



22 December 2006

Electricity Commission
P.O Box 10041
Wellington

Attention: Market Administrator

Meridian Energy Limited - Registry Software Specification Change Application

The purpose of this letter is to make application for a Registry Software Specification Change.

Meridian Energy Limited (Meridian) has entered into a meter replacement programme with Arc Innovations Limited (Arc). The roll out of smart metering has already commenced and in the course of that roll out an issue has been identified concerning the recording of smart meter serial numbers in the registry. Arc smart meters have a 13 digit serial number. A Registry Transfer Notice File (TN) allows for 12 digit serial numbers only. Meridian understands that a change to the functionality of the registry would accommodate a 13 digit serial number.

Attached is a completed Registry Software Specification Change Form which sets out in full the details of Meridian's application.

Should you require more information concerning this application please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Kevin Currie
Compliance & Regulatory Manager

Registry Software Specification Change Form v 2.0

Application for Registry Software Specification Change

Application Number:

Applicant Details

Company Name:	Meridian Energy Limited
Contact Person:	Amy Williams – Data Administration Services Manager
Contact Phone:	DDI: 03 3539521 Cell: 021 756 953
Contact Email:	<u>Amy.Williams@MeridianEnergy.co.nz</u>

Amendment History

Version	Date	Reason for Change	Changed by Name

Brief Description

Meridian is seeking a functionality change with respect to the ability of the registry to support 13 digit meter serial numbers.

At the time of this application the registry can only support a maximum of 12 digit serial numbers.

Objective

Background

Meridian Energy Limited (Meridian) has entered into a meter replacement programme with Arc Innovations Limited (Arc). The roll out of smart metering has already commenced and in the course of that roll out programme an issue has been identified concerning the recording of smart meter serial numbers in the registry.

The Issue

Arc smart meters have a 13 digit serial number.

A Registry Transfer Notice File (TN) allows for 12 digit serial numbers only.

Customer Point of Connections (ICPs) are currently switched automatically by Meridian's system but the Registry rejects the files and sends them back with a 308 Error. To ensure the gaining retailer receives the TN file Meridian has to:

- The TN file is manually adjusted to read 12 digits;
- The TN file is then resent;
- The gaining retailer is emailed and advised of the correct serial number which is not the one recorded in the registry

Meridian understands that a change to the functionality of the registry that would accommodate a 13 digit serial number is part of the specifications for the new registry service provider contracts.

Of concern to Meridian is that the potential time lag in the delivery of the new registry and given the manual nature of the process currently being implemented to work around the limitations of the registry and the opportunity for error this invites.

Actions to date to resolve issue

It is Meridian's understanding that the serial number functionality change being requested by Meridian has become part of the specifications for the new registry contracts.

Meridian is of the view that it is in the best interests of the electricity market and the best interests of consumers to have registry make the functionality change now rather than later.

In the interests of advancing resolution of this matter Meridian has engaged in discussion with Jade, the Registry provider. Jade has advised that the required change will take two working days to implement.

Meridian has also approach every electricity retailer and advised them of the issue and confirmed they support a change to the serial number limitations on the registry.

Related Documents

No other documents are attached to this application

Application submitted for Meridian by



Kevin Currie
Compliance & Regulatory Manager
Meridian Energy Limited
18 December 2006



12 April 2007

Lisa White
Electricity Commission
PO Box 10041
Wellington

Dear Lisa

Meridian Energy Limited – Application for Registry Software Change

I refer to the Meridian Energy Limited application for a Registry Software Change dated 22 December 2006, copy attached.

Recent communications with the Electricity Commission have raised concerns as to whether Meridian's application is being progressed with the necessary urgency.

Emails between the Electricity Commission and Arc Innovations in mid March of this year indicate that the Electricity Commission misplaced an earlier Arc Innovations application for the same registry change causing a significant delay in the progressing of this issue. Meridian understands that its application is only now being progressed.

The purpose of this letter is to formally request that Meridian's application for Registry Software Change be treated with urgency.

Meridian and Arc are engaged in an ambitious programme of replacing old metering technology with new smart metering technology. It is anticipated that over the next 12 to 18 months 18,500 smart meters will be installed which have 13 digit serial numbers; 3,500 have already been installed. The proposed Registry Software Change has been made with the interests of the electricity industry in mind as the proposed change is designed to facilitate the correct recording of details on the Registry and most importantly avoid manual work around during switching processes ensuring compliance is maintained with the Electricity Governance Rules 2003.

Meridian would appreciate your early advice as to what stage the application is currently at and how long it is expected to take before the actual changes can be implemented.

Should you require any further information or wish to discuss further please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Kevin Currie
Compliance & Regulatory Manager
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