GIEP1 – Network detail consumption information

Purpose

This file provides detailed consumption information by installation control point (ICP) tariff. It can be used for the reporting of both TOU and non-TOU data and utilises the format structure documented below.

The consumption information reports are intended to be used by:

(a) retailers to provide information to distributors to support invoicing of fixed and variable line charges; and

(b) distributors to provide information to retailers to support their invoice and reconciliation of line charges.

The retailer to distributor file formats provide for both as billed and normalised consumption information to be provided as appropriate to the distributor's pricing methodology and associated charging basis.

Operation of protocol

File transport mechanism

Two file transport mechanisms are available for the transfer of data:

(a) Manual (via email) to a nominated email address; and

(b) Electronic (via file transfer protocol (FTP)) to a specified FTP inbox.

The actual mechanism used and destination address is to be configurable at file type level as agreed between the parties. In the case of FTP a security mechanism will be necessary to protect confidentiality. The ability to retrieve files from a remote FTP outbox is not part of this definition.

Field delimiters

The information is to be provided as a comma delimited text file. Commas are therefore prohibited within fields. Where portions of a field require separation, a tilde character (~) should be used. If commas are present in the fields, use quotation marks to exclude them as separators, as per the DOS CSV format.

The file format section in this document includes XML tags to enable the move to XML format when participants have the capability to do so.

Case sensitivity

Matching of file names, code list values, etc, are to be case insensitive.

Filename Convention

The following file naming convention is to be used:

Sender + Utility Type + Recipient + File type + Report Month + Report Run Date + Unique ID# (e.g. hhmm run time) and the components concatenated using the underscore character, to assist readability.

e.g. CTCT_G_UNLG_ICPMMAB_201003_20100601_1232.txt

[Char4_Char1_Char4_ Char7_yyyymm_yyyymmdd_hhmm.txt]

Each component of the file name has the same definition as used within the file headers.

Key data field descriptions

As billed report

The as billed report includes all consumption at ICP tariff level which has been billed by the retailer during the month (whether based on an estimate read or an actual read) as extracted from the retailer's billing database.

File status

The first file for the bill period should have file status I (Initial). Subsequent files should either be R (complete replacement) or X (partial replacement). On receiving a file with a status of R the recipient should remove all previous data and replace with the new file. Individual ICPs can be replaced by using an X file status, in which case just those ICP(s) should be removed and replaced. X files can contain replacement data for ICPs included in the initial I file or data for ICPs that were not included in the Initial file.

Any recipient of GIEP1 files should be prepared to receive I, R and X files.

Definition and timing differences between Allocation Agent and network (distributor) reports will result in differences between consumption quantities for any particular month. However, over time, the cumulative or moving annual consumption differences should be minimal so long as the various reports or reporting systems process the same base metering information, and account for all corrections.Network tariff codes

Tariff codes should be those published by the distributor. A separate line should be used for each tariff, for example – one line for the fixed daily charge tariff and one for the variable.

Consumption start date

For as billed this will be either:

(a) the date from which the customer has been billed (which may be the previous consumption end date +1 but could differ for example where the site was vacant and there was no customer to bill);

(b) the date of energisation of the connection or reconnection (if previously inactive); or

(c) the date the ICP switched to the retailer as per the Gas (Switching Arrangements) Rules 2008

Consumption end date

For as billed this will be either:

(a) the date up to which consumption has been billed or;

(b) the date of vacant site disconnection or permanent disconnection; or

(c) the date the ICP switched from the retailer (the date that the ICP switched to the new retailer minus 1 day).

Read status

The read status should be one of read (RD), estimate (ES), or final (FL) unless it fits either the reversal (RV) status criteria or unbilled (UB) status criteria as listed below.

Reversal status

An I file may include adjustments from as billed data captured in prior reporting months where the data has subsequently been found to be in error. If an error is found then it may be corrected by the retailer in two ways:

(a) by reversing the original retail bill, and rebilling the consumer for the correct amount; or

(b) by processing a new retail bill with an adjustment for the previous retail bill for the difference between the original value and the recalculated value.

