

Smart Energy Code

Section N: SMETS1 Meters

SEC Section N provisions concern:

- DCC Users
- Data & Communications Company (DCC)
- SEC Panel
- Secretary of State
- Authority

What does Section N Cover?

SEC Section N, sets out the provisions and processes to be followed for the consideration and enrolment of **Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specification (SMETS) 1** compliant meters into the Data and Communications Company (DCC).

SMETS1 Enrolment - General

Section N2 sets out general provisions relating to the enrolment of SMETS1 Meters, not limited to just the Initial Enrolment Project.

A SMETS1 Meter is an **Energy Meter** that has (as a minimum) the functional capability specified by and complies with the other requirements of the SMETS that was designated on 18th December 2012 and amended and restated on 31st March 2014.

SMETS1 Services

N2.2 to N2.3 sets out the requirements on the DCC to provide a minimum level of services (the SMETS1 Services) to users for the enrolled SMETS1 Meter. The detail of the SMETS1 Services will be established in the Code amendments produced pursuant to the Initial Enrolment Feasibility Report or any subsequent Modification Proposal.

SMETS1 Compliance

Section N2.4 to N2.7 sets out requirements on Supplier Parties to ensure that any SMETS1 Meter they are seeking to have enrolled meets the SMETS1 requirements. There is a requirement on a Supplier Party to submit a confirmation to the DCC explaining that a Meter they are seeking to enrol is SMETS1 compliant.

The DCC is not required to enrol an Energy Meter that is a SMETS1 Meter until such confirmation from a Supplier Party has been received.

A Party can raise a dispute when it considers that an Energy Meter is not a SMETS1 Meter, in accordance with the SEC **Section F3** (Panel Dispute resolution role) provisions.

Testing

Section N2.8 to N2.9 sets out requirements that prior to the enrolment of one or more SMETS1 Meters, the DCC must test its systems and process to show that it can discharge its obligations and exercise its rights within the SEC.

The Testing approach used by the DCC in this case must be consistent with **Section T**.

Security

Section N2.10 to N2.12 covers requirements on the DCC to, during the IEPFR or subsequent Modification Proposal:

- prepare a risk assessment detailing the security risks associated with operating the SMETS1 Meters;
- proposed measures to ensure that the security risks to the DCC Total System, Enrolled Smart Metering Systems and/or User Systems will not materially increase; and
- prepare a plan setting out the residual risks that will exist once the measures have been undertaken.

When carrying out the risk assessment the DCC is required to consult with the Security Sub-Committee (SSC) and document the extent to which its views were taken into account.

Data Privacy

Section N2.13, sets out a requirement that any amendments to the SEC to facilitate SMETS1 Meter Enrolment, must include provisions where necessary to amend **Section I** (Data Privacy) to provide the equivalent treatment of Data Request as is provided for Smart Metering Systems.

SMETS1 Eligible Products List

Section N2.14 to N2.15 sets out the requirements on the DCC to establish, maintain and publish on the DCC Website a list (the SMETS1 Eligible Products List) of Device Models of SMETS1 Meters that Supplier Parties are entitled to enrol.

The list must identify for each Device Model of SMETS1 Meter:

- Manufacturer, model and hardware version;
- Firmware version; and
- The effective date of the amendment to the SEC that enabled that type of device to be enrolled.

When the DCC amends the list they are required to notify the Panel and each other Party.

Initial Enrolment

Initial Enrolment relates to the Enrolment of the Eligible Meters by the DCC as set out within an **Initial Enrolment Project Feasibility Report**. Sections N3 to N5 set out the requirements and the process that the DCC must follow to deliver Initial Enrolment.

DCC Invitation

The DCC by a date, directed by the **Secretary of State**, must circulate an invitation to Supplier Parties requesting details of the Energy Meters that they want to be included in the scope of the Initial Enrolment Project Feasibility Report (IEPFR). Supplier Parties must only include Energy Meters if they are Eligible Meters, and the DCC will rely on the confirmation provided by the Supplier Party that this is the case.

The invitation must include the **Adoption Criteria** (Section N3.7) which are those criteria which the DCC will report upon regarding the feasibility and cost of Adopting a Communications Contract to facilitate the provision of the Minimum SMETS1 Services in respect of the Eligible Meters subject to that contract.

