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Action:	For Decision

SEC Releases Update

1. Purpose

This paper presents an update on progress with upcoming Smart Energy Code (SEC) Releases. This includes a request to baseline the Data Communications Company (DCC) System impacting modifications for the June 2023 SEC Release Implementation Document (RID). This also includes updates on each of the other 2022 and 2023 SEC Releases.

2. November 2022 SEC Release

The table below summarises the status of the modifications currently being targeted for the November 2022 SEC Release on 3 November 2022:

Modification	Status	Impacts DCC Systems?
SECMP0015 'GPF timestamp for reading instantaneous Gas values'	Approved for inclusion. The DUIS and MMC changes will be implemented in the June 2022 SEC Release. All other document and the DCC System changes will be implemented in the November 2022 SEC Release.	✓
SECMP0056 'IHD / PPMID Zigbee Attributes Available on the HAN'	Approved for inclusion.	✓
MP085A 'Synchronisation of smart meter voltage measurement periods'	Approved for inclusion.	
MP099 'Incorporation of multiple Issue Resolution Proposals into the SEC - Batch 4'	Approved for inclusion.	✓
MP109 'ADT and Exit Quarantine file delivery mechanism'	The draft Modification Report is being presented to the Change Sub-Committee (CSC) this month. The Change Board vote will be held on 22 June under Self-Governance.	

Modification	Status	Impacts DCC Systems?
	Cut-off date for inclusion: 3 July 2022	
MP129 'Allowing the use of CNSA variant for ECDSA'	SECAS is awaiting confirmation of the legal text referencing from the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC). Once received, the Change Board vote will be held under Self-Governance. Cut-off date for inclusion: 20 October 2022	
MP140 'CH Stock Transfer'	Approved for inclusion.	✓
MP141 'SRV Visibility for Devices on SSL'	Approved for inclusion.	✓
MP143 'Incorporating IRPs into GBCS v3 series'	Approved for inclusion.	✓
MP160 'Certificate Signing Request forecasting'	The draft Modification Report is being presented to the CSC this month. The Change Board vote will be held on 27 July 2022 under Self-Governance. Cut-off date for inclusion: 20 October 2022	
MP167 'Review of SEC documents'	The Proposed Solution will be presented to the Working Group on 6 July 2022. Following this a Refinement Consultation will be issued. The Modification Report is expected to be presented to the CSC on 23 August 2022. Cut-off date for inclusion: 20 October 2022	
MP181 'Meter Asset Provider access to asset related data held by the DCC'	The draft Modification Report is being presented to the CSC this month. The Change Board vote will be held on 27 July 2022 under Self-Governance. Cut-off date for inclusion: 3 August 2022	
MP186 'Section D Review (2020): further enhancements'	The draft Modification Report is being presented to the CSC this month. The Change Board vote will be held on 27 July 2022. This is an Authority Determined Modification. Cut-off date for inclusion: 20 October 2022	
MP193 'Incorporation of Category 3 Issue Resolution Proposals into the SEC – Batch 6'	Approved for inclusion.	
MP203 'Security Assurance of Device Triage Facilities'	SECAS is developing the business requirements with the Proposer. <i>Estimated cut-off date for inclusion: 20 October 2022</i>	
DP204 'Incorporation of Category 3 Issue Resolution Proposals into the SEC – Batch 8'	The draft Modification Report is being presented to the CSC this month. The Change Board vote will be held on 27 July 2022 under Self-Governance. <i>Estimated cut-off date for inclusion: 3 August 2022</i>	

We don't expect any further modifications to be added to the scope of this release, although the CSC may choose to do so by exception if it believes it necessary or efficient to do so.

3. February 2023 SEC Release

The February 2023 SEC Release will be non DCC-System impacting. There are no modifications currently targeted for this release. We will provide the CSC with an update once the provisional scope of the February 2023 SEC Release has been prepared.

The full scope of the February 2023 SEC Release will be baselined by the CSC on 16 August 2022.

