

Retail Market Procedure NI 39

NI Market Procedures: Glossary of Terms

07/03/2018

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| Term | Definition |
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| ACT | Account Credit Transfer; a code generated by the Keypad Transaction System which assists in the transfer of remaining credit between different keypad meters, or keypad meter configurations. |
| Actual Meter Reading | Any meter reading that is not an estimate. |
| Alternative Supplier | A Supplier, other than the Supplier of Last Resort, that may register a Meter Point under a Supplier of Last Resort process. |
| AOC | Account Officer Comment; a comment held against a site that is used to assist with meter reading. |
| Appointment | A physical date & timeslot (2 Hour, Half Day or Full Day) which must be allocated to a job for scheduling purposes |
| Appointment Id | An unique identifier associated with an Appointment booked by a Supplier on the Appointment's website. |
| Assigned | The status of 'A' given to an MPRN as part of the New Connection process and prior to Energisation of a meter point. |
| AUF | The Actual Usage Factor will contain the total AAC (Annualised Annual Consumption) for consumption calculated for the period between the previous read date and the read date for registers with the indicated timeslot. |
| Bill | Document detailing a Customer's consumption, charges, payments and balance. |
| Books | Books are meter reading routes, in walk order, within a zone. |
| CCL | Climate Change Levy |
| CCR | Critical Care Register: an application used by NIE Networks to retain details of Customers with medical equipment special needs |
| Certification (Meter) | A process whereby a meter is certified as fit for purpose for a specified time period |
| Check Meter | A meter that is installed at a Customer site to monitor the accuracy of the existing meter. |
| Combined | Premises that are used for domestic and commercial purposes. |
| Connection Card | A physical paper-based form which an electrician must complete, sign and provide to a customer to prove that a site/premise is ready for Energisation |
| Connection Conditions | DEFINITION TO BE CONFIRMED |
| Connection Voltage | The voltage at which a premise is connected to the NIE Networks Network. This is MV (<1,000 volts), HV (6600 or 11,000 volts) or EHV (33,000 volts). |
| Consumption Profile | The pattern of energy consumption over a period of time. |

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| Contracted Generation | When a Supplier contracts with a Generator for an agreed amount of electricity generation. |
| CoS | Change of Supplier |
| COT/CoLE | Change of Tenancy / Change of Legal Entity |
| CSA | Customer Service Advisor |
| CSC | Chargeable Service Capacity; the maximum power in kVA required by the Customer and will be established by determining whichever is the higher of:- 1. The highest Maximum Demand recorded in kVA by the Customer in the current or previous tariff year; or 2. a Maximum Demand figure in kVA formally agreed between the Customer and NIE Networks following the commencement of a new supply or where special conditions apply. Condition 2 applies only to Customers who have not been charged for 100% of the relevant cost of connection and will apply for five years after the initial connection of capacity or agreed increase in capacity. |
| CSSN | Customer Service Special Needs: Indicates that a Customer has specific customer care requirements due to one or more impairments or difficulties, e.g. Visually Impaired, Speech Impaired, Hearing Impaired etc. |
| CSV | Comma Separated Values |
| CT | Current Transformer; used as a pseudonym for the NIE Networks Metering Services group. |
| Customer Operations | The team within NIE Networks with responsibility for design, quotation, planning and execution of site-works associated with all new meter connections and increased/decreased capacity requests for existing Meter Points |
| DA | Data Aggregation, the process of aggregating data for Settlement purposes |
| Data Aggregator | A role carried out by NIE Networks to aggregate electricity consumption for the purpose of market settlement. |
| Data Collector | A role carried out by NIE Networks to collect meter readings from meters either directly or through other methods of communication. |
| Data Processor | A role carried out by NIE Networks to validate and distribute meter readings collected. |
| Day | Any day other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday in Northern Ireland. |
| DCN | Debt Contact Notification |

