



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

**Department for Energy
Security & Net Zero**

1 Victoria Street,
London SW1H 0ET

Penny Brown
Chief Operating Officer
Data Communications Company

CC: The Authority (Ofgem), the SEC Panel,
SEC Parties, and other interested parties

By email only

17 May 2023

Dear Penny,

Smart Metering Implementation Programme: decision on DCC's proposal to re-designate SMETS1 TMAD with clarifications to SMETS1 TMAD Clause 18 and on DCC's draft Decommissioning Timetable for the Requesting Party (RP) services in respect of the SMETS1 IOC cohort.

In April 2023, DCC consulted on a proposed minor amendment to existing 'Excluded Category – Duplicate MPANs and MPRNs' in the SMETS1 Transition and Migration Approach Document (TMAD) Clause 18 and on re-designating the amendment to SMETS1 TMAD at the earliest point between 17 May 2023 and 17 June 2023. On 11 May 2023, DCC concluded on the proposals recommending to the Secretary of State to amend SMETS1 TMAD in support of the SMETS1 enrolment project.¹

On 28 April 2023, DCC submitted to the Department its draft Decommissioning Timetable² proposing to close the Requesting Party service in respect of the IOC cohort on 28 May 2023. This is required by the SMETS1 TMAD Clause 7 that specifies that decommissioning requires the approval of the Secretary of State.

Amendments to 'Excluded Category-Duplicate MPANs and MPRNs' and re-designating the SMETS1 TMAD

The Excluded Category was designed to prevent circumstances where SMETS1 meters may be assigned the same MPAN or MPRN (or both) that is also recorded for another SMETS1 meter on a different SMETS1 SMSO or against an enrolled meter. Migrating meters that may be affected by this issue may provide Energy Suppliers with inappropriate access to consumer

¹ See <https://www.smartdcc.co.uk/consultations/smets1-consultation-tmad-duplicate-excluded-category/> and <https://www.smartdcc.co.uk/consultations/smets1-conclusion-tmad-duplicate-excluded-category/>

² See <https://smartenergycodecompany.co.uk/latest-news/department-for-energy-security-and-net-zero-dcc-letter-of-recommendation-that-the-requesting-party-for-the-initial-operating-capability-ioc-cohort-is-closed-from-28-may-2023/>

data. DCC proposed a minor amendment to the Excluded Category capturing duplicate MPANs or MPRNs to enable DCC to exclude what are likely to be the erroneous MPAN or MPRN duplicates more efficiently. DCC concluded its consultation on 11 May 2023 having received three responses all of which support the proposals. Re-designating the SMETS1 TMAD with the proposed amendment results in an additional 4,658 dormant meters in the IOC cohort being moved into an exclusion category. We support this TMAD change, given the consultation respondents' support for it and that it will enable some migrations to be attempted, which currently cannot be attempted, and exclude those that should not be attempted. As part of this decision, we have also considered DCC's recommendation to the Secretary of State to close the Requesting Party services in respect of the IOC cohort on 28 May 2023.

A direction to give effect to the SMETS1 TMAD change can be found in **Appendix 1** below.

Decommissioning Timetable for the RP services in respect of the SMETS1 IOC cohort

In determining whether to approve the draft Decommissioning Timetable, I have sought to gain sufficient confidence that closing the IOC migration capability is in consumers' best interests and that more generally DCC has followed due process and has confirmed its readiness to undertake the closure activities, as required by SMETS1 TMAD.

I have received a range of evidence on these matters including:

- DCC consultation and recommendation on closing the IOC RP service;
- Additional evidence from DCC on its plans to close the IOC RP service;
- That no concerns were raised by stakeholders directly with the Department since it received DCC's submission of the draft Decommissioning Timetable on 28 April 2023; and
- Advice from my own team in the Department

Based on this evidence, I am assured that:

- DCC consulted on the draft Decommissioning Timetable for the IOC RP that proposed a Decommissioning Date between 26 March to 28 May 2023, was supported by the majority of respondents.
- As part of the consultation process, DCC had engaged all the respondents who raised queries, including the one respondent who objected to DCC's proposal to decommission the IOC RP service, and the results from this engagement allow us to consider it appropriate to proceed, notwithstanding the objection.
- Migrating the IOC cohort installations is now almost complete. By 28 May 2023, DCC expects there to be no eligible dormant installations on the SMETS1 SMSO that may remain unmigrated and not otherwise be captured by SMETS1 TMAD's existing exclusion categories thus making them ineligible for migration.
- DCC has considered all technical and data security aspects linked to closing the cohort's RP services in line with SMETS1 TMAD Clause 7 and has confirmed its readiness to begin the technical changes to close the RP services.

Based on this evidence and pursuant to SMETS1 TMAD Clause 7.3, I hereby approve on behalf of the Secretary of State the draft DCC Decommissioning Timetable submitted by DCC in respect of the IOC cohort Requesting Party.

I would ask that, in line with its obligations under SMETS1 TMAD Clause 7.4, DCC proceeds to publish the approved RP Decommissioning Timetable to all SEC Parties and send a copy of the final document to the Secretary of State and to the Authority.

Yours faithfully,



Duncan Stone

Deputy Director & Head of Delivery
Smart Metering Implementation Programme

(An official of the Department for Energy Security & Net Zero authorised to act on behalf of the Secretary of State)

Appendix 1 – Direction to Re-designate the SMETS1 TMAD

This direction is made for the purposes of the smart meter communications licences granted under the Electricity Act 1989 and the Gas Act 1986 (such licences being the “DCC Licence”) and the Smart Energy Code designated by the Secretary of State pursuant to the DCC Licence (such code being the “SEC”). Words and expressions used in this direction shall be interpreted in accordance with Section A (Definitions and Interpretation) of the SEC.

Pursuant to Condition 22 of the DCC licence and Section X5 (Incorporation of Certain Documents into this Code) of the SEC, the Secretary of State directs that, with effect from 17 May 2023 the SMETS1 Transition and Migration Approach Document previously designated and incorporated into the SEC as Appendix AL is hereby re-designated and incorporated in the form set out in Annex A of this direction.

For the avoidance of doubt such re-designation of the SMETS1 Transition and Migration Approach Document shall be without prejudice to anything done under the DCC Licence or the SEC on or after this document first being designated, or the continuing effectiveness of anything done in this document prior to its re-designation (which shall have effect as if done under the re-designated document).

This direction will be notified to the SEC Administrator. An updated version of the SEC including the changes will be available on the SEC website in due course.

Annex A: SEC Appendix AL – SMETS1 Transition and Migration Approach Document v26
[Separate attachment]

Annex B: SEC Appendix AL – SMETS1 Transition and Migration Approach Document v26
showing tracked changes against v25
[Separate attachment]