4. June 2023 SEC Release

The table below summarises the status of the modifications currently in scope of the June 2023 SEC Release on 29 June 2023:

Modification	Status	Impacts DCC Systems?
MP102B 'Power Outage Alerts triggered by an OTA firmware upgrade – enduring solution'	SECAS is reviewing the DCC Impact Assessment before presenting it to the Working Group on 6 July 2022. The Modification Report is expected to be presented to the CSC on 19 July 2022. Cut-off date for inclusion: 27 October 2022	✓
MP122B 'Operational Metrics – Part 2'	The DCC is currently undertaking an Impact Assessment of the Proposed Solution.	✓
MP125 'Correcting Device Information for the ESME Variant'	The Working Group will review the Proposed Solution on 6 July 2022. The Modification Report is expected to be presented to the CSC on 19 July 2022. Cut-off date for inclusion: 29 December 2022	✓
MP128A 'Gas Network Operators SMKI Requirements'	The Modification Report is being presented to the CSC this month. The Change Board vote will be held on 27 July 2022 under Self-Governance. Cut-off date for inclusion: 29 November 2022	✓
MP134B 'Use of SMKI Certificates relating to a SoLR event - Part 2'	On 20 April 2022 the Change Board decided to not vote on the Impact Assessment request. MP134B will be taken back to the Working Group for further work and to explore alternative solutions. A second Preliminary Assessment has been requested; once returned it will be presented to relevant Sub-Committees.	✓

Since the previous meeting [MP170 'Firmware updates to Point to Point Alt HAN Devices'](#) has been removed from the scope of this release as it will not make the cut-off date in time. SECAS is exploring alternative implementation approaches.

As we are now 12 months away from the scheduled go-live date, we are asking the CSC to agree the proposed scope of this SEC Release on the DCC Systems. This will provide the DCC with greater certainty on the maximum expected scope of the release, to allow it to prepare its testing approach. We do not expect any further modifications that will impact the DCC Systems to be added to the scope.

We have provided the RID for this SEC Release in Appendix A and we ask the CSC to baseline this for the scope on the DCC Systems.

Modifications that do not impact the DCC Systems can still be added to the scope of the release, and we will keep the CSC updated on this. We will ask the CSC to baseline the full scope of this SEC Release in December 2022, six months out from the go-live date.

Sub-Committee views on the scope on the DCC Systems

We have consulted with the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC) on the proposed scope of the June 2023 SEC Release.

The TABASC agreed with the proposed scope on the DCC Systems and provided no further comments for the CSC to consider.

5. November 2023 SEC Release

The November 2023 SEC Release could be DCC-System impacting release. However, there are no DCC System impacting modifications currently targeted for this release.

6. February 2024 SEC Release

The table below summarises the status of the modifications currently in scope of the February 2024 SEC Release on 29 February 2024:

Modification	Status	Impacts DCC Systems?
MP162 'SEC changes required to deliver MHHS'	The draft Modification Report is being presented to the CSC this month. The Change Board vote will be held on 27 July 2022. This is an Authority Determined Modification. Cut-off date for inclusion: 31 August 2022	✓

The February SEC Release is designated a documentation-only release. However, MP162 forms part of the wider market-wide half-hourly settlement (MHHS) solution and implementing it as part of the February 2024 SEC Release as an exception will support the delivery of the full MHHS solution.

7. Recommendations

The CSC is requested to:

- **BASELINE** the June 2023 SEC Release Implementation Document for the DCC System impacting modifications; and
- **NOTE** the update on the other SEC Releases referenced in this document.

Joe Hehir

SECAS Team

14 June 2022

Attachments:

- **Appendix A:** June 2023 SEC Release Implementation Document v0.1

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June 2023 SEC Release (29 June 2023)

SEC Release Implementation Document

Version 0.1

14 June 2022



About this document

This document is a Smart Energy Code (SEC) Release Implementation Document (RID). It summarises the scope of the SEC Release, the impacts it will have, the timeline and testing strategy, the central costs that will be incurred, and the acceptance criteria for this release.

This document will be updated periodically as the release develops.

