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Paper Reference:	CSC_40_2106_XX
Action:	For Decision

Approval to implement the June 2022 SEC Release

1. Purpose

The June 2022 SEC Release is due to be implemented on 30 June 2022. Before the changes can go live, the Change Sub-Committee (CSC) is required to review progress against the acceptance criteria in the Release Implementation Document (RID) and give final approval to proceed.

This paper summarises the views and recommendations of the Operations Group (OPSG) and the Testing Advisory Group (TAG), and requests that the CSC approves the SEC Release to go live.

2. Release scope

The June 2022 SEC Release will include the following Modification Proposals:

Modification	Status	Impacts DCC Systems?
SECMP0015 'GPF timestamp for reading instantaneous Gas values' (DUIS and MMC changes only)	Approved for inclusion. The DCC User Interface Specification (DUIS) and Message Mapping Catalogue (MMC) changes will be implemented in the June 2022 SEC Release. All the other document and DCC System changes will be implemented in the November 2022 SEC Release.	✓
SECMP0024 'Enduring Approach to Communication Hub Firmware Management'	Approved for inclusion.	✓
MP104 'Security Improvements'	Approved for inclusion.	✓
MP159 'Credit Cover Review'	Approved for inclusion.	
MP195 'Security Sub-Committee guidance on Device Assurance'	Approved for inclusion.	

Modification	Status	Impacts DCC Systems?
MP199 'June 2022 SEC Release Supporting Changes'	Approved for inclusion.	

3. Review of readiness against the acceptance criteria

The CSC agreed a set of acceptance criteria in the RID that will need to be met before the June 2022 SEC Release can go live. These were split into operational acceptance criteria, which were reviewed by the OPSG, and testing acceptance criteria, which were reviewed by the TAG. These criteria can be found in Appendices 1 and 2 respectively.

3.1 Views of the OPSG

The OPSG considered the operational readiness against the operational acceptance criteria on 14 June 2022. A summary of the views of the OPSG against the operational acceptance criteria and the statements from the DCC can be found in Appendix 1 below. The OPSG agreed Green status for the criteria, with the following qualifications:

Acceptance Criterion 1: The DCC has brought to readiness all the new and changed components needed to provide the new services.

The OPSG accepted the DCC's statement of readiness. However, it noted an issue raised by a Large Supplier on [MP104 'Security Improvements'](#).

The DCC noted that the issue revolved around the timing of the User updating Extensible Markup Language (XML) Certificates and a Data Service Provider (DSP) batch process run at midnight. The DCC is updating the User guidance and questionnaire to include the time field. The DCC will monitor Users' service traffic following updates to XML Certificates to identify any recurrences before significant impact. The OPSG noted that 30 Users have updated their XML Certificates without raising any issues and therefore did not feel the issue should prevent go-live but classified this criterion as Amber.

The DCC agreed to return to the OPSG reporting meeting on 27 June 2022 to confirm that the guidance and questionnaire has been updated, and the output from its monitoring.

Acceptance Criterion 2: The DCC has demonstrated that all pre-existing services will be stable in the run-up to deployment of the release

The OPSG noted that there had been seven Category 1 and 2 Incidents across the DCC service in May, the highest volume in at least a year.

The DCC provided an overview of the Incidents under an earlier agenda item at the 14 June 2022 meeting (OPSG_73_1406_03 - DCC Operational Update).

The OPSG agreed that the criterion should be classified as Amber due to the current stability issues. However, it noted that it should not prevent go-live as the Incidents are not related to the June 2022 SEC Release scope.

Acceptance Criterion 7: No detrimental impact on consumers' experience

The OPSG noted that the DCC and SECAS have undertaken additional engagement and tracking with Users on status to support the MP104 requirements. 30 Users are currently supporting the requirement, but the OPSG raised concerns with the implications on the Service and end energy consumers if there were Users not ready to support the requirement at go-live.

The DCC has successfully engaged with all Users, who have provided dates at which they will support the requirement ahead of go-live. However, there are concerns these dates may slip. The OPSG requested the DCC confirm the volume of end energy consumers at risk, and those that are operating in prepayment mode at the 27 June 2022 Reporting meeting.

The DCC confirmed that a User not supporting the requirement should not have an impact on the DCC Service. It noted that User System retries could have an impact but large volumes of messages failing this validation should not have a broader impact as the validation check is early in the DSP process. The DCC noted there was a low risk though as this is the first time this process is being switched on.

The DCC noted there has been a built in a 'Switch' feature that will allow them to turn off the MP104 validation following go-live if an issue arises. The OPSG requested that the DCC engage with the Security Sub-Committee (SSC) to seek its views on the risk and utilising the 'Switch' feature to turn off the validation.

The OPSG requested that SECAS draft a letter for the SEC Panel Chair to send to the remaining Users who are not supporting the requirement to emphasise the need to address prior to go live and the risk/impact if they do not.