If the original bill is reversed then the number of days should be negative, and the kWh should be the opposite sign to that which was originally billed (as sometimes the original bill will contain negative kWh). Start date and end date on the reversal should be the same as shown on the original bill.

If a new bill, with an adjustment for the previous retail bill, is processed, the number of days should be positive, and the kWh negative or positive depending on the direction of the adjustment.

Distributor systems should be set up to deal with either circumstance.

Typical examples of prior period correction events are:

(a) cancelled switches;

(b) backdated switches;

(c) late processing of switches;

(d) switch read changes;

(e) late processing of meter changes;

(f) correction for stopped/slow/fast meters;

(g) meter reading errors; and

(h) multiplier errors.

Where a high (low) estimate read results in a high (low) consumption being reported it is expected that this will self-correct going forward when an actual read is processed, resulting in a compensating negative/low (high) consumption for that period.

Retailers are expected to continue to read meters during vacant periods and ensure any vacant consumption is billed and captured in their reporting.

Unbilled status

The as billed report is to include all ICPs which the Gas Registry indicates as active against the retailer during part or all of the month being reported, both billed and unbilled. For the unbilled ICPs the only detail fields required are ICP and status of UB, all other mandatory fields are to be left blank.

Normalised report

There are two forms of normalised reporting:

a) as-billed normalised – this report provides a calendar month normalisation of as billed base consumption data at meter register-tariff level.. This report is incremental as all under or over estimates and prior period errors are corrected going forwards in future months reports similar to customer's bills.

b) Allocation Agent (AA) normalised - a calendar month report of consumption data aligned with AA wash-up submissions (months 1, 4 and 13).

Both types of normalised files are to include all ICPs which the Gas Registry indicates as active (that is, ICPs that are either Active-Contracted or Active-Vacant) against the retailer during part or all of the month being reported. The files are not to include ICPs which the Gas Registry indicates as inactive, e.g. where the ICP has been subject to a "Transitional Disconnect" (for vacant, safety reasons etc). The active period may be reported as one single date range in the report, or as separate date ranges for the Active-Contracted/Active-Vacant periods. In most cases the date range will be from the first day to the last day of the calendar month. Where the ICP has belonged to the retailer for only part of the month, then the date range and consumption reported will only be for that part of the month the site was energised and the responsibility of that retailer.

Consumption start date

For normalised this will be either:

(a) the first day of the month being reported;

(b) the applicable start date for any prior month event requiring a correction;

(c) the date of energisation of the connection or reconnection (if previously inactive); or

(d) the date the ICP switched to the retailer, which may be in a prior month if the ICP switched in a previous month but has not been previously reported.

Consumption end date

For normalised this will be either:

(a) the last day of the month being reported;

(b) the applicable end date for any prior month event requiring a correction;

(c) the date of vacant site disconnection or permanent disconnection; or

(d) the date that the ICP switched from the retailer (the date that the ICP switched to the new retailer minus one day).

Read status categories

Estimate status

This indicates that at least part of the consumption has been estimated (typically consumption reported as ES is based on an estimated meter read).

Where a high (low) estimate read results in high (low) consumption being reported it is expected that this will self-correct going forward when an actual read is processed, resulting in a compensating negative/low (high) consumption for that period

Read status

Used only for consumption periods between which actual reads have been taken. For as-billed normalised the read status should be reported as RD where an ICP has been read in the month being reported even though the volume to the end of the month has been accrued.

Final status

If it is known that the reading is final for that consumer, then this status may be used.

Vacant status

To be used if there is currently no consumer registered to the site for the period reported (ie the ICP has a status of Active-Vacant), but the site is the responsibility of the retailer according to the Gas Registry.