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| DDA | Demand Data Aggregation – aggregation performed for Supplier demand, Generator import and Generator export that is sold to Suppliers (rather than to the Pool). |
| Debt Contact Flag | A flag set to true that indicates that for a Residential Customer Registration the Supplier has agreed to accept outstanding Customer debt from the Old Supplier |
| De-Commission | Supply at a site that is Terminated as a result of removal of supply. |
| De-Energise | To physically (or logically) disconnect a meter from the supply network preventing power to enter a premise. |
| Default Supplier | A Supplier appointed by NIAUR who must provide supply where directed by NIAUR. |
| De-Registration | A Supplier is De-Registered from the premise as a result of De-commission and MPRN Termination. |
| Depot | A Depot represents a larger geographical area within which multiple Zones are located. It is used to group Zones together. It is also used as a pseudonym for the Customer Operations team. |
| Derived Profile | An estimate of the consumption pattern that will apply to a Non-Interval metering Timeslot for Non-Interval Meter Points, used in estimation for billing and aggregation. |
| DHSS | Department of Health and Social Services |
| DLF | A code associated with a value of Distribution Loss Factor, the average multiplier by which consumption at the Customer meter must be multiplied to approximate to the corresponding energy crossing the Grid/Distribution boundary. It may vary according to time of day. |
| DLAF | Distribution Loss Adjustment Factor. See DLF |
| DRD | Department of Regional Development |
| DSC | Distribution Service Centre |
| DUoS | Distribution Use of System; charges levied by NIE Networks to Suppliers for the use of the electricity distribution system. |
| DUoS Group | A grouping under which DUoS Tariffs are organised. |
| DUoS Tariff | A tariff charged by NIE Networks for use of the distribution systems. The applicable DUoS Tariff is determined by criteria described in the Statement of Charges for Use of NIE Networks Limited Electricity Transmission and Distribution System. |
| Economic Activity Indicator | A code indicating the type of economic activity undertaken by the Customer in the premises. |
| EHV | Extra High Voltage; connection voltage. |

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| EMC | Estimated Monthly Consumption |
| Energisation | To physically (or logically) connect a meter to the supply network to enable power to enter a premise. |
| ET | Erroneous Transfer |
| EUF | Estimated Usage Factor will contain the total EAC (Estimated Annual Consumption) for consumption registers with the indicated Timeslot. |
| EWC | Estimated Weekly Consumption |
| Export | Electricity that is metered or estimated as a flow from a site to the NIE Networks network. |
| Export Meter | Meter which includes register(s) to record consumption which is exported to the grid. |
| Fieldwork | General industry term for work carried out at a Meter Point, such as a physical change to a meter configuration, or reconfiguration of a Keypad Meter which does not require a physical site-visit by an electrician |
| GDA | Generator Data Aggregation; aggregation performed for distribution connected export that is dispatchable and / or controllable from participant Generators (i.e. export sold to the Pool rather than to contracted suppliers). |
| Generator | A producer of electricity (under License or exempt under the Electricity (NI) Order) that can be exported onto the NIE Networks network. |
| Generator Unit | A unit, such as a wind-farm, CHP unit or fossil fuel unit, from which electricity is produced. |
| Generator Unit ID | A unique identifier representing a generator. |
| GMPRN | Identifier for a grouped unmetered arrangement. See Grouped Unmetered Meter Point |
| GMT | Greenwich Mean Time |
| GNIS | Geographic Names Information System; GNIS is responsible for managing geographically accurate records of assets for NIE Networks distribution and transmission networks |
| Grouped Unmetered Meter Point | An arrangement whereby a number of unmetered Technical Meter Points are grouped for the registration management purposes |
| GS | Guaranteed Standards of service. |
| GU | Generating Unit |
| Half Yearly Large Deviation | Large discrepancy between current monthly payments and forecasted required monthly payments discovered at half yearly payment review. |

