

# **Electricity Information Exchange Protocols (EIEP)**

## **EIEP4A: Medically Dependent Consumer Information**

Regulated

Effective from 1 April 2025

## Version control

Version	Date amended	EIEP Ref	Comments
1.0	26 February 2025	EIEP4A	Template reformatted Finalisation of file format for publication by the Authority
1.1	28 March 2025	EIEP4A	Update to correct file naming convention in paragraph 12 of protocol specifications to adopt standardised EIEP specifications.

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# 1. EIEP4A: Medically dependent consumer information

<b>Title:</b>	<b>EIEP4A: Medically dependent consumer information</b>
<b>Version:</b>	1.1
<b>Application:</b>	This protocol applies to all: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) traders to provide information about medically dependent consumers to distributors at an ICP level, and</li> <li>b) retailers to provide information about medically dependent consumers to the trader responsible for the relevant ICP.</li> </ul>
<b>Participants:</b>	Retailer/Trader/Distributor
<b>Code reference:</b>	Clause 51 of Schedule 11A.1
<b>Dependencies:</b>	The use of system agreement between the distributor and the trader may also set out requirements relating to the provision of customer information that the distributor and/or the trader must comply with, such as obligations under the Privacy Act and the terms and conditions of customer contracts, restrictions on the purposes for which the customer information may be used, and the obligation to treat the customer information as confidential information.

<b>Description of when this protocol applies</b>
This protocol is used to provide distributors and traders with information about medically dependent consumers at an ICP level (typically daily). This will ensure distributors have visibility of medically dependent consumers at an ICP level on their network, to enable distributors to use this information when planning and undertaking work on the network. This information will also be able to be utilised by those distributors who are responsible for notifying consumers of outages. Distributors will use this information to verify or update their records.

<b>Business requirements</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The sender and recipient must agree on the file transport mechanism by which the sender will provide information and the destination address. Non-manual interfaces use electronic file transfer either via File Transfer Protocol (FTP) or Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) connectivity. In the case of FTP a security mechanism must be used to protect confidentiality. Whatever method is agreed that method must be in a format approved and published by the Authority.</li> <li>2. The Authority strongly recommends using the electronic file transport mechanism commonly used for EIEP files – the registry EIEP transfer hub (via the registry EIEP SFTP server).</li> <li>3. Where information is required to be transferred using email, the contents must be delivered in a secure manner and password protected.</li> <li>4. This protocol must be used whenever a retailer or trader is required to notify the responsible trader or distributor of a new application for medically dependent consumer status or any subsequent change in medically dependent consumer status, but no more than once a day.</li> <li>5. An agent may provide data on behalf of the relevant retailer or trader, in which case the header for EIEP4A will identify the trader/retailer. The appointment of an agent must be a permission function of the responsible trader/retailer and receiving traders/distributors must allow for agents in their systems.</li> <li>6. A trader/retailer must use codes that are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) stipulated in this document, or</li> <li>(b) approved and published by the Electricity Authority; or</li> <li>(c) determined in the registry and reconciliation functional specifications.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

**Business requirements**

7. Information provided in the file will be consistent with the terminology used in the Glossary of Standard Terms published by the Authority.
8. The file must contain all mandatory information, failure to provide the required information will result in the file being deemed as incomplete.
9. Information is to be provided in accordance with the following status codes unless otherwise specified:
  - O Optional
  - M Mandatory
  - C Conditional - Mandatory if available, otherwise Null (also refer to validation rules)
10. The initial EIEP4A file must be provided by all traders to distributors on or before 2 April 2025, and must be a 'snapshot' file that provides medically dependent consumer information for all ICPs with a customer contract as at 1 April 2025. The Initial file type should be denoted as file type I. Parties will need to agree whether subsequent files are to be:
  - (a) an updated replacement 'snapshot' file whenever any medically dependent consumer information changes, that provides complete and up to date information for all medically dependent consumers at an ICP with a customer contract. Replacement files should be denoted as file type R; or
  - (b) an 'incremental' file that only provides new or amended medically dependent consumer information for ICPs with a customer contract since the last incremental or snapshot version was provided. Incremental files should be denoted as file type X.
11. If a party becomes aware of a format error or the file is incomplete, that party must advise the other party as soon as practical after becoming aware of the issue.
12. If no agreement can be reached as to whether the file is to be a partial (incremental) or full replacement for the correction of the error as noted above, then a full replacement file is required.
13. Recipients of EIEP4A files must be capable of receiving I (initial), R (complete replacement) and X (partial replacement) files.

