumes as such were discussed but there was a general consensus that it was beneficial to have.

C Murphy replied the ESNB will look into the volumes and revert.

A new action as logged **Action 162: ESNB to look into the volumes of rejections in the Email Validation.**

L Sharpe reported that the governance model for v13.00.00 will be delivered within the existing governance model and in the same way v12.00.00 was managed and delivered. Updates will be given at this forum and as per agreed schedule. Ongoing queries can also be answered via the ReMCoDS email and/or the RMDS phone. The RMDS Website will also host all of the information in relation to v13.00.00, i.e. market design, market release implementation timelines and any publications on v13.00.00 section of the website. ReMCoDS will update this section of the website as the project progresses.

Market Assurance will be through ReMCoDS and the Assurance Body Gemserv for ROI and NEUEDA for NI as usual.

L Sharpe outlined the high level plan on the page which goes from now until the end of 2020 when v13.00.00 is due to go live. More detail will be added to the plan in future ReMCoWG Meetings as they move forward.

The ROI Assurance Approach is due to be sent to MPs in August for approval at the IGG in September.

There will be two stages of self-assessment, one at the end of Q3/2019, the second one at the beginning of Q2/2020. The IPT window for both ROI and NI is starting in Q3 right through to Q4/2020 which is allowing for IPT prep and IPT execution.

Some other key dates include the design, build and test phase right out until go-live. Formal publication of the Schema is due at the end of Q3 or beginning of Q4/2020. However it was brought up at the IGG which preceded this meeting if the Schema could be brought forward, and this is something that ESNB is looking into at the moment. Similarly with any documentation that supports v13.00.00, if it can be brought forward then ReMCoDS will do so. It was also discussed at the IGG, whether a draft Schema could be shared earlier. This is something that ESNB is looking into and will give an update at the IGG in September as to when it thinks it might be in a position to share the draft schema. It was also discussed at the IGG as to when Extranet screenshots, sample MMs and downloadable files will be available. ESNB is similarly looking to see if these can be brought forward in any way. MPs also asked ESNB in the IGG if they know what date in December 2020 will be the go-live date. It is not known at this stage what the date it will be.

B Lambon asked if the IPT execution will last three months.

S Fuller replied that this hasn't been decided yet but it there will probably be three weeks for IPT execution.

ReMCoDS Survey

L Sharpe presented slides on the ReMCoDS survey for 2018.

She thanked MPs who responded to the Survey.

She gave an overview of the survey and the results. She gave an update on the two actions which came out of the survey. She outlined the steps ReMCoDS will take in relation to the two actions, the first which relates to the RMDS website and the second to the outage process.

Refer to slides for full details.

Outages

- There are no planned outages for July.

- Full outage details are available, as usual, on the RMDS Website.

6. De-harmonisation Update

C Murphy gave the update on De-harmonisation which he gave at the IGG which preceded this Meeting.

ESBN and NIE Networks is continuing to engage and is still planning on engaging with MPs by mid-July on putting together a plan for a plan on de-harmonisation to bring us all on the journey together.

7. ESBN/NIE Networks Update

G McHale & E Sexton presented the ESBN/NIE Networks Update.

TIBCO Outages

G McHale presented slides on the number of unplanned Supplier Outages in May.

Refer to slides for details.

There were eleven unplanned Supplier outages in May which is positive and we seem to be moving in the right direction. There are a smaller number of Suppliers which are having one or more outages. The fact that we are reducing down the number of Suppliers having outages is again positive. There were five planned outages in May. This number is increasing as well which is due to Suppliers using the portal which is again positive that Suppliers are starting to use it. Also the various technical workshops which took place last year helped in getting the reminders out there. She urged Suppliers to continue to use the portal as the main means of notifying NIE Networks for planned outages.

With regard to house-keeping, Suppliers are reminded to do their daily, weekly, monthly and six monthly activities in terms of their database re-orgs in order to keep the EMMA efficient.

TIBCO Upgrade Project

G McHale presented slides on the TIBCO Upgrade Project.

Refer to slides for full details.

She firstly outlined the key activities and timelines in the plan for the Project.

NIE Networks/ESBN has issued the high level plan to MPs. NIE Networks/ESBN are going through an assurance approach. In terms of key dates, the IPT execution window is scheduled from 02/09 to 15/09. Previously, there was concern raised about resources in the holiday period. The cutover window is taking place on 06/10.

The project will be a phased approach in terms of the cutover. The TIBCO Hub will be upgraded only during the cutover weekend on 06/10. The Production EMMAs of Suppliers will be upgraded after the cutover weekend. It is not a prerequisite that the production EMMAs and the TIBCO Hub have to upgrade at the same time. This is a key element as to why NIE Networks/ESBN is doing a phased approach here. It is not

a big bang cutover and is not as resource intensive for Suppliers as well.

