

SEC Newsletter



Published 28 February 2025

Welcome to the latest edition of the fortnightly newsletter from the Smart Energy Code.

We would love to hear from you, so get in touch by [emailing the SECAS Helpdesk](#) if you have any feedback.



SECCo Panel & Board Headlines

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The latest meetings of SEC Panel and SECCo Board took place on 25 February 2025. The Headlines from [SEC Panel 137](#) and [SECCo Board 137](#) are now uploaded to the SEC Website.

The next Panel and Board meetings will be held on 25 March 2025.

You Said, We Did – Our Approach to Continuous Improvement

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

Continuous improvement is an important part of what we do at SECAS. We constantly challenge ourselves to work in smarter more efficient ways and identify where we can deliver benefits to Parties. We have been listening to your feedback and have made several recent updates to improve our service and processes, across the SEC Website, Committees, Events and more.

[Learn more about our recent improvements.](#) Note you will need to be [logged in](#) to view this document.

We want to thank you for your ongoing engagement. We are committed to enhancing transparency, improving efficiency, and supporting the needs of all stakeholders. If you have any feedback or suggestions for further improvements, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at secas@gemserv.com. Stay tuned for more updates!



Testing Advisory Group (TAG) Chair Update

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

TAG is one of the oldest SEC Sub-Committees, providing governance over the testing of the DCC Total System, which in very simple terms means those parts of the DCC's systems that its Users make use of to communicate with smart meters.

TAG ensures that the scope of testing for each release is sufficient to provide confidence that all changes and fixes are working and that no inadvertent side effects have been introduced. Once testing has been performed, TAG reviews the results to make sure that the testing was carried out correctly and that any issues identified have either been fixed or can be accepted for a short time until they are fixed. This independent view of issues is invaluable in providing confidence that each release can be put live.



Martin Hanley, TAG Chair

TAG is chaired by Martin Hanley, who has decades of experience in software development and testing in the energy industry. The members possess high expertise in energy industry testing and smart metering and deep knowledge of the DCC's systems.

Recent Highlights

TAG's recent focus has been on governing the testing of the Comms Hub and Network (CH&N) programme, which introduced 4G Comms Hubs to replace the current 2G/3G networks. TAG collaborated with the DCC to ensure the testing regime provided high confidence in the 4G Comms Hubs and the necessary changes to the DCC Total System. In addition to reviewing the DCC's main system test phase, TAG extended its reviews to include earlier testing phases and User testing. This comprehensive approach, including last-minute reviews on the morning of go-live, significantly boosted confidence in the release and the new Comms Hubs. Following the success of this extended governance of test phases, TAG will continue to perform this for larger, important programmes.

Future

As the DCC's release schedule ramps up with many major programmes such as the DSP replacement, the TAG is becoming busier than ever! New members are always welcome, though of course an expertise in testing is a non-negotiable prerequisite. Although elections have just closed for this year, if you wish to offer your services to the TAG, please contact SECAS@gemserv.com



Quarterly Report on Expenditure

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

SEC Panel has published a new [Quarterly Budgetary Report](#), providing the out-turn of the Panel Budget for the period 1 October – 31 December 2024. The report was established in 2024 following feedback from SEC Parties. It provides transparency of information which was previously only available to SECCo Board.

The Quarterly Budgetary Report can be read in conjunction with the previously published [SEC Panel Budget](#), which contains detailed information about each element of the Budget and the previous SEC Quarterly Budgetary Reports for Q1 and Q2 which can be found on the [SECCo Board Page](#) of the SEC website.

Modifications Update

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

Title	Closing Date	Impacted Parties	Link
MP219 'Accessing Consumption Data on behalf of SEC Parties'	12 March 2025	Suppliers, Network Parties & Other SEC Parties	DOWNLOAD
This modification seeks to change SEC Section I 'Data Privacy' and amend the definition of 'Appropriate Permission' to allow contracted Other Users who are acting on behalf of Import Suppliers, Export Suppliers, Gas Suppliers, Electricity Distributors and Gas Transporters to obtain Consumption Data without collecting the Unambiguous Consent of the Energy Consumer.			

Title	Closing Date	Impacted Parties	Link
MP283 'Data Breach Reporting'	12 March 2025	DCC & Other Users	DOWNLOAD
The Proposed Solution would be for requirements to be included in SEC Section I 'Data Privacy' for DCC Other Users to report Data breaches to the Privacy Sub-Committee (PSC).			



Title	Closing Date	Impacted Parties	Link
MP284 'Extension of life to FOC S1SPKI End Entity Certificates'	12 March 2025	Suppliers, DCC & Other Users	DOWNLOAD
The Proposed Solution will extend the lifetime of end entity Certificates from five years to 14 years, so they are aligned with the Root Certificate and will negate the need for the DCC to replace these Certificates until the FOC SMETS1 Device's end of life.			

