

Change Proposal – BSCP40/02

CP No: 1329

*Version No: v1.0
(mandatory by BSCCo)*

Title *(mandatory by originator)*

Amendment to the administration of the CVA Qualification process

Background

The ‘Market Entry’ process (see diagram below) involves activities such as a Party signing to the BSC, setting up authorised personnel to ‘sign off’ the relevant forms, ordering communication lines, registering the Party in BSC Central Systems and registering BM Units.

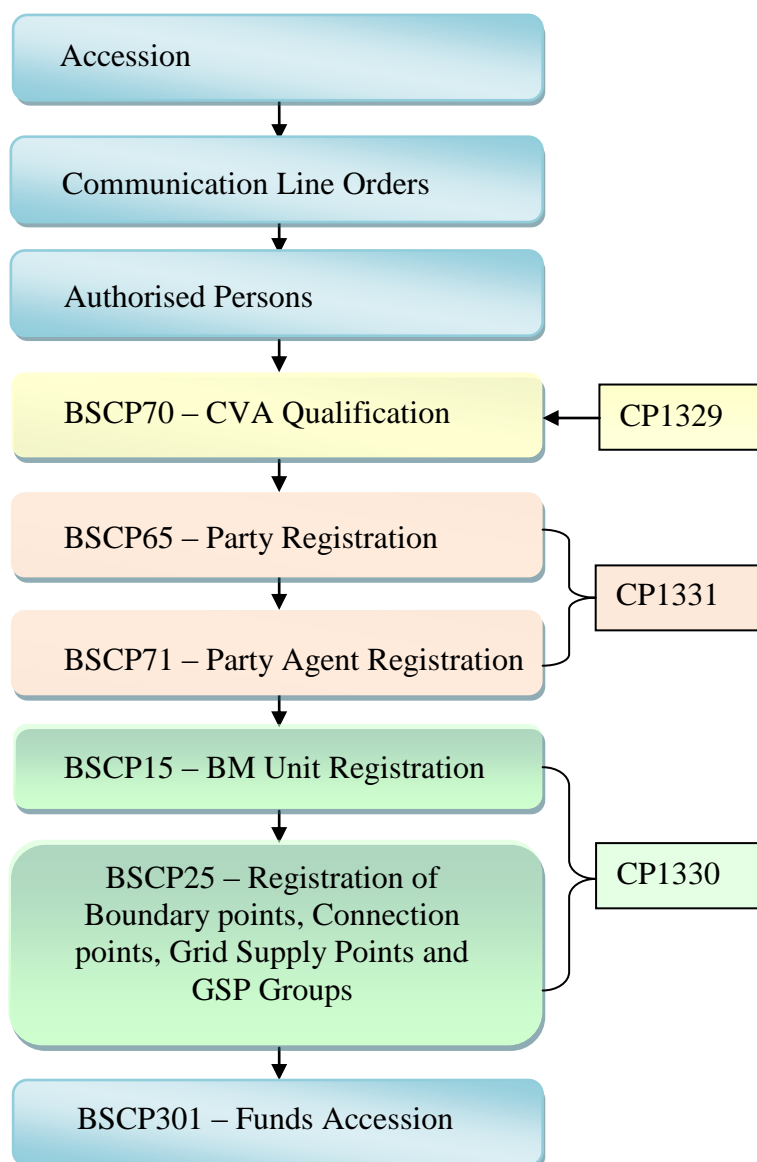
Currently the management of these processes are either with ELEXON or shared between ELEXON and BSC Agents. ELEXON believes that this creates inefficiencies due to over management of the market entry process and has raised the following three CPs with the aim of streamlining the overall process:

1. CP1329 which aims to transfer responsibility of managing the CVA Qualification process to the BSC Central Services Agent (Logica);
2. CP1330 which will transfer the management of the BM Unit registration process to the CRA; and
3. CP1331 which will transfer responsibility for managing the Party and Party Agent registration processes to the CRA.

If all 3 CPs are implemented, ELEXON would still remain involved in the market entry service to provide guidance and support to Parties, managing the accession process and processing orders for High Grade Communication Lines.

All other registration processes would be handled directly by our BSC agents.

Market Entry Process – High Level Illustration



Description of Problem/Issue *(mandatory by originator)*

Before a new Party can register in BSC Central Systems they must first accede to the BSC, order a low grade or high grade communications service and then demonstrate their ability to communicate with BSC Central Systems by carrying out testing in accordance with BSCP70 ‘CVA Qualification’.

ELEXON liaise with the Party and the BSC Central Services Agent (BSC CSA)¹ to confirm and book the next available test slot. The Party will then send ELEXON the completed BSCP70 test booking form(s) which ELEXON will forward to the BSC CSA to provide details of the data flows to be tested.

¹ The BSC CSA is the agent appointed by BSCCo to be responsible for conducting the Qualification Tests with the Qualifying Participant as is defined in BSCP70 (Attachment B of this CP form).

All technical guidance before and during the testing is provided to the Party by the BSC CSA. Once the testing is complete, the BSC CSA informs ELEXON of whether the relevant flows have been successfully tested by manually recording whether each test was a 'pass' or 'fail' on a flow by flow basis within an Excel spread sheet. ELEXON then informs the Party of the results via a CVA Qualification statement were the Party is successful.