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| Half Yearly Small Deviation | Small discrepancy between current monthly payments and forecasted required monthly payments discovered at half yearly payment review. |
| Harmonisation | A process to align market messages and supporting Supplier facing processes between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland |
| HH | Half-hourly |
| HHU / Hand-Held Unit | Hand-Held Unit; A communications device used to receive and transmit meter readings (Meter Readers HHU), or data associated with Fieldwork jobs and emergency jobs (Electrician's HHU). |
| HV | High Voltage; connection voltage. |
| HV Agreement | A contract agreed between NIE Networks and a Customer for the provision of a High Voltage supply |
| I & C | Industrial and Commercial Customers |
| IIN Range Number | The number assigned to a Supplier which is the first 8 digits of a Keypad Premises Number. |
| Import | Electricity that is metered or estimated as a flow from the NIE Networks network to a Customer installation. |
| Incoming | A Customer moving into a premise. |
| Index Meter Point | A class of Meter Point which is equipped with metering but is not Interval metered |
| Installation Type | Referring to un-metered connections, the installation type denotes the type of equipment connected and the consumption pattern of the equipment. |
| Interval | A discrete period, over which electricity flow is measured, aggregated or estimated. In NIE Networks this is split into HH or Half Hourly Intervals. |
| Interval Meter Point | Half Hourly; a class of Meter Point which is equipped with operational metering and communications for the collection of half-hourly readings. |
| IVR | Interactive Voice Response |

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| Job | <p>NIE Networks-specific terminology for Fieldwork. A job is either despatched to an electrician's Handheld Unit for completion, or is manually completed by a user (for non-site visit activities) on the Proposed Solution.</p> <p>A Job can be in one of several statuses:</p> <p>PENDING - A job which has been created on the Proposed Solution, but has not yet been despatched (sent out) to an electrician's Handheld Unit for completion.</p> <p>DESPATCHED - A job that has been despatched (sent out) to a Handheld Unit for completion, but has not yet been returned from the electrician's Handheld Unit with a completion status</p> <p>CANCELLED - A job that has been cancelled by NIE Networks (either as a completion status returned from an electrician's Handheld Unit, or directly on the Proposed Solution) and will not be rescheduled</p> <p>HELD - A job that has been returned from an electrician's Handheld Unit as cancelled but the reason provided does not allow automatic cancellation of the job. The job will be reviewed and manually assigned a valid status</p> <p>NON-COMPLETE - A job that has been returned from an electrician's Handheld Unit with a Non-complete status, and requires rescheduling by either NIE Networks or the Supplier, dependent on the reason for non-completion</p> <p>COMPLETE - A job that has been successfully completed by NIE Networks, either as a completion status returned from an electrician's Handheld Unit, or directly on the Proposed Solution</p> |
| Keypad Meter | A type of prepayment meter available to domestic Customers. |
| Keypad Transaction System | Liberty system supplied by PRI (Secure Meters) for the management of keypad metering. |
| Keypad Premises Number | A number used to uniquely identify a Keypad Meter at a premise |
| KPN / KPRN | See Keypad Premises Number |
| kVA | kilovolt amperes. |
| kWh | Kilowatt Hours |
| LLF | Line Loss Factor |
| Load Profile | Provides the half-hourly (Settlement Period) pattern of consumption across a day (Settlement Day) and the pattern across the Settlement year for the average Customer of each profile class |
| Loss Factor | Loss Factors are used in the calculation of Distribution Use of System (DuoS) charges. The figure reflects both the amount of distribution infrastructure used to supply the exit point and the amount of energy lost through heating of cables, transformers etc. |
| Luhn | Luhn is an algorithm also known as the "modulus 10" or "mod 10" algorithm, which is a checksum formula used to validate identification numbers. |

