

Hammersmith

26<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Daron Walker  
Responsible Officer  
Smart Metering Implementation Programme  
BEIS  
3 Whitehall Place  
London, SW1A 2AW

Dear Mr Walker,

Thank you for your letter of 21st September regarding the proposals for DCC Go Live, when smart meter compatibility between energy suppliers and equipment vendors will be ready for service.

The view of Pilot Systems is that the **FLAG/CHIRPS** system is by far the best technology that will allow consumers to switch suppliers, choose their systems and give them value for money. The cost under the DCC Go Live system is £250 per meter to switch supplier. Under the **FLAG/CHIRPS** system it is nothing.

We have provided BEIS, DECC, and Defra all the information they have asked for, including detailed presentations to your technical teams. Our product **CHIRPS** remains the latest state of the art system, with its technology constantly refreshed and its licenses repeatedly renewed. The latest were June 2016 with Siemens and July 2016 with Jersey Electricity. The equipment vendors (for example Elster, Itron and Secure) know Chirps well, and were part of its development.

The cost of the roll out is high -- £12 billion to be borne by consumers. It is essential, therefore, that the British government is crystal clear as to which system it is using, why and at what cost to households.

We would be happy to answer any further questions and I still look forward to working with you on passing on this exciting, money-saving technology to benefit millions of British households.

If, on the other hand, a final decision has been made not to use the **FLAG/CHIRPS** system, could you confirm this and clearly explain your reasons.

Yours sincerely,

Nigel Orchard  
Director