Reversal status

Typical examples of prior period correction events are as for the as billed report. Where one or more periods have already been reported and a billing reversal and re-bill is processed during the next period yet to be reported (e.g. to correct for the application of an incorrect multiplier from a meter change) then the reversal should show the number of days as negative, and the kWh as the opposite sign to that already reported. The reporting of start and end dates for an RV event must always match the dates in the originally reported RD,ES or FL lines.

Network tariff codes

Tariff codes should be those published by the distributor. A separate line should be used for each tariff (ie one line for the fixed daily charge tariff and one for the variable charge).

As billed normalised

For as billed normalised, the distributor treats the initial month reported data as incremental (as for as billed) including where prior period dates are included, and only overwrites previous data if a replacement file is provided.

The normalised data file should always be treated as incremental to the previously reported normalised data file where the file status is I, and should always overwrite the previous data file where the file status is "R".

The" I" file for the as billed normalised report should show the correct start and end dates for any corrections or omissions relating to prior periods already reported. These will be shown as billing reversals, re-bills, and consumption adjustments, as appropriate.

Allocation Agent) AA normalised

For AA normalised files the fixed charges are normalised to the calendar month in accordance with the energisation status on the Registry (ie the Active period as it pertains to the retailer during the month being reported). Consumption data volumes are as submitted to the Allocation Agent. Individual months are then washed up (ie replacement data sent) in accordance with the washup cycle.

Subsequent AA normalised data "washup" files should always be treated as replacements for previously reported files (initial report for a month would have status as I, and should always be overwritten by the subsequent or washup file for the same report month (file status of R).

File Format

Description	Type	Retailer to Distributor Optional / Mandatory	Distributor to Retailer Optional / Mandatory	XML Tag	Rule	Example
Header record type	Char (3)	M	M	<RowType>		HDR
File type	Char (7)	M	M	<FileType>	If **As Billed** consumption then ICPMMAB, If As Billed **Normalised** then ICPMMNM If Allocation Agent Normalised then ICPMMAA	ICPMMNM
Sender	Char (4)	M	M	<Sender>	Party code of sender	CTCT
Sent on behalf of	Char (4)	M	M	<OnBehalfOf>	Party code of party on whose behalf consumption data is provided	CTCT
Recipient	Char (4)	M	M	<Recipient>	Party code of recipient	UNLG
Report Run Date	DD/MM/YYYY	M	M	<RunDate>	Date the report is run	02/04/2010
Report Run Time	HH:MM:SS	M	M	<RunTime>	Time the report is run	12:32:02
File Initiator Unique identifier	Char (12)	M	M	<Identifier>	Number that uniquely identifies the report	47980981234
Number of detail records	Int (8)	M	M	<RecordCount>	Total number of records in report	2
Report period start date	DD/MM/YYYY	M	M	<ReportStartDate>	Start of report date range (inclusive)	01/03/2010
Report period end date	DD/MM/YYYY	M	M	<ReportEndDate>	End of report date range (inclusive)	31/03/2010
Report Month	YYYYMM	M	M	<ReportMonth>	The month the report is run for	201003
Utility Type	Char (1)	M	M	<Utility>	G (Gas)	G
File Status	Char (1)	M	M	<FileStatus>	I (Initial) or R (full Replacement) or X (replace only those ICPs contained in this replacement file)	I

