

Appendix D— Testing and Supplier Implementation

Electronic Data Interchange Testing For Massachusetts

Testing Requirements

Gas EBT Working Group

Massachusetts Gas Collaborative

April 10, 2000

Table of Contents

| | | |
|-------------|---|----------|
| I. | Introduction | 2 |
| II. | Testing Schedule | 2 |
| III. | Testing Requirements | 2 |
| | <i>Supplier</i> | <i>3</i> |
| | <i>LDC.....</i> | <i>3</i> |
| IV. | Requirements for Production Enrollment | 4 |
| V. | Testing Priority for Suppliers..... | 4 |
| VI. | Transactions to be Tested | 4 |
| | <i>Enrollment.....</i> | <i>4</i> |
| | <i>Passthrough Billing</i> | <i>5</i> |
| | <i>Complete Billing.....</i> | <i>5</i> |
| | <i>Retail Agents.....</i> | <i>5</i> |

I. Introduction

Massachusetts DTE Order No. 220 CMR 13.00 issued on January 28, 2000 confirmed that utilities must begin receiving and sending EDI enrollments/billing data from suppliers in six (6) months from approval. As a result of this order, the Gas EBT Working Group has developed this testing plan to provide for a smooth transition from paper-based technologies to EDI. This report will describe requirements for testing, a general description of the testing procedure and some assumptions used in developing the testing priorities. A Gas supplier (Supplier) that has determined in which areas they wish to serve customers will receive the individual Gas Distribution utility (LDC) specific testing data and requirements upon direct contact with those entities.

II. Testing Schedule

The following schedule shows each batch of testing. A test batch is a specified number of Suppliers that will test simultaneously with one LDC. Each LDC will conduct testing separately. All LDCs can follow this model, with modifications as necessary due to testing delays. If Batch 0 or Batch 1 does not finish on time, there may be delays in starting of the later batches. A testing freeze during the initial weeks of production enrollment and billing may be necessary to allow the LDCs and Suppliers to devote as many resources to solving production problems as possible.

| Duration | Batch |
|----------|--|
| 2 wks | Batch 0 - 814 Enrollment and 867 Historical Use Transactions |
| 2 wks | Batch 0 - 810 Complete Billing Transactions |
| 2 wks | Batch 1 - 867 Historical Use Transactions |
| 2 wks | Batch 2 - 814 Enrollment and 867 Historical Use Transactions |
| 2 wks | Batch 2 - 810 Complete Billing Transactions |
| 2 wks | Batch 3 - 814 Enrollment and 867 Historical Use Transactions |

III. Testing Requirements

In order to allow adequate planning, Suppliers and LDCs must communicate before, during, and after testing in a mutually agreeable fashion. LDCs must know what services they will be expected to provide to each Supplier both in testing and production. LDCs and Suppliers must cooperate to identify and resolve EDI related computer system problems. As referenced below, the LDC may be dealing with several Suppliers concurrently, thus the LDC must maintain sufficient resources to provide the necessary information, communicate problems, and coordinate the test schedule. Setting up the testing requires the LDC to establish a set of accounts with the necessary testing information for each Supplier with which they are testing. These test accounts must be provided to each testing Supplier. To facilitate communication between parties, LDCs may compile and publish on their website a 'readiness checklist' for the Supplier to use prior to testing.

Supplier:

| <u>Supplier</u> Prior to Test | During Test | After Test |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply for a Massachusetts Supplier license at the DTE. • Implement and maintain a test system. • Provide trading partner information to LDC. • Identify the billing scenarios used with each LDC. • Identify non-compliance areas, test exceptions, and manual processes. • Get test account numbers from LDC. • Read LDC website test info prior to testing. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in frequent communication with each LDC during the test period. • Keep up with test schedule established by LDC. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notify LDC of Certification. • Copy certification letter to DTE. |

LDC:

| <u>LDC</u> Prior to Test | During Test | After Test |
|---|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. • Implement and maintain a test system. 2. • Provide test account numbers to Supplier. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide trading partner information to all registered Suppliers. • Maintain test information on website. • Identify non-compliance areas, test exceptions, and manual processes. • Establish test schedule. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain frequent communication with Suppliers during testing. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. • Maintain test schedule. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notify Supplier of Certification. • Copy certification letter to DTE. • Maintain test information on website with any changes. |

The following points describe the role and functions of the LDC technical testing contact:

- Determine compliance with ANSI X12 to determine if testing should continue.
- Determine results of testing procedure if disputed.
- Maintain on-going communication with Supplier(s) relative to test progress.
- Communicate testing compliance/failure to DTE.

IV. Requirements for Production Enrollment

In addition to requirements for the testing of EDI functions, additional requirements will be necessary for transmission of real customer enrollment or billing data. The following requirements are necessary to ensure compliance with DTE orders, Massachusetts's rules and to provide assurances to testing partners of compliance with tariffs and agreements.

- Supplier must be licensed by the DTE and have satisfied the LDCs creditworthy requirements.
- Supplier Service Agreement, Supplier rates if applicable, and EDI Trading Partner Agreements must be in place from both parties.
- Parties must successfully complete the test procedure for EDI as defined by this document. This means that the Supplier and the LDC has demonstrated that each company can execute basic business processes with each of its trading partners (joint certification between Supplier and LDC).
- Letters of mutual EDI certification, by transaction type, must have been executed by the LDC and Supplier.

V. Testing Priority for Suppliers

Testing will be done on a first come, first serve, best efforts basis. The LDC will determine how many Suppliers they can handle concurrently.

VI. Transactions to be Tested

These transactions will be exchanged **for Enrollment**

- 814-E Enrollment Request
- 814-SE Successful Enrollment
- 814-ER Enrollment Error
- 814-CS Change Supplier Data
- 814-CL Change LDC Data
- 814-DC Customer Drops Supplier
- 814-DR Drop Confirmation
- 814-CC Change Confirmation
- 814-DS Supplier Drops Customer

- 814-H Historical Data Request
- 867-H Historical Usage

These transactions will be exchanged for **Passthrough Billing**

- 867-M Monthly Customer Billing Usage
- 867-M Monthly Canceled Usage
- 824 Error Response

These transactions will be exchanged for **Complete Billing**

- 810-B Billing Information
- 810-S Supplier Billing Adjustment
- 867-M Monthly Customer Billing Usage
- 867-M Monthly Canceled Usage
- 824 Error Response
- 820-Customer Payments
- 248 Write Off

These transactions will be exchanged for **Retail Agents**

- 814-H Historical Data Request
- 867-H Historical Usage

