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D.1: "It seems that you have chosen for the development of smart meters with quite some new (software) functionality in it. This is in principle not bad, but it will create a burden on the battery, radio communication, logistics (software updates), meter cost-price, etc.

Another option would be to move this "intelligence" to the "edge" where you already will have hardware devices for the radio (gateways, concentrators, etc.). So, without adding extra devices to the network this processing can be performed in the devices in the edge of the network. These devices do have a much better (IP) communication with the central system/Cloud, they do have much more CPU and the amount of edge devices will be between 300 and 1000 times less than the amount of home meters.

In this case the (software) development and the radio communication of the meters will be much less comprehensive and more cost effective. There will be some data protection/encryption issues with the "edge processing", however we consider these issues as non-blocking.

Would an "edge processing" architecture be an option for the tender, or should we stick to the "intelligent meters" architecture?"

R.1: As announced in the Request for tender (Annex 3 TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION), where we intended to write functional requirements and not stringent technical specifications "the desire of SMART.MET public procurers' group is to improve the quality and/or efficiency of the water metering service, as well as to provide new features in the future. The need expressed by the

procurers' group is to develop (a) solution(s) able to transfer data and information bidirectionally between meters and a Control Room system. In order to avoid the problems of the difference of "languages" or of technical specs for the communication among the different reference Architecture Layers, the development must be focused on the adoption and the definition of a common open communication and application standard, to assure interoperability and interchangeability among components from different manufacturers."

If the architecture you propose meets the above functional requirements, we will be open to evaluate your solution and compare it with all other proposals, accordingly with the awarding criteria.

Vicenza 23.08.2018

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