Case 12-M-0476, et. al.
EDI Business Working Group (BWG)
Draft Minutes – July 18, 2014

Administration

- Review/Modify Agenda: The Draft Agenda was adopted unmodified.
- The7/11/2014 Draft Minutes were modified to reflect attendance changes and adopted as final.
- DPS – no remarks.

EDI Modification Priority Planning

Jackie Hernandez reviewed a spreadsheet capturing the transaction assignments proposed during the July 11, 2014 meeting.

Priority 1 Discussion

Determination of EDI Transaction for non-usage items

- National Grid reviewed the IG's and they read it as not calling for the meter number or number of meters ("meter items") when a gas profile is provided. Their current practice is to provide these items for electric accounts but in the territories where they provide gas profiles, they do not provide them. In comparison, Con Ed provides meter items with gas profiles. National Fuel provides meter items but provides usage instead a gas profile. O&R provides the meter items but the number of meters is always one. Central Hudson permits customers to select ESCOs at the meter levels for the few accounts that have more than one meter but both ESCOs have to bill in the same manner.
    - For gas accounts, unless a utility permits customers to select ESCOs at the meter level, the meter items are informational but not critical to ESCO service.
    - For electric customers, all utilities currently report both meter items.

  The BWG Chair will contact DPS Staff with regard to the requirement for "Number of Meters with All Meter Numbers" in the 2/25/2014 Order. It appears to already be part of the NY EDI Standard.

- Rich Spilky discussed a workpaper on the Industrial Classification Code ("ICC") which provided justification for receipt of the ICC on a pre-enrollment basis. National Fuel noted that while the ICC could be provided pre-enrollment to the extent that they have the information, the ESCO needs to still speak to the customer because the info the utility may be different from how the customer classifies itself. Con Ed concurred with this statement. Grid said if they have an SIC code in their system they will provide it.

- The BWG Chair said that based upon communications outside the working group, it does not appear if NYPA will be making the ReChargeNY Indicator available through another medium. There are approximately 700 accounts statewide in the ReChargeNY program. It appears as if each utility will have to maintain its own list. The BWG therefore is back to the question of whether to provide the ReChargeNY Indicator via EDI or in a non-EDI format such as a utility maintained web page/PDF file.

  With only 700 accounts, this is a low volume transaction and perhaps putting it on the website would make more sense since EDI is meant for large volume transactions. Integrys stated they would prefer an EDI solution but understood the rationale for a non-EDI solution. ConEd said it was working on providing the data in a PDF/spreadsheet on their website, but wasn't sure if the ESCO would have the right to the account information pre-enrollment.

- Discussion on limiting the utility discount indicator to cases where a utility commodity discount exists or a utility delivery discount that is contingent upon the customer purchasing commodity form the utility took place.
    - A workpaper encapsulating this proposal will be sent to the REMS list to seek informal input from ESCOs and other parties.

- Ambit questioned whether the enrollment rejection code fit in to the 503 pricing history transaction. The BWG said it was a better fit for another transaction, e.g. the 503X, 814 HU or 867 HU.

- Mary Do reviewed a workpaper based upon previous Technical Working Group ("TWG") work which proposed use of a PTD*FG loop within an 867 HU transaction. This solution, which is used is a few other states, would result in the non-usage items being transferred within the 867 HU, even when there was no usage to be reported in the transaction. It was noted that since meter number and number of meters were already in the 867 HU, these items might be reported twice in the same transaction when usage was available. Discussion of how the Low Income Program/HEAP Customer Indicator might fit into the PTD*FG loop, as well as the implications of customer block(s) on access to this information took place. Meeting participants were reminded that regardless of which transaction is used to communicate the new items pre-enrollment, most of the non-usage items would be made available post enrollment; as enrollment responses and change transactions (likely 814 transactions).

The BWG Chair noted the assignments discussed in last week's meeting and the discussion today. He asked utilities to review the pre-enrollment transaction options for each new non-usage item with their internal technical personnel to determine each utility's preference by the August 1 BWG/TWG meeting. The objective is to make a decision so TWG can start design of the pre-enrollment transactions. Additionally, TWG was directed to start design of the post-enrollment transactions.

<u>Priority 1A Discussion</u>

Energy Related Value-Added Service (ERVAS) Indicator

The BWG reviewed a workpaper that recapped the ERVAS-related language from the 2/25/2014 Order and listed several question that would be submitted to DPS Staff for clarification. BWG participants were asked to review the workpaper and provide additional questions, if any, to be added to the list before the next meeting. The general concern is that the current requirements from the order are not sufficiently defined to be suitable for EDI development. Further, the requirements might grow depending upon developments in Case No. 14-M-0101 therefore there is a possibility that what might be developed now would prove insufficient and need to be supplanted.