The OPSG agreed that this criterion should be classified as Amber but should not prevent the go-live on the condition the following is actioned ahead of the 27 June 2022 OPSG reporting meeting:

1. A letter from the SEC Panel Chair is distributed to the Users currently not supporting the requirement; and
2. Further information from the DCC to confirm the volume of end energy consumers at risk, and those that are operating in prepayment mode.

Acceptance Criterion 8: The DCC has completed assurance of the Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery processes

The OPSG accepted the DCC's statement of readiness but noted that the DCC has yet to present an updated Annual Outage & BCDR 2022 plan to seek approval for the DSP deferred dates.

The DCC was expected to attend the OPSG meeting on 14 June 2022 to provide this plan. However, this was deferred as the documentation provided was not representative of an updated Annual Outage & BCDR 2022 plan with auditable version control.

3.2 Views of the TAG

The TAG considered the results of the DCC's testing against the testing acceptance criteria on 25 May 2022. A summary of the views of the TAG against the testing acceptance criteria can be found in Appendix 2 below.

The TAG noted that ten Severity 3 Testing Issues (TIs) remained outstanding at the end of Systems Integration Testing (SIT), along with two Severity 4 TIs. These included one new TI relating to the June 2022 SEC Release, seven shown to either pre-exist the June 2022 SEC Release or be duplicates of other June 2022 Testing Issues, along with three relating to specific Device behaviours which have been accepted by the Device manufacturers.

The TAG agreed to exclude nine of the Severity 3 TIs and both Severity 4 TIs for the following reasons:

- Two Identical TIs agreed to be treated as a single TI.
- Seven pre-existing TIs –although not raised in production or testing, these have been shown to pre-exist in the relevant environment.
- Three Device issues.

After the agreed exclusions are applied, one TI remains (TI 151047). This TI produced an invalid test result due to an out-of-date firmware image being used to conduct the test. The DCC provided sufficient evidence that any defects associated with TI 151047 will not have been introduced by the June 2022 SEC Release code, so the TAG agreed to exclude it from its assessment. The TAG will review the results of the test when it is re-run using a valid firmware image, but it could be several months before one becomes available and this should not delay implementation of the release.

4. Residual risks

The DCC noted that there is one open high risk, being tracked under ST-TRN034. The risk relates to MP104, and the lack of service user confirmed uptake for the XML signed Certificates. The risk to the DCC Service (and hence to compliant Users) is Low, as the MP104 validation check could be rapidly disabled to stop any service disruption were this unlikely event to occur. The risk to Non-compliant Users and their Customers (end consumers) is severe, as the non-compliant Users would lose all access to DCC services, with consequent impact on end consumers. This risk is being actively managed and further details can be found under the OPSG's views on Operational Acceptance Criterion 7 above.

All Low residual risks have been accepted by the DCC Operational owner. No Medium risks have been identified

The OPSG accepted the DCC's view on residual risks and did not raise any additional significant risks for consideration.

5. Approval to proceed

Based on the views of the OPSG and the TAG, we believe that the June 2022 SEC Release is ready to be set live on 30 June 2022. We therefore recommend that the CSC approves the release to be implemented.

6. Recommendations

The CSC is requested to:

- **NOTE** the views and recommendations of the OPSG and the TAG; and
- **AGREE** that the June 2022 SEC Release can be set live on 30 June 2022.

Joe Hehir

SECAS Team

14 June 2022

Attachments

- **Appendix A:** June 2022 SEC Release Implementation Document v8.0

Appendix 1: OPSG's view on the DCC's statement of readiness

Acceptance criteria	DCC statement	OPSG's views	Status
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	DCC Service Architecture has identified all new and changed components to be delivered as part of the June 2022 Release. The June 2022 Service Design and associated artefacts have been assured by the DCC Service Architecture governance process with DCC internal stakeholders providing their sign-off. The DCC has received confirmation from DSP that there is no impact to their operational processes. Business Acceptance Testing (BAT) has tested the Service Architecture including new and amended artefacts resulting in no observations found. The BAT Test Completion Report has been produced and will form part of the operational acceptance artefacts and decision making. DCC Service Introduction & Acceptance will confirm with all the DCC Operational capabilities their readiness to support the service in live. (Date for completion 15/06/22) Formal Operational Acceptance for the release to go-live will be provided by senior DCC operational stakeholders. (Date for completion 17/06/22)	The OPSG accepted the DCC's statement of readiness, however noted an issue raised by a Large Supplier on MP104. The DCC noted that the issue revolved around the timing of the User updating XML Certificates and a DSP batch process run at midnight which resulted in the failure of over 10,000 SMETS1 top ups. The Large Supplier was unsure whether its User System triggered the batch job. The DCC is updating the User guidance and questionnaire (to include time field) to ensure that Users are aware of the issue and able to manage appropriately. The DCC will monitor the users service traffic following updates to XML Certificates to identify any recurrences before any potential significant impact. The OPSG noted that 30 Users have updated their XML Certificates without raising any issues therefore did not feel the issue should prevent go live but classified this criterion as Amber. The DCC agreed to return to the OPSG reporting meeting on 27 June 2022 to confirm that the guidance and questionnaire was updated by 17 June 2022, and output from monitoring.	AMBER