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| LV | Low Voltage; connection voltage. |
| Market | The Northern Ireland Retail Electricity Market |
| Market Message | A structured exchange of data between Network Business and a Supplier. |
| Market Message XML Schema | The Market Message XML Schema defines the structure and format of all the market messages. |
| Market Services | The team within NIE Networks with responsibility for Billing and Registration activities |
| Market Systems | The systems used by market operations. |
| Market Website | <p>The Market Website will allow Suppliers to utilise a number of facilities provided and supported by NIE Networks. These include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-registration Data • Meter Point Data Publication • New Connections • Consumption • Fieldwork Appointments • Messages |
| MCC | See Meter Configuration Code |
| MDP | Meter Data Processing. |
| MEC | Maximum Export Capacity is the capacity in kVA agreed in the connection agreement and permitted to be exported at a Meter Point |
| MESN | Medical Equipment Special Needs; Indicates that specific medical equipment is installed at the Meter point, e.g. Home Dialysis |
| Meter Category | A code to denote the manufacturer and type of meter. |
| Metering Class | NHH or HH |
| Meter Configuration Code | A code to indicate the functionality present in a meter at a site as required by the Supplier to be delivered by the combination of registers physically installed at a Meter Point |
| Meter Operations | Management and maintenance of all metering assets. |

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| Meter Point | The point where electricity is metered for the purpose of determining DUoS charges. Typically this is the connection point to the NIE Networks network but may be different where multiple Customers are served by a single connection point. |
| MIC | Maximum Import Capacity is the capacity in kVA agreed in the connection agreement and permitted to be imported at a Meter Point. |
| MO | Market Operator |
| MPRN | Meter Point Reference Number; an 11 digit unique reference number for a Meter Point. The MPRN has three components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A two digit allocation code • An eight digit meter point identifier • A single digit check digit |
| MRM | Meter Route Management |
| MRREM | Meter Read Remark; free text comments returned with a meter read record, expanding on an associated Trouble Code. |
| MSO | Metering Services Operative |
| Multi-rate (meter) | A meter which is configured to record consumption on more than one register |
| MV | Medium Voltage; connection voltage. |
| MV-90 | A system used by NIE Networks to collect Interval data. |
| NaFIRS | National Fault and Interruption Reporting System. |
| New Connections | A new Meter Point connection. |
| New Supplier | A Supplier that is requesting Registration to a Meter Point or that has an effective Registration that may be cancelled. |
| NHH | Non half hourly |
| NIE Networks Online Booking System | NIE Networks owned system which facilitates Suppliers booking Appointments for Fieldwork by NIE Networks staff. |
| NIAUR | Northern Ireland Authority for Utility Regulation |
| NIE Networks | NIE Networks refers to NIE Networks Transmission & Distribution |
| Non-Dispatchable (export) | A generator consumes energy that will not be exported to the pool but is required to run its infrastructure, otherwise known as house load. |

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| Non-Controllable (export) | A generator whose unit's generation source is not predictable (e.g. wind). |
| Non Domestic Arrangements | The systems and processes implemented to facilitate retail competition in non-domestic electricity supply. |
| Non-Interval | Formerly known as NHH or Non Half Hourly data. |
| Non-SOSA | Sites with a MIC greater than or equal to 70 kVA, are classified as Non-SOSA (Commercial). |
| OE | Operational Engineer; engineer responsible for energising new HV connections. |
| Old Supplier | A Supplier that has a Registration for an MPRN subject to a Registration Request from a New Supplier. |
| Operational Framework | Document which describes the principles and high level requirements for the NI Enduring Retail Market Arrangements. |
| OS | Overall Standards of service. |
| Outgoing | A Customer moving out of a premise |
| Participant | An organisation within the Electricity Market, for example a Supplier or Generator. |
| Payment Provider | An organisation which processes Customer payments on behalf of Suppliers and then passes the details onto the Supplier (Examples of Payment Providers include Bank, POCL, Paypoint, Payzone and Realex). |
| PCC | Plastic Card Company (Now known as CPI) |
| PCR | Premise Circuit Reference; repository to maintain a cross-reference list of Supply Point Numbers against Transformers. |
| PME | Plant Maintenance Electrician; electrician who installs HV panels and metering. |
| PPC | Period Profile Coefficient; the values derived for a Timeslot from the External Provider of PPCCs or provided for Unmetered Supplies by NIE Networks |
| PPCC | Period Profile Class Coefficient; the values supplied by the External Provider. |
| Previous Supplier | The Supplier that supplied a Customer prior to a Change of Tenancy / Legal Entity |
| Profile | See Derived Profile and Standard Profile |
| Profile Class | This is derived from the Profiling Configuration identified by the MPRNs Meter Configuration Code and Load Profile. |
| Profile Coefficient | A factor that describes the proportion of annual consumption that is estimated to be consumed within one (30 minute) Interval. |