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This document also has one annex:

- **Annex A** will contain the Data Communication Company's (DCC's) SEC Release Testing Approach Document (TAD) for this release. This document will be produced by the DCC at a later date.

1. Scope

Approved Modification Proposals

No modifications are approved for this release.

Targeted Modification Proposals

The following Modification Proposals will be included in this release if a decision to approve is received by the respective cut-off dates:

- [MP102B 'Power Outage Alerts triggered by an OTA firmware upgrade - enduring solution'](#) proposes the Data Service Provider (DSP) builds a mechanism that will suppress power outage Alerts (POAs) which may have been caused by a firmware update to certain Electricity Smart Metering Equipment (ESME) Devices. Cut-off date for inclusion: 27 October 2022.
- [MP122B 'Operational Metrics – Part 2'](#) proposes enhanced reporting on Alerts and Incident Categories 3, 4 and 5. Cut-off date for inclusion: TBC.
- [MP125 'Correcting Device Information for the ESME Variant'](#) proposes to allow the Responsible Supplier to be able to correct the ESME Variant Device detail in the Smart Metering Inventory (SMI) after the Device has been commissioned. Cut-off date for inclusion: 29 December 2022.
- [MP128A 'Gas Network Operators SMKI Requirements'](#) proposes to make DCC System changes that ensure an outgoing Gas Network Party (GNP) removes its Organisation Certificates from Devices, and allow an incoming GNP to place its own Organisation Certificates on Devices. Cut-off date for inclusion: 29 November 2022.
- [MP134B 'Use of SMKI Certificates relating to a SoLR event – Part 2'](#) proposes to implement a DCC System change to address concerns expressed by the Security Sub-Committee (SSC) around the extended use of Smart Metering Key Infrastructure (SMKI) Certificates during a Supplier of Last Report (SoLR). *Estimated cut-off date for inclusion: TBC.*

No further modifications that impact on DCC Systems are expected to be added. Further modifications that do not impact on DCC Systems may be added to the scope of this release at a later date.

DCC Change Requests

Any DCC Change Requests planned to be implemented alongside this SEC Release will be listed here.

2. Impacts

This section lists the impacts that the changes included in this release will have on participants and their systems, SEC documents and other industry Codes. This section assumes all targeted modifications will be approved for inclusion in this release.

SEC Party and DCC impacts

Participant impact matrix					
Modification	Suppliers	Electricity Networks	Gas Networks	Other SEC Parties	DCC
MP102B		✓			✓
MP122B					✓
MP125	✓	✓		✓	✓
MP128A			✓		✓
MP134B	✓			✓	✓

The impacts on the different participants are summarised below. The business requirements for each Modification Proposal are annexed to the Modification Reports for each modification, which are available on the corresponding modifications' webpages.

SEC Party impacts	
Participant	Summary of impacts
All SEC Parties	No additional impacts.
Supplier Parties	- The gaining Responsible Supplier will be able to amend the ESME Variant code, in the instance the details are executed incorrectly by the previous installing Supplier. - Suppliers appointed as a SoLR as they will have responsibility for consumers and ensuring they are kept on supply.
Electricity Network Parties	- Electricity Network Operators will no longer receive POAs from Devices that have been generated as a result of an over-the-air (OTA) firmware upgrade. - Electricity Network Operators will be able to accurately view the functionality of the Devices at a property.
Gas Network Parties	If a GNP intends to cease being a DCC User, it will need to submit a Certificate Revocation Request to remove its Certificates and must not subscribe to any further Organisation Certificates.
Other SEC Parties	- Other SEC Parties will be able to accurately view the functionality of the Devices at a property. - Shared Resource Providers (SRPs) will be required to send specified Service Requests to consumers of the failed Supplier.