**General requirements**

1. If there are any conflict between data provided in an EIEP4A file and an EIEP4 file for the same ICP, the data in this EIEP4A file takes precedence.
2. If there are any conflicts between this document and the Code, the Code takes precedence.
3. In general, all participants must provide the recipient with accurate information for all ICPs at which they are recorded in the registry as being responsible for, or for which they have a customer contract.
4. A number of data transfers are required between participants in order for the EIEP process to take place. These data flows if not previously agreed between participants are to be those recommended by the Authority. At all times they must take place in a secure and predictable manner.
5. It is the responsibility of participants to comply with their obligations under the Privacy Act and the terms and conditions of customer contracts when exchanging customer information.

**Data inputs**

<b>Event data</b>	<b>Format</b>	<b>Trader to Distributor, Retailer to Trader: Mandatory/Optional/Conditional</b>	<b>Validation rules</b>
<i>Header record type</i>	Char 3	M	HDR – indicates the row is a header record type
<i>File type</i>	Char 7	M	Customer Medically Dependent Consumer Information Listing - CUSMDC
<i>Version of EIEP</i>	Num 3.1	M	Version of EIEP protocol that is being used for this file.
<i>Sender</i>	Char 20	M	Name of sending party. Participant identifier to be used if the sender is a participant.
<i>Sent on behalf of participant identifier</i>	Char 4	C	Participant identifier of party on whose behalf data is provided. Mandatory if sender not the participant.
<i>Recipient participant identifier</i>	Char 4	M	Valid recipient participant identifier
<i>Report run date</i>	DD/MM/YYYY	M	Date the report is run
<i>Report run time</i>	HH:MM:SS	M	Time the report is run
<i>Unique File identifier</i>	Char 15	M	Number that uniquely identifies the file
<i>Number of detail records</i>	NUM 8	M	Total number of DET records in report
<i>File status</i>	Char 1	M	I = Initial or R = Replacement or X = Replace only those ICPs contained in this replacement file, also used for each incremental file

<b>Event data</b>	<b>Format</b>	<b>Trader to Distributor, Retailer to Trader: Mandatory/Optional/Conditional</b>	<b>Validation rules</b>
<i>Detail record type</i>	Char 3	M	DET – indicates the row is a detail record.
<i>ICP identifier</i>	Char 15	M	Unique identifier for an ICP created by a distributor in accordance with clause 1 of Schedule 11.1

Event data	Format	Trader to Distributor, Retailer to Trader: Mandatory/Optional/Conditional	Validation rules
<i>Disconnection restriction</i>	Char 1	M	<p>“Y” for Yes or “N” for No for medically dependent consumer(s) at the ICP.</p> <p>Use “N” if a previous report for this ICP was “Y” and application for medically dependent consumer status has subsequently been declined, or retailer no longer records a medically dependent consumer residing at the premises.</p>
<i>Medical restriction type</i>	Char 3	C	<p>MDA if trader has received or is advised of an application for medically dependent consumer status.</p> <p>MDR if medically dependent consumer is recorded by the trader or retailer.</p> <p>Mandatory if disconnection restriction is recorded as “Y”, otherwise Null.</p>
<i>Finalled date</i>	DD/MM/YY YY	C	<p>In relation to an ICP, means the date on which an arrangement between a customer and a retailer for the supply of electricity at the ICP was terminated. For use in incremental files only.</p> <p>Mandatory if incremental file and customer contract finalled.</p>

Protocol specifications
<p>6. The information is to be provided as a comma delimited text file. Commas are therefore prohibited within fields.</p> <p>7. Each formatted file will consist of one or more records, with each record being a single line of text as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) a carriage return character and a line feed character combination (ASCII characters 13 and 10) commonly used in Windows based programs, or</li> <li>(b) a line feed character (ASCII character 10) commonly used in Unix based programs, or</li> <li>(c) a carriage return character (ASCII character 13) commonly used in Mac based programs.</li> </ul> <p>8. Data fields within files are defined using the attributes in the table following these specifications.</p> <p>9. Matching of file names, code list values, etc, are to be case insensitive.</p> <p>10. Each data file will contain only one header but may contain any number of detail records.</p> <p>11. The first record of a file contains “Header” information followed by zero or more detail lines.</p> <p>12. The following file naming convention is to be used with this file:</p> <p>Sender + Utility Type + Recipient + File Type + Report Month + Report Run Date + UniqueID# (e.g. hhmm run time, or ICP but limited to Char(60)) with an extension of .TXT and with the components concatenated using the underscore character, to assist readability.</p> <p>e.g. TRUS_ E_UNET_ CUSMDC_202504_20250402_1232.TXT</p> <p>[Char4_ Char1_Char4_ Char7_ yyyyymm_yyyymmdd_UniqueID.TXT]</p>