Acceptance criteria	DCC statement	OPSG's views	Status
2. The DCC has demonstrated that all pre-existing services will be stable in the run-up to deployment of the release	As part of our standard preparation for go live, DCC will confirm that both SMETS1 and SMETS2 services are stable. As part of our continual DCC monitoring, there have been 4 Severity 2 outages during May suffered by Arqiva. 16 May INC000000849281 - Install Failures in North Region 23 May INC000000851412 - 8.11 Failures in the North Region 26 May INC000000852444 I - On demand SRV's including 2.2 Top-Ups and Meter Reads. 27 May INC000000852878 - On demand SRV's including 2.2 Top-Ups and Meter Reads. All incidents were resolved promptly to bring live service back to BAU. The Root Cause for 16 and 23 May is under review, but the working theory is that the Database backups over ran and clashed with Database Indexing. The 26 and 27 May is currently under review for the RCA, but it is considered that the Network Controllers experienced a brief network connectivity disruption and there was a delay in network rebalancing between these network controllers. These investigations and actions are now in a plan which is being worked through. The outages were dealt with via the MIM (Major Incident Management) team and correct immediate focus was seen by Arqiva and the DCC – communication bridges, frequent action led meetings throughout the day and swift resolution to return a level of stability. However due to the volume of the outages we also implemented the Heightened Supplier Management (HSM) process which has seen increased activity between TOC and	The OPSG noted that there had been seven Category 1 and 2 Incidents across the DCC service in May, the highest volume in at least a year. The DCC provided an overview of the Incidents under an earlier agenda item at the 14 June 2022 meeting (OPSG_73_1406_03 - DCC Operational Update). The OPSG agreed that the criterion should be classified as Amber due to the current stability issues, however noted that it should not prevent go live as the Incidents are not related to the June 2022 SEC Release scope.	AMBER

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Acceptance criteria	DCC statement	OPSG's views	Status
	Arqiva including focussed monitoring throughout day/night/weekend, senior management calls between Arqiva and DCC ensuring the communication was current and consistent, detailed get to green plans with timeframes and resources identified against actions and an increased level of scrutiny around any change, requiring sign off from SDM. All activities where lessons were learnt from the outage activity is captured to be considered and applied to other areas of the infrastructure going forward once the initial situation is fixed and stable. This activity has been in place since the outages and will remain so until 30 clean days have passed. Prior to May Arqiva had zero outage impacts since August 2021 and it is important for Arqiva and DCC to return to that level of stability. Enhanced stability monitoring will take place between the 19-29 June, and the final Go/No decision will be taken on the 29 of June 2022. This Go/No Go decision will consider the stability assessment from both DCC operations and suppliers. June 22 go-live will not proceed if there are any Severity 1 or 2 incidents that are open and where the root cause has not been identified. If the root cause has been identified, and DCC has assurance that this will not be repeated, an assessment will be made as to the likely impact on the live service and June 22 deployment by Senior Operations Management.		
3. The DCC has proven that the new services can be operated alongside, and	The DCC is confident that non-June 2022 SEC Release systems will not be impacted by its release, and that all our operational processes will integrate the June 2022 SEC Release with no impact to existing services. This statement has been confirmed by the DSP and our internal governance process.	The OPSG accepted the DCC's statement of readiness with no further comments.	GREEN

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Acceptance criteria	DCC statement	OPSG's views	Status
integrated with, the existing services	The service architecture team have identified, updated and BAT tested all impacted DCC operational processes. We can confirm these will operate as designed when the release is promoted to live service. All testing, including regression testing has been completed and approved by TAG.		
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	DCC Operations continually review risk as part of its normal operating activities. DCC is satisfied that there are no existing problems that pose a risk to the stability of the live environment at the current time, and this is reviewed daily as part of BAU activities; enhanced focus is provided in the 2 weeks leading up to Go Live. DCC have engaged with DSP and received confirmation that DSP have sufficient resources to enable them to deliver the current portfolio of work, which includes the June 2022 SEC modifications.	The OPSG accepted the DCC's statement of readiness with no further comments.	GREEN
5. The DCC has assessed and addressed the impact on Users arising from any issues, defects or workarounds within the new services	DCC will deliver the June 2022 SEC Release with no new defects, or workarounds. DCC are confident that we are not releasing any software into the production environment that will adversely impact on Service Users. If there is any adverse impact on Users then it is likely to be as a result of non-compliance to the SEC mod by Service Users not implementing the XML sign process; leading to non-compliant SRVs failing validation within the DCC system. These SRVs will be rejected.	The OPSG accepted the DCC's statement of readiness with no further comments.	GREEN
6. The DCC has demonstrated that lessons learnt from previous SEC	DCC have applied the lessons learned from all previous SEC Releases, including the following; Following the issues surrounding MP0104 and the uptake for the XML sign, a lesson has been learnt	The OPSG stated that the lessons learnt did not seem to reflect broader programmes or previous SEC releases and readiness reviews (i.e., Faster Switching and SMETS1	Conditional GREEN