DCC impacts	
Area impacted	Summary of impacts
Data Services Provider	- Changes are required to the motorway and reporting components of the DSP application. - Early Life Support to provide enhanced monitoring and checking of system health and aims to investigate and address any anomalous behaviour before service incidents materialise. - Request Management will build a tracking mechanism that records firmware activations in progress for affected Devices. - In northbound processing, Request Management will check whether an AD1 'Power Outage Event' Alert is for a Device currently being tracked and, if so, will stop processing and add an entry to the 'Power Outage Suppression Log'. - In support of Alert reporting: - The DSP will deliver a logging facility in addition to the Service Audit Trail that will provide additional data from within the Alerts, and support additional timing points from the Communications Service Provider (CSP) North communicated to the DSP along with the Alert – this data will show the full lifespan of the alerts. - Two other timing points in the log will indicate time received at the Communications Hub and time received at CSP North. This will require changes to the Smart Meter Wide Area Network (SMWAN) interface with CSP North. - DSP will modify the validation rules associated with SRV8.4 'Update Inventory'. - Changing of GNP Certificates: - The northbound processing of SRV 6.15.1 'Update Security Credentials (KRP)' will be amended such that when the DCC Total System detects that the Security Credentials of a GNP in a Gas Proxy Function (GPF) has been successfully replaced with the Access Control Broker (ACB) Security Credentials, the Originator Counter of the message will be recorded. - Southbound processing of SRV 6.21 'Request Handover Of DCC Controlled Device Service Request' will also be amended to ensure that the Originator Counter generated by the DCC Total System is greater than the recorded number, thus ensuring that the command will be accepted by the Device. - The DSP will add support for the new User Role called 'SolrContingency', which will be used for the purpose of Users, in this new role, to send Commands to Devices in the event of a Supplier failure (a SolR).
Communication Services Providers	<i>TBC as a result of MP122B.</i>
Reporting	- Instead of measuring the Target Response Time (TRT) for the combination of all Alerts, the average success rate and Round-Trip-Time (RTT) for each individual Alert type will be measured. - The points at which the Alerts are measured from and to will also be expanded to include the point the Alert was generated

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DCC impacts	
Area impacted	Summary of impacts
	by the Device to the point the DSP receives the handshake from the Service User. Data on Incident Categories 3, 4 and 5 will be sourced from the DCC's own Remedy Systems rather than from its Service Providers.
SMETS1 Service Providers (S1SPs)	The S1SPs will support the new SEC User Role of 'SolrContingency' in line with existing processing where they will receive the required reference data from files sent by the DSP.

SECAS impacts

SECAS will need to make the updates to the SEC to implement the modifications approved for this release.

MP128A

SECAS will ensure that the additional requirement for outgoing GNPs to replace their Organisation Certificates with ACB Certificates is communicated to GNPs.

SEC document impacts

The following SEC documents will be updated in this release:

- Section F 'Smart Metering System Requirements'
- Section H 'DCC Services'
- Section L 'Smart Metering Key Infrastructure and DCC Key Infrastructure'
- Schedule 11 'TS Applicability Tables'
- Appendix B 'Organisation Certificate Policy'
- Appendix AD 'DCC User Interface Specification' (DUIS)

Each of these documents is affected by the following modifications:

SEC document impact matrix					
Document	MP102B	MP122B	MP125	MP128A	MP134B
Section F	✓				
Section H		✓			
Section L				✓	
Schedule 11			✓		✓
Appendix B				✓	
Appendix AD			✓		✓

The document impacts for some modifications are provisional based on the current understanding of the solutions. Some solutions are still at early stages of assessment, and the impacts will be updated as these modifications evolve.

The approved changes to each document are annexed to the Modification Reports for each modification, which are available on the corresponding modifications' webpages.

Technical documentation versions and validity

The following versions of each the Technical Specifications will be implemented in the November 2022 SEC Release:

Technical Specification impact matrix			
Tech Spec	Version	MP125	MP134B
DUIS	v5.2	✓	✓

Currently, the DUIS is the only technical specification impacted by this release. It has been assumed that only a new Sub-Version will be introduced and not a new Principal Version. Once a decision on all of the Technical Specification impacting modifications have been received, we will confirm the final versions being introduced with the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC).

Other code impacts

No other Codes are impacted as a result of this release.

3. Implementation timeline

This section lists the planned timeline for the implementation of this release.