Initial Enrolment (continued)

Supplier Response

Suppliers are not required to propose Energy Meters for the IEPFR (**Section N3.9**).

Any Suppliers that proposes any of its Energy Meters for inclusion on the IEPFR must provide the information in the format and by the date requested by the DCC (**Section N3.10**).

Following the submission of a Supplier response, the DCC will check that all the requested information has been provided and follow up with the Supplier Party if insufficient information was provided (**Section N3.11**).

Inclusion of Meters in Scope of Project

Where the Supplier Party has not provided all of the requested information regarding a proposed Energy Meter then the Energy Meter shall not be included within scope of the IEPFR.

The DCC is required to notify each Supplier Party whether the Energy Meter put forward for inclusion in the IEPFR is to be in or outside of the scope of the IEPFR.

Disputes

A Supplier Party can raise a dispute (under provisions in Section N3.14) with the Secretary of State where:

- It believes that the DCC has not requested information in accordance with Section N3; or
- It disagrees with the notification on whether the Energy Meters put forward are outside of the scope of the IEPFR.

In the event of a dispute being referred to the Secretary of State, the decision is final and binding.

Initial Enrolment Project Feasibility Report

Section N4 sets out the requirements for the production of the Initial Enrolment Project Feasibility Report (IEPFR) by the DCC.

Timetable

Following receipt of relevant information from Supplier Parties in response to the invitation regarding Eligible Meters, the DCC is required to set out a timetable, and publish on the DCC Website, for undertaking the steps to produce the IEPFR.

Report

In accordance with **Section N4.3 to N4.4** the IEPFR must include the analysis of the information submitted by Supplier Parties on the Eligible Meters, the reasonable options for Initial Enrolment and the estimated costs for delivering each option. The IEPFR must also include information on:

- timeframe and process for Enrolment of the Eligible Meters;
- any necessary contractual matters;
- how the DCC will provide SMETS1 Services to Eligible Meters;
- options for amending the Minimum SMETS 1 Services;
- Commissioning Eligible Meters in the DCC;
- any Enabling Services needed to support Enrolment;
- development and testing provisions to comply with **Section N2.8**;
- risk mitigation measures;
- charging matters; and
- any other matters needed to comply with **Section N2**.

Consultation

The DCC is required to consult on the IEPFR prior to submitting it the Secretary of State. On submission, the DCC must provide alongside the IEPFR: the consultation responses and where comments have been addressed and where comments have not the reasons for not doing so.

Redaction of IEPFR content

Before consultation or publication of the IEPFR, following consultation with the Security Sub-Committee and direction from the Panel, the DCC must redact any sections from the IEPFR in order to not compromise the DCC Total System, user Systems and/or Non-Gateway Supplier Systems.

Initial Enrolment Code Amendments

Section N5 sets out the requirements on the DCC, when directed to do so by the Secretary of State, to prepare any necessary SEC amendments in respect of the options for Initial Enrolment of Eligible Meters included in the scope of the Initial Enrolment Project Feasibility Report (**Section N5.1**).

The Code amendments include the necessary changes to enable:

- the Enrolment of SMETS1 Meters;
- the request and receipt of SMETS1 Services; and
- the calculation of Charges (**Section N5.2**).

The Code changes produced are required to be in a format that can be laid before Parliament by the Secretary of State in accordance with section 88 of the Energy Act 2008 (**Section N5.3**).

Consultation on Code Amendments

Before the Code amendments are submitted, the DCC is required by **Section N5.4** and **N5.5** to produce draft changes, and consult with the Authority, Panel, Parties and other interest Persons on the draft changes.

When submitting the changes to the Secretary of State post-consultation the DCC must provide:

- Copies of the consultation responses received;
- Details of where DCC has made amendments in light of consultation responses received; and
- Where the DCC has not made amendments in light of consultation comments and the reasons for not doing so.

Disclaimer

These guides are intended to provide a simple overview of the SEC and any supporting or related arrangements and do not replace or supersede the SEC or these related arrangements in any way. The author does not accept any liability for error, omission or inconsistency with the SEC.

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