
Wholesale Retail Code Change Proposal 005: Use of Remote Meter Reads

Modification proposal:	Wholesale Retail Code Change Proposal 005: Use of Remote Meter Reads		
Decision:	Ofwat has decided to confirm these change proposals		
Date of publication:	30 September 2015	Implementation date:	30 September

Background

Technological change has meant some companies have introduced ways to automate the reading of usage meters to replace visual reading. The code mentions only standards for visual readings.

The modification proposal¹

WRC005 was proposed by Sutton and Surrey Water to propose amendments to the code to allow for the automatic reading of meters. The proposal is not technology specific and sought to change the code to allow the option of automatic reads within the original boundaries.

¹ The proposal is available on: <http://www.open-water.org.uk/icp/>

Interim Code Panel recommendation

At its meeting on 22 September 2015, the Interim Code Panel voted unanimously to recommend WRC005. Minutes of the meeting indicate Panel considered the change to positively impact on the efficiency, proportionality and lowers barriers to entry ².

Our decision

This proposals were not consulted on. The panel voted unanimously to accept the proposal. Discussions answered questions about technical details and did not present any significant issues. The Panel was satisfied are consistent with the Principals and Objectives³ noting that the change could help reduce costs for consumers and lower the start up costs of new entrants to the industry. We consider that confirming this change is consistent with our principal objectives and statutory duties.

Reasons for our decision

We consider that the implementation of WRC005 will contribute to effective codes and changes contained are correct and desirable.

Adam Cooper

Director, Retail Market Opening

² Available at: <http://www.open-water.org.uk/icp>

³ <http://www.open-water.org.uk/icp>