



Making a positive difference
for energy consumers

**To panels and code bodies for
UNC, IGTUNC, DCUSA and SEC**
(by email only)

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Dear colleagues,

We launched the Retail Code Consolidation (RCC) Significant Code Review in November 2019 in order to bring together provisions from the Master Registration Agreement and the Supply Point Administration Agreement in the Retail Energy Code (REC). At the same time we said we would want to bring a number of codes of practice and agreements into the REC as well. This will also require consequential changes to other codes, which may hold retail requirements that will be consolidated in the REC, or reference out to the existing retail codes, which will cease to exist.

Under the Significant Code Review, we have already been working closely with colleagues in code bodies to analyse the impact of modifications on the Significant Code Review. As we are getting closer to the formal SCR implementation process kicking off in the spring of 2021, in advance of issuing decisions on the changes to codes via the Significant Code Review in July 2021, I wanted to write to you to confirm our expectations on code change over the months ahead.

I have included in Annex 1 the instructions that have been provided to the MRA and SPAA, in case any change to your code over the next nine months require consequential changes to those codes. In the case of DCUSA, the guidance in Annex 1 also applies to the Theft Code of Practice which will transfer to REC at RCC.

For those codes which only have minor consequential changes in the Retail Code Consolidation SCR, ie UNC, IGT UNC, DCUSA and SEC, we make the following request:

1. Until 28 February 2021, code modification processes can continue as normal, and changes that have been approved by 28 February 2021 can have an implementation date of any time after that, so long as these changes are not inconsistent with the direction of travel in the REC.

2. After 28 February 2021, if any changes are proposed to areas of text impacted by SCR consequential changes, we request that you engage with Ofgem as early as possible so that we can ensure the SCR drafting remains aligned. This does not apply where a modification is not expected to be voted on before 1 September 2021.

3. Any changes (for example, urgent modifications) to SCR-impacted text between 18 June 2021 and 1 September 2021, should be avoided if at all possible. If this cannot be avoided, for example if there is an urgent health and safety requirement, these changes should be discussed with Ofgem as soon as the need for change is identified. This is because the SCR text will be finalised at this point.

4. We would request that Ofgem be consulted early on any changes that may be covered by points 2-3 above, to ensure that delivery of the RCC SCR is as smooth as possible.

Many thanks for your collaboration so far and in the coming months.

Arik Dondi

Annex 1: Code freeze for codes or portions of code that will transfer to REC in RCC

1. Until 28 February 2021, code modification processes can continue as normal, and changes that have been approved by 28 February 2021 can have an implementation date of any time after that (subject to point 2, below), so long as these changes are not inconsistent with the direction of travel in the REC.
2. Where an MRA or SPAA change approved by 28 February 2021 has an implementation date after 1 September 2021, we would ask code bodies to discuss such changes with Ofgem and the Retail Energy Code Company (RECCo) as soon as the need for change is identified, so that we may consider how this is best handled in the REC drafting. Ofgem will discuss these cases with RECCo and the REC Manager.
3. After 28 February 2021, change processes should only proceed where there is an exceptional or urgent need, or where it is thought that work that is undertaken now will be capable of being handed over to the REC Manager for implementation. In these cases, the changes should be discussed with Ofgem and RECCo as early as possible.
4. After 18 June 2021, new changes that have not been agreed before 28 February 2021 can only be implemented where there is an urgent legal requirement (eg Health and Safety issues). This is because the SCR text will be fixed at this point, and any further changes that need to be reflected in the REC from 1 September 2021 will require an alternative change process. If any changes fall into this category they should be discussed with Ofgem as soon as the need for change is identified. Ofgem will discuss these changes with RECCo and the REC Manager.
5. We would request that Ofgem be consulted early on any changes that may be covered by points 2-4 above, to ensure that the transition to the REC is as smooth as possible.