Consultation on proposed file formats

Date issued: November 2010
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GAS INDUSTRY COMPANY LIMITED

Contents

Introduction

Background

The Gas (Downstream Reconciliation) Rules 2008 ('the Rules') provide for Gas Industry Co to specify, after consulting with allocation participants, one or more information exchange file formats, which allocation participants, the allocation agent and the industry body must use for information exchanges under the Rules.

The Information Exchange File Formats Working Group (IEFFWG) was appointed to create file formats for the above purpose. The file formats were published by Gas Industry Co on 3 November 2008 – see the *Notice by the Industry Body (Gas Industry Co) under rule 25 of the Gas (Downstream Reconciliation) Rules 2008 specifying information exchange file formats v1.2*.

Following the completion of this task the terms of reference of IEFFWG were amended; the new purpose being to propose changes to the existing file formats, where appropriate, and to develop industry-agreed protocols regarding exchanges of information between gas industry participants that are not mandated under any regulatory arrangements. In line with the latter purpose, further file formats have been discussed in the group and are now proposed for wider feedback and comment. These file formats are for more general exchanges of information not covered by the requirements of the allocation system or reconciliation rules.

If, following consultation, the file formats are subsequently approved by IEFFWG, Gas Industry Co will publish the file formats as a guideline on its website. Where the file formats are not published under any regulatory provision, Gas Industry Co will perform such publication to support improvement of industry practices.

Gas Industry Co welcomes feedback on the proposed file formats and suggestions on any further file formats which could be of value. Submissions on this paper can be made by logging on to the Gas Industry Co website and uploading your submission, preferably using the template attached as Appendix A to this consultation paper.

Proposed file formats

The proposed new gas information exchange protocols (GIEPs) are listed below, and are detailed in the following sections. The naming convention follows that of the equivalent protocols in the electricity industry. The gas protocols are based substantially on their electrical equivalents.

- GIEP1 – Network detail consumption information
- GIEP2 – Network summary consumption information
- GIEP7 – General installation status change
- GIEP8 – Network price category and tariff change

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 as and when participants have the capacity 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.

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 previous consumption end date + 1 day;

(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;

(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 either 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

The report provides a calendar month normalisation of as billed base consumption data at meter register-tariff level, effectively equivalent to as billed plus the current month's unbilled sales accrual minus the previous month's unbilled sales accrual.

The 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. Either the consumption is based upon an estimate reading, or the consumption includes the unbilled sales accrual.

Read status

Used only for consumption periods between which actual reads have been taken.

Final status

If it is known that the reading is at the end of the reporting period and it 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. For the RV the start date must always be less than (pre-date) or be equal to the end date.

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.

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.

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.

File Format

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

Description	Type	XML Tag	Rule	Example
Detail record type	Char (3)	<RecordType>	DET – Indicates the row is a detail record	DET
ICP	Char (15)	<ICP>	ICP 15 character unique identifier	0004227586QTE8B
Start date	DD/MM/YYYY	<ICPStartDate>	Consumption or Fixed start date. Null if status equals UB	28/02/2010

Description	Type	XML Tag	Rule	Example
End date	DD/MM/YYYY	<ICPEndDate>	Consumption or Fixed end date. Null if status equals UB	29/03/2010
Consumption (GJ)	Num (12,3 dec)	<ConsumptionGJ>	Consumption in GJ (= kWh x 0.0036). Null if status equals UB	443.754
Consumption (MJ)	Num (15)	<ConsumptionMJ>	Consumption in MJ (= GJ x 1000). Null if status equals UB	443754
Consumption (kWh)	Num (15)	<ConsumptionkWh>	Consumption in KWh (= GJ / 0.0036). Null if status equals UB	123265
Status	Char (2)	<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)	<GasGate>	Gas Gate code as per GIC	TWA35610
Distributor ID	Char (4)	<Distributor>	Distributor code	UNLG
Capacity	Num (6)	<Capacity>	Mandatory if applicable to Network price for ICP, UoM as per Network price	
Network price/tariff code	Char (25)	<TariffCode>	Network price/tariff code set by Distributor	4G23
Network price/tariff rate	Num (6,6 dec)	<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)	<FixedVariable>	F or V. Null if Status = UB	V
Chargeable days	Num (4)	<ChargeableDays>	Chargeable days between Start date and End date (both dates inclusive). Null if status = UB	29
Network charge $	Num (7,2 dec)	<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