Description	Type	Retailer to Distributor Optional / Mandatory	Distributor to Retailer Optional / Mandatory	XML Tag	Rule	Example
Detail record type	Char (3)	M	M	<RecordType>	DET – Indicates the row is a detail record	DET
ICP	Char (15)	M	M	<ICP>	ICP 15 character unique identifier	0004227586QTE8B
Start date	DD/MM/YYYY	M/O (O if Unbilled)	M	<ICPStartDate>	Consumption or Fixed start date. Null if status equals UB	28/02/2010
End date	DD/MM/YYYY	M/O (O if Unbilled)	M	<ICPEndDate>	Consumption or Fixed end date. Null if status equals UB	29/03/2010
Consumption (GJ)	Num (12,3 dec)	M (O if Unbilled or if kWh provided in file)	M/O (Optional if kWh provided in file)	<ConsumptionGJ>	Consumption in GJ (= kWh x 0.0036). Null if status equals UB	443.754
Consumption (MJ)	Num (12.3 dec)	M (O if Unbilled or if kWh provided in file)	M/O (Optional if kWh provided in file)	<ConsumptionMJ>	Consumption in MJ (= GJ x 1000). Null if status equals UB	443754
Consumption (kWh)	Num (15)	M/O (O if Unbilled)	M	<ConsumptionkWh>	Consumption in KWh (= GJ / 0.0036). Null if status equals UB	123265
Status	Char (2)	M	M	<ReadStatus>	**Normalised report**: RD = Read, ES = Estimate, FL = Final, RV = Reversal, VA = Vacant **As Billed report**: RD = Read, ES = Estimate, FL = Final, RV = Reversal, UB = Unbilled	RD
Gas Gate	Char (8)	O	M	<GasGate>	Gas Gate code as per GIC	TWA35610
Distributor ID	Char (4)	M	M	<Distributor>	Distributor code	UNLG

Description	Type	Retailer to Distributor Optional / Mandatory	Distributor to Retailer Optional / Mandatory	XML Tag	Rule	Example
Capacity	Int (6)	M/O	M/O	<Capacity>	Mandatory if applicable to Network price for ICP, UoM as per Network price	24.2
Network price/tariff code	Char (25)	M/O	M	<TariffCode>	Network price/tariff code set by Distributor	4G23
Network price/tariff rate	Num (6,6 dec)	M/O	M	<TariffPrice>	Fixed daily rate or variable per unit rate ($ excl GST and net of any prompt payment discount). Null if status = UB	0.0202
Fixed/Variable	Char (1)	M (O if Unbilled)	M	<FixedVariable>	F or V. Null if Status = UB	V
Chargeable days	int(4)	M (O if Unbilled)	M	<ChargeableDays>	Chargeable days between Start date and End date (both dates inclusive). Null if status = UB	29
Network charge $	Num (7,2 dec)	M/O	M	<NetworkCharge>	Fixed $ = Chargeable days x rate Variable $ = Consumption x rate ($ excl GST and net of any prompt payment discount). Null if status = UB	2489.95
Report Month	YYYY MM	M (O if Unbilled)	M	<ReportMonth>	The month the report is run for. Null if status = UB	201003
Customer No	Char (15)	M (O if Unbilled)	O	<CustomerNumber>	Retailer's Customer number. Null if status = UB	52875624
Consumer No	Char (15)	M (O if Unbilled)	O	<ConsumerNumber>	Retailer's Consumer number. Null if status = UB	7856258713

Description	Type	Retailer to Distributor Optional / Mandatory	Distributor to Retailer Optional / Mandatory	XML Tag	Rule	Example
Invoice Date	DD/MM/YYYY	M (O if Unbilled)	M	<InvoiceDate>	For Retailer to Distributor file applicable to As Billed report only. Null if Status = UB	07/4/2010
Invoice number	Char (20)	M (O if Unbilled)	M	<InvoiceNumber>	For Retailer to Distributor file applicable to As Billed report only. Null if status = UB	654321
Meter ID	Char (15)	M (O if Unbilled)	O	<MeterID>	Meter serial number	8725MGM8979

Example:

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HDR,ICPMMNM,CTCT,CTCT,UNLG,02/04/2010,12:32:02,47980981234,2,01/03/2010,31/03/2010,201003,G,I
DET,0004227586QTE8B,28/2/2010,29/3/2010,443.754,443754,123265,RD,TWA35610,UNLG,,4G23,0.0202,V,,2489.95,201003,52875624,7856258713,07/04/2010,654321,8725MGM8979
DET,0004232568QTE8B,28/2/2010,29/3/2010,308.250,308250,85625,RD,TWA35610,UNLG,,4G23,6.1014,F,29,176.94,201003,52875624,7856258713,07/04/2002,654321,8725MGM8979
etc
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