After consultation with DPS Staff, the BWG may work with REMS to informally circulate any EDI design considerations with a wider range of parties.

Low-Income Program/HEAP Customer Indicator

Due to the 4/25/2014 Order staying Low-Income related issues, the BWG is still waiting for more guidance from the Commission.

ESCO Bill Credit

The TWG can begin working on an 810 transaction for bill ready utilities and those rate ready utilities that would accept the 810 transaction. The need for 810 IG and BP development aimed at the implementation for the rate ready utilities was reiterated.

- Con Ed will be preparing a workpaper to propose a non-EDI way to provide the credit on the bill.

<u>Priority 2 Discussion</u>

Full Service Bill Comparison Transaction

There was discussion about whether only the utility amount should be sent in 503 EDI transactions. If the data in the transaction can be limited to utility full service amounts, privacy and validation/verification concerns will be minimized. Additionally, the number of monthly amounts to be sent was discussed. Since the ESCO is responsible for calculating the credit, it was thought that it should keep track and therefore already know the ESCO amount billed to the customer.

Generally, ESCOs that would need to calculate credits would fall into one of following categories:

- ESCOs that routinely serve low-income customers, with or without ERVAS.
- ESCOs with service offerings to any customer that promise savings off the utility rate.
- ESCOs that do not intend to serve the low-income market but have existing customers that qualify for low-income protections.

The utility full service amounts are a necessary part of the calculation to be performed by the ESCO and a precursor to the ESCO Bill Credit. Timing for these calculations is with the ESCO's control; 503 EDI transactions would be provided in response to ESCO requests. Processing needs for ESCOs serving the above first two groups would appear significant and frequent, potentially creating the high volume conditions where EDI is appropriate. The third group of ESCOs above would have more of an occasional need to calculate a credit and might have a preference for a web site option.

Since the 503 EDI transaction is not a 2/25/2014 Order requirement, input from outside the working group will help guide further development. National Fuel and ConEd will put together a workpaper explaining the EDI options (503 and 810 transactions) and non-EDI options, e.g. ESCO oriented web-sites where an ESCO could see what the online calculator computed for ESCO customers and/or web-files as well as the various data formulations and related issues. The workpaper will be sent to the REMS list to seek informal input from ESCOs and other parties.

<u>Priority 3 Discussion</u>

NYSERDA Historical Usage Request

Based upon discussions outside of the BWG, 867 HU transactions will be used to satisfy NYSERDA's request for historical customer usage. While administrative ground work is proceeding at the utilities that will pilot the transaction with NYSERDA, the utilities will some form of 'official document' from DPS to proceed and NYSERDA will need to enter into Trading Partner Agreements or equivalent documents with each of the utilities. The agreements will need to address UBP-like protections for the requested data and exchange thereof as well as the disposition of a few mandatory fields provided in the 867 HU but not included in NYSERDA's request.

Net Metering

This item was added to the EDI Modification Priority Planning spreadsheet as a Priority 3 item last week. An indicator, at minimum, might be appropriate for accounts with net metering.

Utility Maintained Implementation Guides/Documents

A workpaper discussing the Utility Maintained Implementation Guides/Documents proposal will be prepared to explain the concept.

- A workpaper encapsulating this proposal will be sent to the REMS list to seek informal input and agreement from ESCOs and other parties before a significant development work on the guides is started.

Establish date/time for next meeting

The next meeting will be a combined BWG/TWG meeting on 7/25/14 at 10 A.M. but the primary focus will be development of 814 Enrollment Response and Change transactions, as appropriate, for the Phase I items.

Attendees

Zeno Barnum – Hudson Energy	Jeff Begley – Fluent Energy
Mary Do – Latitude Technologies	Tom Dougherty – ISTA
Joe Falcon – Ambit Energy	Giovanni Formato – Con Edison
Jason Gullo – National Fuel Resources	Jackie Hernandez - Con Edison
Donna Satcher-Jackson – National Grid	Gary Lawrence – Energy Services Group
Jennifer Lorenzini – Central Hudson	Janet Manfredi – Central Hudson
Veronica Munoz – Accenture	Mike Novak – National Fuel Gas
Jean Pauyo – Orange & Rockland	Debbie Rabago – Ambit Energy
Serigo Smilley – National Grid	Rich Spilky – Integrys
Robin Taylor – DPS	Rick Tra – National Grid
Marie Vajda – NYSEG/RG&E	