This timeline includes dates for approval of the TAD, dates for when the System Integration Testing (SIT) and User Integration Testing (UIT) test phases are planned to commence and complete, and key governance steps for the Change Sub-Committee (CSC) and other Sub-Committees to complete.

Please note that dates for the submission and approval of the SIT and UIT Completion Reports and the commencement and closure of the UIT window are provisional and may change nearer the time. These dates are based on the anticipated schedule for Operations Group (OPSG), Testing Advisory Group (TAG) and CSC meetings and will be confirmed as the DCC prepares the TAD. Sub-Committee meeting dates for 2023 have yet to be confirmed; this timeline will be updated as these dates are confirmed.

Release implementation timetable		
Date	Event	Notes
21 Jun 22	CSC baselines RID for system-impacting modifications	The CSC will review the RID for DCC System-impacting modifications (including

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Release implementation timetable		
Date	Event	Notes
		modifications targeted but not approved) and baseline the document.
21 Sep 22	DCC submits draft SEC Release TAD	
28 Sep 22	TAG reviews draft SEC Release TAD	
Oct 2022	DCC consults on draft SEC Release TAD	The DCC will consult the industry on the draft TAD.
23 Nov 2022	DCC submits updated SEC Release TAD	The TAD will be updated to account for comments provided by the TAG and from the consultation.
30 Nov 2022	TAG reviews updated SEC Release TAD	The TAG will provide a view to the CSC on whether this document is suitable for use.
13 Dec 2022	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
20 Dec 2022	CSC baselines RID for non-system-impacting modifications	The CSC will review the RID for non-DCC System-impacting modifications (including modifications targeted but not approved) and re-baseline the document to include these.
31 Jan 2023	SIT commences	
Mar 2023	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
Apr 2023	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
May 2023	DCC submits SIT Completion Report	
May 2023	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
May 2023	Test Participants inform DCC of their regression testing plans	By 10 Working Days before UIT begins.
May 2023	UIT commences	
May 2023	TAG reviews SIT Completion Report	The TAG will provide a recommendation on whether SIT has been completed successfully.
Jun 2023	OPSG reviews status against the operational acceptance criteria	The OPSG will provide a recommendation on whether the release should be implemented as planned.
Jun 2023	CSC go/no-go decision	The CSC will review the status of the release against the acceptance criteria and will determine if the release should be implemented as planned.

Release implementation timetable		
Date	Event	Notes
Jun 2023	Test Participants to provide regression testing results to DCC	By five Working Days before UIT completion
Jun 2023	UIT window closes	
29 Jun 2023	Release go-live	The changes are implemented.

4. Test strategy

This section covers the testing approach that will be taken by the DCC as part of the implementation of this release.

DCC's testing approach

The DCC's SEC Release Testing Approach Document will be provided as Annex A to this document in due course. This will cover the DCC's approach to SIT.

User testing approach

The DCC's SEC Release Testing Approach Document will be provided as Annex A to this document in due course. This will cover the DCC's approach to UIT.

5. Costs

This section summarises the costs that will be incurred by the DCC and the Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat (SECAS) in implementing this release.

DCC costs

The total DCC implementation costs of this release have not yet been determined.

The DCC has provided the following cost breakdown for each DCC System impacting modification in this release via the individual DCC Assessments:

Breakdown of DCC implementation costs					
Modification	Design, Build & PIT	SIT	UIT	Implement to live	Application Support
MP102B	£144,252	£44,304	N/A	£8,968 ¹	£1,722

¹ Including Early Life Support for a period of 1 month following go-live.

Breakdown of DCC implementation costs					
Modification	Design, Build & PIT	SIT	UIT	Implement to live	Application Support
MP122B	<i>£1,200,000-£1,350,000</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>
MP125	£51,593	£24,938		£4,464	N/A
MP128A	£69,639	£88,411			£988 per month for 16 months
MP134B	<i>£632,500-£1,082,500</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>

No additional impact on operational costs have been identified.

Costs in italics are estimated costs provided in the Preliminary Assessments. Firm costs will be provided in the Impact Assessments.

