**Disclosure Request Report**

**Price Comparison Websites (PCW) / Third Party Intermediaries (TPI) access to Non-Domestic Data**

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| **Prepared by:** | Simon Harris |
| **Submitted for:** | Approval |
| **Decision details:** | CoMC is requested to approve this request to amend the DPM Conditionality document and permit the release of non-domestic data to PCW/TPI’s |
| **Date:** | 14th October 2020 |
| **DRR Reference:**  | DRROCT20-01 |

1. **Introduction and background**

In 2016, the Competitions and Markets Authority instructed that data should be provided to Price Comparison Websites (PCW) / Third Party Intermediaries (TPI) to help facilitate faster and more reliable switching for end consumers. As a result, Modifications [0593V](https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0593) and [IGT095VV](https://www.igt-unc.co.uk/modifications/closed-modifications/igt076-igt100/igt095-provision-access-domestic-consumer-data-price-comparison-websites-third-party-intermediaries/) “Provision of access to Domestic Consumer data for Price Comparison Websites and Third Party Intermediaries” were raised to the UNC and IGT UNC, respectively. The CDSP developed (via Joint MIS Development Group (JMDG)) a twin fuel [[Supply Point Switching](https://www.xoserve.com/services/gas-api-services/)] API as a commercial service to PCW/TPI.

Following on from this a number of PCW/TPIs have requested access to non-domestic data as some do not work solely within the domestic area, and many TPIs are focused exclusively on non-domestic consumers. Allowing these parties access to non-domestic would benefit non-domestic consumers as envisaged by the CMA order.

This is expected to reduce the fees incurred by suppliers and customers as a result of failed/delayed transfers by allowing for accurate online gas quotations for commercial customers using actual industry data, improving market competition and decreasing time customers spend searching for pricing.

Modification [0697VS](https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/index.php/0697) “Alignment of the UNC TPD Section V5 and the Data Permissions Matrix” seeks to rationalise UNC TPD Section V5 and remove inconsistency with the Data Permissions Matrix. Before this Modification, Users and the data those Users could have access to was detailed within Uniform Network Code (UNC) and IGT UNC. As Modification 0697 rationalised the detail from Code and proposed access to data is controlled through one DSC CoMC governed document, this negated the need for a Modification to request additional data for an existing User type within the Data Permissions Matrix (DPM). Modification 0697 was approved by Panel on 17 September 2020 and is currently awaiting implementation in line with the IGT equivalent Modification (1GT135). Based on this, amending the permissions of which PCW/TPI’s can access data to is governed by the DPM and accompanying DPM - Conditionality Document. CoMC are requested to approve this DRR with this only coming into force once implementation of Modification [0697VS](https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/index.php/0697) has been carried out.

The proposed amendment to the Data Permission Matrix is therefore:

1. Inclusion of non-domestic data for both PCW Community and TPI Community from the ‘DPM Conditionality document (see Appendix 2)
2. **Data Items**

Price Comparison Websites (PCW) / Third Party Intermediaries (TPI) already have access to data via API in Community view for a range of data items.

This DRR is proposing to:

**a)** Amend the DPM – Conditionality Document to remove reference of restrictions to Non-Domestic data access

1. **Privacy Impact Assessment**

Where the disclosure of information includes the processing of personal data a Privacy Impact Assessment may be required.

Xoserve has considered the various tests that may be applied and considers that none of these are met and so a Privacy Impact Assessment is not required.

The tests (and answers) applied in determining whether a Privacy Impact Assessment was required were:

a) Will the project involve the collection of new information about individuals?

**No, the data items already available to PCW/TPIs are not personal or sensitive in nature.**

b) Will the project compel individuals to provide information about themselves?

**No, the data items already available to PCW/TPIs do not relate back to an individual.**

c) Will information about individuals be disclosed to organisations or people who have not previously had routine access to the information?

**No**, **Price Comparison Websites (PCW) / Third Party Intermediaries (TPI) already have access to a number of data items relating to Supply Point information.**

d) Are you using information about individuals for a purpose it is not currently used for, or in a way it is not currently used?

**No, the data related to this request do not relate to an individual.**

e) Does the project involve you using new technology that might be perceived as being privacy intrusive? For example, the use of biometrics or facial recognition.

**No, the API services to come out of this proposal for data access is already in existence. No such privacy intrusive technologies are being considered for development.**

f) Will the project result in you making decisions or taking action against individuals in ways that can have a significant impact on them?

**No, there is no impact to individuals as a result of implementing this change to the DPM or from its resulting solutions.**

g) Is the information about individuals of a kind particularly likely to raise privacy concerns or expectations? For example, health records, criminal records or other information that people would consider to be private.

**No, the data being requested within this DRR is not personal or sensitive in its nature.**

h) Will the project require you to contact individuals in ways that they may find intrusive?

**No, the data will be used in the same way as it currently is, no changes to this are foreseen.**

i) Will the disclosure of information utilise new technology for Xoserve?

**No, the API service looking to be enhanced are already accessible to CDSP customers.**

j) Will the disclosure include information that identifies a vulnerable customer?

**No, the data included in this DRR does not include any information that is personal or sensitive for the identification of vulnerable customers.**

k) Will the disclosure release mass data to a party?

**No, API usage is monitored and reviewed to ensure users stay within their agreed usage bandings. However the release of Non-Domestic Data to PCW/TPIs will allow an increase of data being requested.**

l) Will the disclosure include information that identifies an occurrence of theft of gas.

**No, the data does not indicate the occurrence of theft.**

m) Will the disclosure require a fundamental change to Xoserve business

**No, the change is looking to remove data constriction to the existing API provided to PCW/TPIs.**

1. **Commercial model**

The API service is already available within the Data Services Contract, Service Description Table, and Service Lines. This service is a Specific Service (Service Area 22) with charges set out in the Annual Charging Statement.

Within the Service Line, the “Corresponding obligation needed for delivery (Customer Responsibilities)” column will include words to the effect:

* Where the API call is made by a Proposing User, the Proposing User warrants that it has the relevant lawful basis required to process any personal data access via this API. The Proposing User also acknowledges that the CDSP may audit the Proposing Users use of the API Shipper Service.
1. **Method of access to the dataset**

Access to the dataset will be provided via an existing API (Meter Asset Enquires). The API capability enables Xoserve to record each supply meter point accessed by each API user and to use this data to undertake audits where required.

1. **CoMC determinations**

CoMC is requested to approve this Disclosure Request Report.

**Appendix 1: Current Data Permissions Matrix with proposed changes as per this Disclosure Request Report**

N/A – Request is related to amendments to the DPM Conditionality document only.

**Appendix 2: Current DPM – Conditionality Document with proposed changes as per this Disclosure Request Report**

The DPM – Conditionality Document will be updated following approval by Contract Management Committee. Please see attached proposed DPM – Conditionality Document for review.