Latest Modcast

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

[Listen to our latest Modcast now!](#)

In this episode, we had our usual roundup of the past month in SEC

Change, before Marc Rhodes provided us with an overview of the Benefit Realisation Project and what we can expect to see. We also had Sophia Master give an update of nominees and results from the 2025 Change Sub-Committee elections!

If you want to know more about any of the above, please email SEC.Change@gemserv.com.



Technical Specification Applicability Tables (TSAT)

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The TSAT plays a crucial role in verifying the validity of various technical specifications and how they apply to smart metering devices.

The Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC) reviewed the effectiveness of the TSAT at its meeting in February 2025 (TABASC 110). Based on SECAS research demonstrating that 93.6% of deployed Comms Hubs are on GBCS v4.1 and 97.5% of deployed SMETS2 meters are on GBCS v3., the TABASC determined that the TSAT is working as intended.

Going forward, TABASC will continue to monitor the technical specifications of deployed SMETS2 devices to ensure the TSAT remains effective. For further details, SECAS has published [a guidance note on TSAT](#).



SECAS Briefing on Post-Quantum Security

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

SECAS circulated a [briefing note](#) prepared by the Security Sub-Committee (SSC) to explain the implications of Quantum Computing for smart metering and to inform smart metering parties and organisations of the preparatory work underway by the SSC and the DCC to prepare for Post Quantum Computing (PQC). The briefing provides context on the US National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) announcement that certain cryptographic algorithms will be phased out after 2030 and no longer allowed after 2035.

Upcoming Events

Introduction to the SEC Webinar

When: 19 March 2025, 10:00 - 12:00

Who: SEC Parties

What: This Webinar is ideal for those looking to deepen their understanding of the SEC, particularly new joiners, those transitioning into relevant roles, or Parties who have recently acceded to the SEC. The webinar will provide valuable insights and guidance into the SEC, and affiliated companies such as the DCC. Attendees will have the opportunity to engage in interactive discussions and pose questions to our speakers.



Platform: Microsoft Teams **How:** To sign up email the [SECAS Helpdesk](#) by 17:00 on 17 March 2025.

Industry News and Consultations

[FSM consultation on the transitional and enduring regulatory changes | DCC](#)

DCC is seeking feedback on proposed updates to the SEC as part of the Future Service Management (FSM) Programme. You are invited to consider this consultation which closes 06 March 2025.

[SMETS1 Supporting Requirements | DCC](#)

You are invited to consider this consultation closing on 07 March 2025. DCC is gathering customer feedback on proposed updates to the SMETS1 Supporting Requirements (S1SR).

[Developing an energy smart data scheme: call for evidence | DESNZ](#)

DESNZ is seeking input on a Smart Data scheme to help consumers securely share energy data with third parties for better services. You are invited to submit responses by 10 March 2025.



[Consultation on the preliminary Strategic Direction Statement and governance arrangements for industry codes | Ofgem](#)

Ofgem is consulting on a Strategic Direction Statement to guide industry code changes and improve governance, including a prioritisation process and cooperation requirements. You are invited to consider this consultation which closes on 28 March 2025.

Take a look at our list of [Open Industry Consultations](#) on the SEC Website.

Upcoming Events and SEC Meeting

- 03 March, 13:30 – [TIRG 06](#) (Members)
- 05 March, 10:00 – [SEC Working Group](#) (Members)
- 06 March, 09:30 – [TABASC 111](#) (Members)
- 07 March, 08:30 – [SEC Panel 137x – LSC2](#) Decision (Members)
- 10 March, 13:00 – [Strategic Working Group 22](#) (Members)
- 11 March, 09:20 – [Operations Group 136](#) (Members)
- 12 March, 09:15 – [SMKI PMA 127](#) (Members)
- 12 March, 11:30 – [Security Sub-Committee 211](#) (Members)
- 17 March, 13:00 – [Communications Transition Group 25](#) (Members)
- 18 March, 10:00 – [Change Sub-Committee Meeting 72](#) (Members)
- 19 March, 10:00 – [Introduction to the SEC Webinar](#) (Open to Parties)
- 20 March, 09:30 – [TABASC 111X](#) (Members)
- 20 March, 10:00 – [Privacy Sub-Committee 12](#) (Members)
- 21 March, 10:30 – [Other SEC Party Engagement Call](#) (Open to Party type)
- 24 March, 10:30 – [Large Supplier Engagement Call](#) (Open to Party type)
- 24 March, 12:20 – [Operations Group 137](#) (Members)
- 25 March, 10:00 – [SEC Panel Meeting 138](#) (Members)
- 25 March, 14:00 – [SECCo Board 138](#) (Members)
- 26 March, 09:45 – [Testing Advisory Group 124](#) (Members)
- 26 March, 10:00 – [Change Board Meeting 100](#) (Members)
- 26 March, 10:00 – [Security Sub-Committee Meeting](#) (Members)
- 27 March, 15:00 – [Small Supplier Engagement Call](#) (Open to Party type)



View all upcoming industry events in the [Industry Events Calendar](#).



Vacancies

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