Description	Type	XML Tag	Rule	Example
Report Month	YYYYMM	<ReportMonth>	The month the report is run for. Null if status = UB	201003
Customer No	Num (15)	<CustomerNumber>	Retailer's Customer number. Null if status = UB	52875624
Consumer No	Num (15)	<ConsumerNumber>	Retailer's Consumer number. Null if status = UB	7856258713
Invoice Date	DD/MM/YYYY	<InvoiceDate>	For Retailer to Distributor file applicable to As Billed report only. Null if Status = UB	07/4/2010
Invoice number	Char (20)	<InvoiceNumber>	For Retailer to Distributor file applicable to As Billed report only. Null if status = UB	654321
Meter ID	Char (15)	<MeterID>	Meter serial number	8725MGM8979

Example:

```
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
```

GIEP2 – Network summary consumption information

Purpose

This report provides for summary consumption information by price/tariff code by gas gate. This file is a summary of the GIEP1 format and should match the total days, kWh (or MJ or GJ), and dollars by gas gate-tariff.

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. The basis of this report is outlined in more detail below.

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 of this document includes XML tags to enable the move to XML format as and when participants have the capacity 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_SUMAB_201003_20100601_1232.txt

[Char4_Char1_Char4_ Char5_yyyymm_yyyymmdd_hhmm.txt]

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

File Format

Description	Type	XML Tag	Rule	Example
Header record type	Char (3)	<RowType>		HDR
File type	Char (5)	<FileType>	If **As Billed** consumption then SUMAB, if **Normalised** then SUMNM	SUMNM
Sender	Char (4)	<Sender>	Party code of sender	CTCT
Recipient	Char (4)	<Recipient>	Party code of recipient	UNLG
Report Run Date	DD/MM/YYYY	<RunDate>	Date the report is run	02/04/2010
Report Run Time	HH:MM:SS	<RunTime>	Time the report is run	12:32:02
Unique identifier	Num (12)	<Identifier>		4798
Number of Records	Num (8)	<RecordCount>	Total number of records in report	4
Report period start date	DD/MM/YYYY	<ReportStartDate>	Start of report date range (inclusive)	01/03/2010
Report period end date	DD/MM/YYYY	<ReportEndDate>	End of report date range (inclusive)	31/03/2010

Report Month	YYYYMM	<ReportMonth>	Report Month	201003
Utility Type	Char (1)	<Utility>	G (Gas)	G
File Status	Char (1)	<FileStatus>	I (Initial) or R (Replacement)	I

Description	Type	XML Tag	Rule	Example
Detail record type	Char (3)	<RecordType>	DET – Indicates the row is a detail record	DET
Gas Gate	Char (8)	<GasGate>	Gas Gate code as per GIC	TWA35610
Distributor ID	Char (4)	<Distributor>	Distributor code	UNLG
Network price/tariff code	Char (25)	<TariffCode>	Network price/tariff code set by Distributor	4G10
Network price/tariff rate	Num (6,6 dec)	<TariffPrice>	Fixed daily rate or variable per unit rate ($ excl GST and net of any prompt payment discount).	0.0296
Fixed/Variable	Char (1)	<FixedVariable>	F or V	V
Number in category	Num (6)	<CategoryICPs>	Count of ICPs in category	1
Chargeable days	Num (4)	<ChargeableDays>	Sum of chargeable days for ICPs in category, for fixed prices only	29
Consumption (GJ)	Num (12,3 dec)	<ConsumptionGJ>	Sum of GJ for ICPs in category	4.050
Consumption (MJ)	Num (15)	<ConsumptionMJ>	Sum of MJ for ICPs in category	4050
Consumption (kWh)	Num (15)	<ConsumptionkWh>	Sum of kWh for ICPs in category	1125
Network charge $	Num (9,2 dec)	<NetworkCharge>	Fixed $ = Chargeable days x rate Variable $ = Consumption x rate ($ excl GST and net of any prompt payment discount).	33.30
Report Month	YYYYMM	<ReportMonth>	The month the report is run for.	201003