The DCC has provided standalone costs for SIT, UIT and Implement to Live for each modification for inclusion in their Modification Reports as part of the Impact Assessment. Once the scope of the release is confirmed and the Preliminary Assessments for all candidate modifications are complete, the DCC will produce a combined Preliminary Assessment. This will provide a combined estimated cost for each of these stages when the modifications are delivered as a single package.

SECAS costs

SECAS will incur five days effort, equating to around £3,000, to update and implement the changes to the SEC. SECAS estimate a maximum of 20 days of effort, equating to around £12,000, will be needed for project management of the release. This cost has already been accounted for in the SECAS budget, and so Parties will not incur any additional costs.

6. Acceptance criteria

The following criteria will need to be met before the release can go live.

Prior to go-live, the OPSG and the TAG will review the status of the release against these criteria. They will provide a recommendation to the CSC on whether to implement the release as planned. The CSC will review these recommendations and will determine then if the release should or shouldn't be implemented as planned.

Operational acceptance criteria

1. The DCC has brought to readiness all the new and changed components needed to provide the new services. This will include completing the service design and proving the service operations capability.

2. The DCC has demonstrated that all pre-existing services will be stable in the run-up to deployment of the release.
3. The DCC has proven that the new services can be operated alongside, and integrated with, the existing services.
4. The DCC has assessed the risk posed by existing problems and defects in the existing live service, and the implications these will have for the revised service.
5. The DCC has assessed and addressed the impact on Users arising from any issues, defects or workarounds within the new services.
6. The DCC has demonstrated that lessons learnt from previous SEC Releases and other DCC changes have been taken on board.
7. The DCC has demonstrated there will be no detrimental impact on consumers' experience.
8. The DCC has completed assurance of the Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery processes.
9. SECAS will be ready to implement the approved changes to the SEC on the agreed implementation date.
10. SECAS has brought to readiness all the new and changed components that it is responsible for that are needed to support the new services.

Testing acceptance criteria

1. The DCC has developed the coding for each approved change and confirmed it will be able to deploy this to the production environment on the agreed implementation date.
2. The DCC has completed and closed each test phase against the agreed exit criteria specified in the TAD.
3. The DCC has successfully completed regression testing.
4. The DCC has allowed adequate opportunity for Users to test the changes prior to deployment.
5. The DCC has confirmed that there are no Severity 1 or 2 defects outstanding that would be deployed to the live environment.
6. The DCC has produced a clear resolution plan for any outstanding Severity 3, 4 or 5 defects and that the number of remaining testing issues is within the agreed threshold figures specified in the TAD.
7. The DCC has demonstrated that the SIT and UIT test environments were aligned to the solution being deployed to the production environment; if there were any differences, these were identified and the risks these posed demonstrably managed.

Appendix 1: Version control

Document history		
Version	Date	Changes
0.1	14 Jun 2022	First draft published.

Appendix 2: Glossary

This table lists all the acronyms used in this document and the full term they are an abbreviation for.

Glossary	
Acronym	Full term
ACB	Access Control Broker
CSC	Change Sub-Committee
CSP	Communication Services Provider
DCC	Data Communication Company
DSP	Data Services Provider
DUIS	DCC User Interface Specification
ESME	Electricity Smart Metering Equipment
GNP	Gas Network Party
GPF	Gas Proxy Function
OPSG	Operations Group
OTA	Over-the-air
PIT	Pre-Integration Testing
POA	Power outage Alert
RID	Release Implementation Document
RTT	Round-Trip-Time
S1SP	SMETS1 Service Provider
SEC	Smart Energy Code
SECAS	Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat
SIT	System Integration Testing
SMKI	Smart Metering Key Infrastructure
SMI	Smart Metering Inventory
SMWAN	Smart Meter Wide Area Network
SoLR	Supplier of Last Resort
SRP	Shared Resource Provider
SSC	Security Sub-Committee
TABASC	Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee
TAD	Testing Approach Document

Glossary	
Acronym	Full term
TAG	Testing Advisory Group
TRT	Target Response Time
UIT	User Integration Testing