S Melvin asked if there are any risks in taking this approach.

G McHale replied that NIE Networks/ESBN has tested this approach and the testing has thrown up no issues. This is a software upgrade only there are no functionality changes.

In terms of the assurance approach because it is only a technical upgrade, the questionnaires and formal assessments will be issued to ESBN and NIE Networks only and won't be issued to Suppliers. Therefore it is really ability testing that will form the basis of the test plans. The IPT Test window has been reduced down to a two week window which is from the 02/09 to 15/09. All Suppliers may not be required to complete IPT. NIE Networks/ESBN will issue out an IPT schedule closer to the time. The detailed IPT Plan will be made available towards the end of July. Suppliers will complete the test as per agreed schedule. It is not anticipated that resources will be required for the full two week period. It is ability testing so Supplier resources will probably be there in terms of support. They may be some work required beforehand to allow Atos to get onto the EMMA and do the upgrade.

The cutover of the HUB will take place on 06/10. NIE Networks/ESBN hopes to have all the Production EMMAs upgraded by the end of October. Atos will perform the upgrade of the production EMMAs, unlike the schema release which was a self-service approach. Each EMMA upgrade will require an outage of eight hours but this is the outside figure and may not take that long.

NIE Networks/ESBN is asking Suppliers to provide feedback by 10/07 on whether they wish the upgrade to take place on either a weekend, evening or at a weekend. This will be up to Suppliers themselves individually to decide. Suppliers are asked to consider dates only between 07/10 and 27/10. NIE Networks/ESBN will use best endeavours to ensure that it accommodates all the preferred dates but this cannot be guaranteed. If everyone is looking for the same weekend, it will not be feasible or physically possible for all the EMMAs to be upgraded on the same weekend.

A new action was logged: **Action 163:TIBCO Upgrade – Suppliers to revert to ESBN/NIE Networks via ReMCoDS by 10/07 with their preference with regard to date and timings for their EMMA Upgrade.**

S Melvin stated that in previous TIBCO upgrades Suppliers received release notes and asked if release notes will be issued to Suppliers.

G McHale replied that she will look into this. She doesn't think there will be any notes because this is a software upgrade only.

Secure Meters DR Test

G McHale gave an update on the Secure Meters DR Test.

The site switch took place successfully on 18/19th May 2019. There was a significant increase in the level of engagement by Suppliers. NIE Networks/ESBN had put through a number of recommendations at previous lessons learnt workshops. There was an improvement in the conference calls and a reduction in the cutover activities that were required. On the whole, the site switch went a lot smoother than previous years. In the past, the switch was not completing until 07:00 in the morning but this time it was finished by 04:00 or 05:00. She thanked Suppliers for their engagement in ensuring the site switch went well. A lessons learnt workshop is taking place tomorrow 27/07 in ESBN Leopardstown at 10:30. It is planned to agree the date of the 2020 site switch at this meeting. As of today, twelve Suppliers had confirmed attendance at this meeting.

Market Release V13.00.00

E Sexton presented slides on Market Release v13.00.00

Refer to slides for full details.

V13.00.00 was discussed at the IGG which preceded this Meeting.

E Sexton reported that ESBN is working in conjunction with NIE Networks in planning and liaising with RMDS on this release. The release is on track on the ROI side with the MCRs. Although there are no MCRs for NI in the agreed scope ESBN and NIE Networks is managing the release together.

As already discussed at the IGG, in terms of the Supplier queries that ESBN is managing for the v13.00.00 MCRs, ESBN is working with RMDS on these. She thanked MPs for the engagement on the MCRs. ESBN appreciates that Suppliers are dependent on timely responses to their queries and is making sure that it is giving cohesive responses to the queries. RMDS is working in terms of FAQs and for further clarification that are required.

8. CRU Smart Metering Update

A Keegan provided a SMART Metering update.

- A lot of good work is being done by both Suppliers and ESBN on the Smart Metering Project. There are a couple of big milestones coming up over the next few months. Rollout of meters is commencing in September. In July, the first customer letters will be issued which is the first direct consumer engagement with customers on the ground.
- CRU will be publishing the consultation on the Supplier Handbook which packages up all of the Smart Metering policy decisions made to date. Hopefully a decision will be made on this towards the end of 2019, CRU is targeting October for the publication.

9. Next Steps & AOB

No items were raised in AOB.

Next ReMCoWG:

- 4th September 2019 in Dublin.

ReMCoDS

Retail Market Coordination Design Service