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| Profiling Configuration | The Profile Class used to profile a particular Timeslot for MPRNs that have a particular Metering Configuration and Load Profile. |
| PSO | Public Service Obligation; charge billable to Suppliers to recover the cost of infrastructure investment. |
| Read | A consumption value read from a meter register |
| Read Cycle | Indicates the next read cycle for a site. |
| Read Day | The day within a read week when the meter at a site is due to be read. |
| Read Week | The week within a read cycle when the meter at a site is due to be read. |
| Reading Route | A group of Sites within a book that are maintained in a walk order sequence downloaded to HHU. |
| Re-certification (Meter) | A process whereby a meter that has previously been certified and is due for re-certification is re-certified as fit for purpose for a specified time period. |
| Reconciliation (DUoS) | The difference between consumption determined for a period from actual meter reading and the consumption previously determined (typically estimated) for the same period. |
| Re-Energise | To physically (or logically) reconnect a meter to the supply network enabling power to enter a premise. |
| Registration | A record of the Supplier that is responsible for DUoS and settlement charges in respect of a Meter Point. |
| Registration Cancellation Billable Charge | A charge which may be applied where New Connection Registration fails to be completed. |
| Registration Request | A request by a Customer to register for a new connection, or a Supplier to register for a Change of Supplier. |
| Residential | A type of Customer that is defined under DUoS Tariff Schedule A Section 1. (Formerly referred to as domestic) |
| Revenue Protection | See RPU |
| R.P. Alert | Revenue Protection Alert; a warning flag associated with a Meter Point to indicate that the Meter Point is being investigated by the NIE Networks Revenue Protection team. |
| RMP | Retail Market Procedure |
| ROC | Renewable Obligation Certificate. |
| ROF | Renewable Output Factor; a Trading Arrangement based on renewable energy sources. |

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| Route | A Route consists of multiple Meter Points. Each Read Route is structured into a logical walk order by means of sequence numbers to enable efficient reading by meter readers |
| RouteStar | The current Meter Route Management System. |
| RPU | Revenue Protection Unit; group within NIE Networks which monitors and investigates potential meter tampering and unbilled consumption. |
| RSP | Retail Service Providers |
| SA | Service Agreement |
| Sampling | A process whereby a specified number of meters of a particular type are selected at random and are checked to ensure that they are fit for purpose |
| SEM | The All Island Single Electricity Market (the wholesale electricity market). |
| SEMO (SMO) | Single Electricity Market Operator (formerly Single Market Operator). |
| Settlement Class | A code to specify how data is processed and aggregated for settlement for the MPRN. |
| Settlement Day | A 24 hour period starting at 00h00. |
| Settlement Period | A half-hourly portion of a Settlement Day for which consumption is calculated for each MPRN. |
| SIC | Standard Industrial Classification; to identify type of usage at a premise. |
| SIMDRACS | SEM Implementation of Meter Data Reading, Aggregation, Communication & Storage. |
| SIMDRACS Requirements | The requirements for meter data provision and data aggregation in the Single Electricity Market. |
| Single-rate (meter) | A meter which is configured to record consumption on only one register |
| Single Point Unmetered | An unmetered Meter Point that is not part of a grouped unmetered arrangement |
| Site | The premise that is covered by one or more meters. |
| Skip Code | A code returned within a meter read record specifying why a meter could not be read. |
| SMO | See SEMO |
| SMP | System Marginal Price |

