

Supplemental Representation

0353 - Population and Maintenance of the Market Sector Code within the Supply Point Register

Consultation close out date: 01 July 2011
Respond to: enquiries@gasgovernance.co.uk
Organisation: SSE
Representative: Martin Brandt

Do you support or oppose implementation?

Not in Support

Has your support/opposition changed as a result of the issues raised in this further consultation?

Yes

Please summarise (in one paragraph) the key reason(s) for your support/opposition.

The purpose of populating the market sector code field is to provide a mechanism by which data can be segmented. If at anytime this field is not reflective of the 'actual' circumstance of the consumer on that meterpoint, then the use of the field in deciding how to treat a meterpoint or its data (a particularly important factor for data protection) could lead to errors. This is possible under the current domestic and non-domestic definitions within the Suppliers / Shippers licences. If the field cannot be used to determine whether an end consumer is domestic or not at any time, then there is no cost / benefit in expending time, effort or money in back populating a field, which will not meet the Industry's purposes. Therefore another solution is required which completely meets Industry needs.

Are there any additional issues that you believe should be recorded in the Supplemental Report?

Population of the market sector code so far has been based on the Licence definition of domestic and non-domestic premises. Population of the blanks would have to be based on that same definition. However this definition will not meet the needs of the Industry in identifying whether the consumer is Domestic or Non-Domestic at a particular time and therefore use of the field to segment the meterpoint data would be limited. Sensitive decisions, such as those with data protection relevance for example, cannot be based on the data within this field.

SSE support the need to identify domestic and non-domestic customers but believe that using the market sector code field with the current definition would be limited and in some cases inappropriate. This field should be redefined or an alternative field or route identified to achieve the purposes of the Industry.

Consequently SSE do not support a requirement to force the population of the market sector code as it believes it would serve no real purpose and would not support any future mods that use the market sector code for identifying domestic consumers.