It is our view that despite ELEXON being heavily involved in the administration of the CVA Qualification process, there are a few activities where we believe that the process could be made more efficient. These opportunities are identified below:

1. BSCP70 requires ELEXON to provide each party a Qualification Statement, defined as a 'Certificate of Qualification'. In order to produce this certificate ELEXON must manually input the test results on a flow by flow basis into the market entry database². This task is overly onerous and adds little value to BSC Parties whose ability to register in CRA is evidence of them completing the testing successfully.
2. Where the new Party is using the communication lines and/or systems of another BSC Party that has already completed testing, it can apply for a waiver. The applications and supporting evidence (letter from supporting Party) are sent to ELEXON directly. ELEXON then confirm with the BSC CSA that the relevant tests have previously been completed by the supporting Party, ELEXON then issue a Qualification Statement and arrange for the new Party to have access to the FTP Server by raising a call with the BSC Service Desk. It is felt that this process would be more efficiently administered by the BSC CSA who has direct access to the data required to make the decision.

The current BSCP70 test booking forms do not have a space for the Party submitting the request to select a potential test date and highlight the Party role being tested. Having this information on receipt of the form would allow us to determine availability and prepare test flows without having to make contact with the customer unnecessarily.

Proposed Solution *(mandatory by originator)*

We recommend that the BSC CSA execute and administer the CVA Qualification process. This would be more efficient as the BSC CSA holds both the relevant data and expertise required to manage the CVA Qualification process.

We would amend BSCP70 'CVA Qualification' so that the forms are sent directly to the BSC CSA. We would also update the form to allow a Party to recommend a potential test date. This would ensure that once the BSC CSA receives the request they can discuss availability prior to contacting the customer.

The BSC CSA would become the main point of contact throughout the CVA Qualification process and continue to provide technical guidance and support. ELEXON would establish a process for the BSC CSA to inform us when a new Party has booked testing and when testing has been completed.

We propose that the BSC CSA would issue the Qualification Statement on behalf of ELEXON, instead of ELEXON issuing the Qualification Statement. This insures that the Qualifying Market Participants have one central contact point for all queries (the BSC CSA), and would avoid any confusion in having two different contact points (ELEXON and the BSC CSA). ELEXON would be informed of all updates during the Testing period as the BSC CSA will include ELEXON in all

² This is an ELEXON only database that stores all BSC Party Market Entry information such as Party ID(s) and registration dates.

correspondence and provide information to ELEXON to verify.

Justification for Change *(mandatory by originator)*

What are the benefits?

- Party/Party Agents would be able to communicate directly with the BSC CSA throughout the CVA Qualification process providing a more streamlined, efficient and expert service to our customers.
- Supports ELEXON in our drive to transfer responsibility for services to our BSC Agents where ELEXON are not adding value.
- Reduces management overhead for the BSC Agent as a result of process improvement.

Feedback received from our customers and our experiences of managing this process lead us to believe that the current process can be inefficient and unnecessarily time consuming. More efficient measures could be put in place to save time and resources for Parties/Party Agents and BSCCo.

This concern was raised as part of the 2008 BSC Review of Section A 'Parties & Participation' and we received support from the industry in taking this solution forward through the change process.

To which section of the Code does the CP relate, and does the CP facilitate the current provisions of the Code? *(mandatory by originator)*

Yes, this CP better facilitates the provisions of Section O of the Code, as well as BSCP 70 and the Communications Requirement Document. We note that there is no requirement for ELEXON's involvement in the Code (this process is covered at a high level in Section O 3.2; ELEXON's involvement is only in the BSCP).

Estimated Implementation Costs *(mandatory by BSCCo)*

The estimated ELEXON implementation cost is 8 man days, which equates to £1.8k. This includes effort in:

- Reviewing BSC Agent Business Process Models to ensure consistency with the change proposed by CP1329;
- Amendments to the BSC Agent contract and ECVAA Service Requirement Schedule; and
- Amending Local Working Instructions (LWIs) for the Qualification process.

The BSC Agent costs are approximately 1.8k which includes:

- Updates to Process Maps;
- Amending internal working procedures; and
- Knowledge Transfer from ELEXON of some aspects of the current Qualification Test process not currently handled by the BSC Agent so that they will be in line with the procedures.

The total implementation cost (ELEXON and BSC Agent costs) is approximately £3.6k.

Configurable Items Affected by Proposed Solution(s) (*mandatory by originator*)

BSCP70 'CVA Qualification Testing for Parties and Party Agents'
Communications Requirement Document

Impact on Core Industry Documents or System Operator-Transmission Owner Code (*mandatory by originator*)

None

Related Changes and/or Projects (*mandatory by BSCCo*)

CP1330, CP1331

Requested Implementation Date (*mandatory by originator*)

November 2010

Reason: Next available release

Version History (*mandatory by BSCCo*)

This is version 1.0 of the CP for impact assessment.

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Attachments: Yes (No. of Pages attached: 30)

Attachment A: Communication Requirements Document redlining (6 pages)

Attachment B: BSCP70 redlining (24 pages)