

## Appendix C Glossary of terms and abbreviations

### Consumption/load and distributed generation

Consumption (or load) is electricity that flows from the distribution network through the meter to the installation control point (ICP). This is sometimes referred to as “import”. Distributed generation is electricity that is generated within the ICP (eg from solar panels, or a battery) and flows from the ICP through the meter into the distribution network. This is sometimes referred to as “export”. In this paper, distributed generation excludes electricity that is generated and consumed within the ICP (often referred to as ‘self-consumption’).

### Customer and consumer

A consumer is a person who is supplied with electricity. A customer is a person or business with the contract with the retailer. This paper uses the term customer where the context needs to exclude consumers that do not have the contract with the retailer (such as family members of the customer).

### Installation control point (ICP)

An installation control point can mean either the consumer’s installation (their property), or where the context requires, the actual demarcation point between the distributor’s network and the consumer’s installation (usually the fuse where the connection is made).

The ICP identifier (also known as the ‘ICP number’) is the 15-character identifier used to ensure the ICP data record in the registry is unique. The ICP identifier is the key that enables the switching process. Retailers are required to provide the ICP identifier on every customer invoice and other associated documents.<sup>1</sup>

### Intra-day operation

In the customer switching process currently, events such as status changes or meter changes are deemed to occur from midnight (whole of day operation) meaning only one event can occur during a day. Intra-day operation means that these events could occur at set times during the day, so more than one event can occur during a day.

### Multiple trading relationships (MTR)

Multiple trading relationships (MTR) means the ability for a customer to have contracts with more than one retailer for different services at their property (or ICP).

As technology and business models continue to rapidly evolve, there is real benefit for consumers from innovative retailers and other new providers supplying specific services. This includes retailers specialising in selling distributed generation, supplying certain types of load (such as EV chargers), or supplying flexibility services that move load and distributed generation to optimise network capacity and minimise wholesale electricity costs. To improve access and choice for consumers to these evolving services, industry systems and processes will need to change to better enable customers to hold trading relationships with multiple retailers at one time.

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<sup>1</sup> Clause 11.30 of the Code

## Participants

Electricity industry participants are defined in the Electricity Industry Act, and include traders, retailers, distributors, and MEPs.

### Retailer and trader

A trader buys and/or sells wholesale electricity from and/or to the clearing manager. Although not relevant to this paper, a trader also buys and/or sells hedge contracts. A retailer sells electricity to its customer and buys that electricity from either the clearing manager or another retailer. Where a retailer buys electricity from the clearing manager, it is also a trader.

As a trader has wholesale market obligations, the registry records the person responsible for these wholesale market obligations for the electricity consumed at (or generated from) the ICP, and therefore the registry and Part 11 of the Code uses the term trader.

In this paper, we use the term trader where the context requires that the person be recorded in the registry as having wholesale market obligations. We use the term retailer where the context requires the person to sell electricity to its customer regardless of whether it sources that electricity from the wholesale market or another retailer.

### Abbreviations and acronyms

Act	Electricity Industry Act 2010
AMI	Advanced metering infrastructure
Authority	Electricity Authority Te Mana Hiko
AN file	Losing trader switch acknowledgement file
AW file	Switch withdrawal acknowledgement file
C&I	Commercial and industrial (a type of metering)
Code	Electricity Industry Participation Code 2010
CS file	Switch completion file
HHR	Half-hourly register or half hour data (depending on context)
ICP	Installation control point
MEP	Metering equipment provider
NHH	Non-half-hourly register or non-half-hour data (depending on context)
NT file	Gaining trader switch request file
Regulations	Electricity Industry (Enforcement) Regulations 2010
SDFG	Switching and data formats group
SPR	Switch process review