Data outputs

## 2. Table of codes used in EIEP4A

**Table 1 List of attributes to define data fields used in EIEP4A**

Logical format	Data type	Rules	Example
INT (n)	Integer	<p>ASCII representation of an integer number (ie no decimals), no leading zeros, no spaces, a leading "-" if negative (no sign if positive), with 1 to n digits.</p> <p>Numbers only: ASCII characters 48 to 57, and 45 where applicable.</p>	<p>INT (4)</p> <p>12</p> <p>-1234</p>
NUM (n.d)	Decimal	<p>ASCII representation of a decimal number (ie a rational number), no spaces, a leading "-" if negative (no sign if positive), with up n digits including up to (n minus d) digits to the left of the decimal place, and up to d digits to the right of the decimal place.</p> <p>For integers, the decimal point is not required.</p> <p>A decimal point on its own must not be used to represent zero (use "0")</p> <p>Trailing zeros are optional.</p> <p>No leading zeros other than when the number starts with "0."</p> <p>Numbers only: ASCII characters 48 to 57, and 45/46 where applicable.</p>	<p>NUM (6.2)</p> <p>123.45</p> <p>1234.0</p> <p>-12.32</p> <p>NUM (6.3)</p> <p>-0.123</p> <p>23.987</p> <p>987.000</p> <p>8</p>
CHAR (n)	Text	<p>Up to n characters (ASCII characters 32 to 43 and 45 to 126 only).</p> <p>As commas (ASCII character 44) are used as field separators, they must not be used within the field data (it is recommended that any commas found in source data be changed to a semi-colon (ASCII character 59) when files are created.</p> <p>Fields must not contain any leading or trailing spaces.</p>	The quick brown fox
DATE	Date	<p>ASCII format with: Year represented as:</p> <p>— YYYY for century and year</p> <p>Month represented as:</p> <p>— MM to display leading zero</p> <p>Day represented as</p> <p>— DD to display leading zero</p> <p>ASCII format for any separators used</p>	<p>YYYYMMDD e.g.</p> <p>20050216</p> <p>DD/MM/YYYY e.g.</p> <p>16/02/2005</p>
TIME	Time	<p>ASCII in 24 hour format</p> <p>Hour represented as HH with leading zeros</p> <p>Minutes represented as MM with leading zeros</p> <p>Seconds represented as SS with leading zeros</p> <p>ASCII format for any separators used Note: both NZST and NZDT will be used and will be indicated as necessary</p>	<p>HH:MM:SS e.g.</p> <p>13:15:01</p> <p>HH:MM</p> <p>e.g. 13:15</p>
DATETIME	Date/Time	ASCII format with same rules as both Date and Time Data Types	<p>YYYYMMDDHHMMSS</p> <p>e.g. 20050216131501</p>



Logical format	Data type	Rules	Example
NULL	Null	Field contains no data	

**Table 2 ASCII character set for use within fields of EIEP4A**

Character	ASCII	Character	ASCII	Character	ASCII
32	Space	64	@	97	a
33	!	65	A	98	b
34	"	66	B	99	c
35	#	67	C	100	d
36	\$	68	D	101	e
37	%	69	E	102	f
38	&	70	F	103	g
39	'	71	G	104	h
40	(	72	H	105	i
41	)	73	I	106	j
42	*	74	J	107	k
43	+	75	K	108	l
		76	L	109	m
45	-	77	M	110	n
		78	N	111	o
46	.	79	O	112	p
47	/	80	P	113	q
48	0	81	Q	114	r
49	1	82	R	115	s
50	2	83	S	116	t
51	3	84	T	117	u
52	4	85	U	118	v
53	5	86	V	119	w
54	6	87	W	120	x
55	7	88	X	121	y
56	8	89	Y	122	z
57	9	90	Z	123	{
58	:	91	[	124	
59	;	92	\	125	}

Character	ASCII
60	<
61	=
62	>
63	?

Character	ASCII
93	]
94	^
95	_
96	Z

Character	ASCII
126	~