Example:

```
HDR,SUMNM,CTCT,UNLG,02/04/2010,12:32:02,4798,4,01/03/2010,31/03/2010,201003,G,I
DET,TWA35610,UNLG,4G10,0.0296,V,1,,4.050,4050,1125,33.30,201003
DET,TWA35610,UNLG,4G10,0.2453,F,1,29,,,7.11,201003
DET,TWA35610,UNLG,4G21,0.0388,V,8,,129.600,129600,36000,1396.80,201003
DET,TWA35610,UNLG,4G21,0.2249,F,8,232,,,52.18,201003
```

GIEP7 – General installation status change

Purpose

This file is to be used by distributors and retailers to provide information on the change in connection status at installations (e.g. disconnections and reconnections) and also provide detail as to the nature of the status change (e.g. disconnected at meter etc).

Either party may effect the change in installation status dependent on the agreements between them. Codes to be used allow this file to provide pre-notification or post-notification (as required) of changes performed by either party. For example, some distributors take fault calls from customers and therefore prior notification of disconnects would be advantageous.

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 area in this document includes XML tags to enable the move to XML format as and when participants have the capacity to do so (the XML schema will be published with the file format document when it is defined).

Case sensitivity

Matching of file names, code list values, etc, is 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_STCHG_201003_20100601_1232.txt

[Char4_Char1_Char4_ Char5_yyyymm_yyyymmdd_hhmm.txt]

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

Key data field descriptions

Installation Status Change Codes

Pre-Notification – Disconnection and Reconnection Codes

Status Change Code	Description
ADC	Disconnect Pre-Notification (Awaiting Disconnection Confirmation)

Post-Notification – Temporary Disconnection Codes

Status Change Code	Description
GCC	Gas credit disconnect – GMS remains, supply capped
GCU	Gas credit disconnect – GMS remains, service disconnected upstream of service valve by Network Operator
GCM	Gas credit disconnect – GMS removed, supply capped

Post-Notification – Transitional Disconnection Codes

Status Change Code	Description
GVC	Gas vacant disconnect –supply capped
GVM	Gas vacant disconnect - supply capped - GMS removed
GNC	Gas not required disconnect - supply capped
GNM	Gas not required disconnect – supply capped - GMS removed
GMC	Gas maintenance disconnect - supply capped
GMM	Gas maintenance disconnect – supply capped - GMS removed
GMU	Gas maintenance disconnect - GMS removed, service disconnected upstream of service valve by Network Operator
GSC	Gas safety disconnect – GMS remains, supply capped

Status Change Code	Description
GSM	Gas safety disconnect - GMS removed, supply capped
GSU	Gas safety disconnect - GMS remains, service disconnected upstream of service valve by Network Operator

Post-Notification – Permanent Disconnection Codes

Status Change Code	Description
GPC	Gas permanent disconnect ready for GMS removal – GMS remains, supply capped
GPM	Gas permanent disconnect ready for decommissioning - GMS removed, supply capped
GDE	Gas permanent disconnect - service disconnected by Network Operator outside property and service abandoned

Post-Notification – Reconnection Codes

Status Change Code	Description
DEB	Reconnect from Credit (Debt) disconnection
SAF	Reconnect from Safety disconnection
VAI	Reconnect from Vacant disconnection
NAI	Reconnect from Gas Not Required disconnection
MAI	Reconnection from Maintenance disconnection

Notes:

- GPC (or GPM) status is used to notify a network operator and GMS owner that preparation for decommissioning has been carried out - typically the service valve has been turned off and capped (or service valve has been turned off and capped and GMS has been removed). If appropriate, the network operator can then decommission the service.

- "Supply capped" means a discontinuity has been created between the service valve and GMS, or between the GMS and gas installation (based on requirements of the network operator), and the open ends have been capped.

- Some additional information will be required to identify when the service riser/GMS/consumer's point of supply is internal to a building, but this may be able to be identified by other means such as from meter reading records. Further work is required in this area.