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| SoLR | Supplier of Last Resort. This is the Supplier appointed by NIAUR to provide continuous supply to NI Customers previously being supplied by a Supplier who is no longer capable of carrying out the functions of an electricity Supplier. |
| SONI | Systems Operator for Northern Ireland |
| SOSA | Non-Interval sites with MIC <70 kVA are classified as SOSA. |
| SRU | Scheduling Resource Unit; the team within NIE Networks that is responsible for scheduling SOSA Fieldwork. |
| SSAC | A sub-aggregation code that specifies the aggregation class to which data will be aggregated for a Supplier |
| SSS Levy | System Support Services Levy. |
| Standard Profile | The consumption pattern that will generally apply to a Non-Interval Meter Point register. Two standard profiles (unrestricted and day/night) are currently used as the basis for determining a register specific consumption pattern (or Derived Profile). |
| STOD Tariff | Seasonal Time of Day; type of DUoS Tariff based upon times-of-use charging bands that can vary according to season. |
| Supplier | A retailer of electricity to a Customer. |
| Supplier ID | A unique identifier for a Supplier. |
| Supplier Provided Reading | A meter reading provided by a Supplier to NIE Networks. |
| Supplier Unit | A Supplier defined group of MPRNs for Aggregation. |
| Supply Agreement | An agreement between a Supplier and Customer for the supply of electricity at a Meter Point. |
| Supply via NIE Networks Isolator form | Similar to the Connection Card but used for Housing Developments and covers multiple sites |
| TCC | Tariff Configuration Code; a code to indicate the retail tariff required by the Supplier for a keypad metered Meter Point. |
| Technical MPRN | Identifier for a technical Meter Point which is a logical grouping of one or more unmetered connections that will be billed together. One or more technical Meter Point can be part of a grouped unmetered arrangement |
| Terminate | The status of 'T' given to an MPRN as part of the de-commissioning process. |
| Timeslot | A code that indicates the period that a meter is recording (or an unmetered installation is consuming electricity) |
| Time-of-Use | The time slot to which the additional aggregated data refers |
| TMPRN | See Technical MPRN |

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| Totaliser | A register on a keypad meter which records the total consumption reading of the meter, irrespective of it being single-rate or multi-rate. |
| Trading Arrangement | An arrangement under which a Supplier procures electricity. |
| Trading Day | A Trading Day is a 24 hour period starting at 06h00. |
| Trading Period | A 30 minute interval used in wholesale energy trading. |
| Transaction Reference Number | A system generated unique identifier for each Market Message. |
| Trouble Code | A code returned within a meter read record indicating situations ascertained on site which may require follow-up action. |
| TroubleMAN | Emergency call handling system for logging and tracking Customer emergency calls. |
| TSO | Transmission System Operator. |
| TUoS | Transmission Use of System; charges levied by SONI to Generators and Suppliers for the use of the electricity transmission system. |
| UMS | Unmetered Supplies |
| Unmetered Agreement | DEFINITION TO BE CONFIRMED |
| Usage Type | A generic term to define if a site is Residential, Commercial or Combined. |
| Vend History | Details of all prepaid credit (Vends) purchased by Customers for their keypad meters |
| VT | Voltage Transformer. |
| Vulnerable Customer | A Customer who is unable to safeguard their personal welfare or the personal welfare of other members of the household, for reasons of age, health, disability or severe financial insecurity. |
| Zone | A group of MPRNs in geographic proximity, identified by the first three characters of the SPN. A Zone can have one or many Routes. |