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To: Standard Data Formats Group c/- The Electricity Authority

Straw man: Standardised Tariff Coding Conventions

1. Brief:

Work with the SDFG to develop a set of standardised tariff coding conventions/descriptions for such terms as 'Anytime', 'day/night', etc.

This is to be developed for ICP based networks only.

2. Methodology:

Tariff disclosures for each Network company were reviewed to assess what coding similarities there were and as to what type of structure would work if one were to standardise. Over 2,000 different line tariffs were reviewed. There was some similarity across networks. This was more so where the networks have had corporate activity and parts divested or acquired, etc. In particular Vector, Powerco, Unison and Wellington Electricity had similar codes.

The creation of a standardised structure will not decrease the number of tariffs offered but should provide an easier understanding of what each tariff represents when described or "coded" in a similar manner.

3. Straw man:

The straw man example below is proposed. A number of matters need to be considered to reach a final proposal.

Company	Load Group	If any load controlled hours available	StdCode	Unit Type	Units	Description
COUP	96S	24	FIXD	c/day	15	Domestic Fixed daily Supply Charge
COUP	201	24	WINW	c/kwh	100	3 Rate Winter Weekday Peak 0700-1100 & 1700-2100
CKHK	G100	24	FIXD	c/day	15	Single meter without control, fixed charge
POCO	V06C	24	FIXD	c/day	72.1581	Valley -1 & 2 Phase 60 amps and 3 phase 100 amps
POCO	V06C	9	BOST	c/kwh	1.6148	Available only for appliances permanently wired to a separate meter. Controlled option with power between the hours of 2300 to 0700, plus a minimum "boost period" of one hour, generally between 1300 and 1530. Appliances must not draw current outside of these hours
POCO	V06C	24	24UC	c/kwh	6.9448	A 24-hour continuous supply
POCO	V06C	17	CTRL	c/kwh	5.108	Electricity under normal supply circumstances is usually available for at least 17 hours per day. Under abnormal supply or operating circumstances (e.g. where there is a shortage or anticipated shortage of electricity), control may be for greater than seven hours per day (e.g. 22 hours per day).
POCO	V06C	17	AICO	c/kwh	6.6934	A 24-hour supply and a mandatory additional controllable supply. Available only for single meter, single register configurations. If the single meter has two registers, then consumption must be submitted as 24UC and CTRL, or AICO-NITE provided eligibility criteria for AICO and NITE are fulfilled.

= Particular to and provided by the Distributor
= Standardised options and descriptions

The basic structure is:

Participant Identifier (4 Char), Network Load Group (4 Char), Standardised Code (4 Char), Unit Type (25 Char), Units (15 Char), Description (300).

Please note that the Controlled hour's column has been omitted in the basic structure as described above however it is shown in the table so as to be a point for discussion.

Controlled Load Hours:
In the table above I have inserted a column for the hours that a supply is available if all or part of it is controlled. I believe this is not necessary as this can be covered in the description field. What I did find on review is that most network companies do not specify the availability of supply in their descriptions (some of course do). This is important information for a retailer to be able to advise customers of the most appropriate options for them. Perhaps the answer is in prescribing that if any load is controllable then the available hours (in normal conditions) must be described in the tariff option description?

Unit Type:
In the Unit Type column for most (if not all) price schedules have a mix of cents/unit or dollars/unit. For example Powerco have c/day for the smaller customers for a fixed charge along with c/kWh for the variable charges. The larger customers charges are then described in $/unit e.g. $/ICP/month or $/kVa/month.

What are the SDFG's thoughts on whether units should be standardised to either $/unit or cents/unit or left as they currently are?

Standardised Option Code:

In reviewing the various distribution tariff structures I was able to come up with a number of codes and standard descriptions that would appear to cover most if not all options currently provided by ICP priced network companies. These are detailed below.

Standard Option Code	Description
UNCT	A 24 hour continuous supply
CTRL	A supply that can be interrupted for a specified number of hours
AICO	A supply that typically has one meter and part of the supply can be interrupted for a specified number of hours
DAY	A supply that is only available at specified daytime hours
NITE	A supply that is only available at specified nighttime hours
BOST	A supply that is available at specified nighttime hours with an afternoon boost period
BTPS	Builders Temporary Supply
REAC	Reactive Energy Charge
PEAK	Peak Time Period Charge
OPEK	Off -Peak Time Period Charge
SUMW	Summer Weekday Charge
SUMD	Summer Day Charge
SUMN	Summer Night Charge
SUME	Summer Evening Charge
WINW	Winter Weekday Charge
WINE	Winter Evening Charge
WIND	Winter Day Charge
WINN	Winter Night Charge
WIMP	Winter Morning Peak Charge
TRAN	Transformer Charge
TRAR	Transformer Rebate
DISF	Fixed Discount
DISV	Variable Discount
CAPB	Capacity Back-up Charge
CAPE	Excess Capacity Charge
CONG	Congestion Period Demand Charge
DIST	A charge for the distance that an ICP is away from specified network assets
DEMF	Fixed Demand Charge
DEMV	Variable Demand Charge
ASET	Asset Specific Charge
LITF	Fixed Charge for Lighting
LITV	Variable charge for Lighting
UNMF	Unmetered supply fixed charge
UNMV	Unmetered supply fixed variable
METR	Meter equipment charge
FIXD	Fixed daily charge

It would be useful for the SDFG to review these codes against various network company price schedules to see if they also agree that these codes cover most, if not all, tariff options currently available on ICP priced networks. This list could of course be amended from time to time as required if new options became available.

A further issue to discuss with the SDFG is as to whether the 4 character code should be extended to, say 20 Char, so it can be more descriptive. I have settled on the 4 character code as that is what tends to be used currently by the participants with the largest number of ICP's.

I look forward to discussing the Straw Man with you.

Yours faithfully

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