File Format

Description	Type	XML Tag	Rule	Example
Header record type	Char (3)	<RowType>		HDR
File type	Char (5)	<FileType>	Installation Status Change	STCHG
Sender	Char (4)	<Sender>	Party code of sender	CTCT
Recipient	Char (4)	<Recipient>	Party code of recipient	UNLG
Report run date	DD/MM/YYYY	<RunDate>	Date the report is run	01/04/2010
Report run time	HH:MM:SS	<RunTime>	Time the report is run	12:32:02
Unique identifier	Num (12)	<Identifier>		47980981234
Number of detail records	Num (8)	<RecordCount>	Total number of records in report	2

Description	Type	XML Tag	Rule	Example
Detail record type	Char (3)	<RecordType>		DET
ICP ID plus checksum	Char (15)	<ICP>	ICP 15 character unique identifier	0123456789XXCCC
Status Change Code	Char (3)	<StatusCode>	See table below	GVC
Status Change Date	DD/MM/YYYY	<StatusDate>	Date of change of installation status	15/03/2010
Status Change Time	HH:MM	<StatusTime>	Time of change of installation status	09:03
Sender ID reference number	Char (15)	<ReferenceID>	Retailer Reference Number	23645

Example:

```
HDR,STCHG,CTCT,UNLG,01/04/2010,12:32:02,47980981234,2
DET,0123456789XXCCC,GVC,15/03/2010,09:03,23645
DET,0246810121XXCCC,GVM,20/03/2010,16:30,23645
```

GIEP8 – Network price category and tariff change

Purpose

The purpose of this file is for retailers and distributors to notify each other when load group and tariff changes occur in accordance with the agreements they have with each other.

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.

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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_E_UNLG_TARCHG_201003_20100316_1232.txt

[Char4_Char1_Char4_ Char6_yyyymm_yyyymmdd_hhmm.txt]

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

File Format

Description	Type	XML Tag	Rule	Example
Header record type	Char (3)	<RowType>		HDR
File type	Char (7)	<FileType>	Tariff Change	TARCHG
Sender	Char (4)	<Sender>	Party code of sender	CTCT
Recipient	Char (4)	<Recipient>	Party code of recipient	POCO
Report run date	DD/MM/YYYY	<RunDate>	Date the report is run	16/03/2010
Report run time	HH:MM:SS	<RunTime>	Time the report is run	12:32:02
Unique identifier	Num (12)	<Identifier>		47980981234
Number of detail records	Num (8)	<RecordCount>	Total number of records in report	4

Description	Type	XML Tag	Rule	Example
Detail record type	Char (3)	<RecordType>		DET
ICP ID plus checksum	Char (15)	<ICP>	ICP 15 character unique identifier	0123456789XXCCC
Price Category	Char (25)	<StatusCode>	Network price category code	1G10
Price Category Change Date	DD/MM/YYYY	<StatusDate>	Date of change of installation status	15/03/2010
Meter Set SCMH	Num (5)	<MetersetSCMH>	Retailer Reference Number	6.3

Example:

```
HDR,TARCHG,CTCT,POCO,16/03/2010,12:32:02,47980981234,4,
DET,0123456789XXCCC,2G11,15/03/2010,6.3
DET,0123456789XXBBB,2G12,15/03/2010,17.7
DET,0123456789XXDDD,3G14,15/03/2010,55.4
DET,0123456789XXEEE,2G06,12/03/2010,9.8
```

Appendix A Format for submissions

To assist Gas Industry Co in the orderly and efficient consideration of stakeholders' responses, a suggested format for submissions has been prepared. Submitters are also free to include other material on proposed file formats if they feel this is relevant.

Submission from:..... (company name and contact)

Question	Comment
Q1: Do you have any comments on the proposed file format 'GIEP1 – Network detail consumption information'? Do you have any further suggestions or modifications to the file format?	
Q2: Do you have any comments on the proposed file format 'GIEP2 – Network summary consumption information'? Do you have any further suggestions or modifications to the file format?	
Q3: Do you have any comments on the proposed file format 'GIEP7 – General installation status change'? Do you have any further suggestions or modifications to the file format?	
Q4: Do you have any comments on the proposed file format 'GIEP8 – Network price category and tariff change'? Do you have any further suggestions or modifications to the file format?	
Q5: Do you have any suggestions for other gas information exchange file formats that could be investigated or adopted?	