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Acceptance criteria	DCC statement	OPSG's views	Status
Releases and other DCC changes have been taken on board	around the implementation and planning of changes with a wide-reaching service user impact. We have identified the need to increase the level of engagement with SECOPS to help further drive the engagement with Service Users. This will be built into our service introduction and acceptance process as part of our continual service improvement. - During testing an out-of-date image was identified on a device, we have updated our service introduction and acceptance process to include confirmation all device images are in date prior to the testing being started. - Although not applicable to this release, DCC have implemented lessons learnt following the November 21 release where an issue arose which was identified as a contention between SEC and REC. This includes the maturity of a cross code governance group with the function reviewing cross code impacts and appointing a single code as the lead, allowing effective planning, and aligning implementation plans. DCC complete a lesson learned session as part of the closedown activities for every SEC release and these are reviewed at the start of each SEC Mod release project.	Cohort readiness) where valuable lessons have been identified. The OPSG noted that the SMETS1 FOC service was put live in February 2021 but has had significant issues regarding stability, and performance of migrations and service traffic. The OPSG requested that the DCC provide an updated lessons learnt report to the 27 June 2022 OPSG reporting meeting. The OPSG agreed that this criterion is classified as Green on the condition that they will provide the report at the 27 June OPSG meeting but should not prevent go live of the June 2022 SEC Release.	
7. The DCC has demonstrated there will be no detrimental impact on consumers' experience	DCC are confident that there will be no detrimental effect on the consumer experience by deploying the June 2022 SEC Release into the production environment. If there is any adverse impact on Users it will be as a result of non-compliance by Service Users to the MP104 'Security Improvements' causing their SRVs to fail validation within the DCC system.	The OPSG noted that DCC and SECAS have undertaken additional engagement and tracking with Users on status to support the requirement of MP104 'Security Improvements'. 30 Users are currently supporting the requirement, but the OPSG raised concerns	AMBER

Acceptance criteria	DCC statement	OPSG's views	Status
	DCC will go live with the SEC mod based on the commitment made by service users to implement the XML Sign process. There are a number of service users who have multiple certificates, if the organization needs any advice or guidance on how to deal with this, please contact your service manager who will provide assistance. DCC continue to monitor the uptake by Service Users on a daily basis and will report back to SEC Ops on the 14/06/22.	with the implications on the Service and end energy consumers if there were Users not ready to support the requirement at go live. The DCC has successfully engaged with all Users, who have provided dates at which they will support the requirement ahead of go live, however there are concerns these dates may slip. The OPSG requested the DCC confirm the volume of end energy consumers at risk, and those that are operating in prepayment mode at the 27 June 2022 OPSG Reporting meeting. The DCC confirmed that a User not supporting the requirement should not have an impact on the overall DCC Service, it would just impact the User's service. The DCC noted that User System retries could potentially have an impact but large volumes of messages failing this validation should not have a broader impact as the validation check is early in the DSP process. The DCC noted there was a low risk though as this is the first time this process is being switched on. The DCC noted there has been a built in a 'Switch' feature that will allow them to turn off	

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Acceptance criteria	DCC statement	OPSG's views	Status
		the SEC MP104 'Security Improvements' validation following Go Live if an issue arises. The OPSG requested that the DCC engage with the Security Sub-Committee (SSC) to seek their views on the risk and utilising the 'Switch' feature to turn off the validation if a Category 1 or 2 Incident occurs (in relation to MP104). The OPSG requested that SECAS draft a letter for the SEC Panel Chair to send to the remaining Users who are not supporting the requirement to emphasise the need to address prior to go live and the impact that they will be unable to receive DCC services (and therefore services to their consumers) until they do support the requirement. The OPSG agreed that this criterion should be classified as Amber but should not prevent the go live on the proviso of the following is actioned ahead of the 27 June 2022 OPSG reporting meeting: 1. A letter from the SEC Panel Chair is distributed to the Users currently not supporting the requirement, 2. engage with the Security Sub-Committee (SSC) to seek their views on the risk and utilising the 'Switch' feature to turn off the validation if a	

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Acceptance criteria	DCC statement	OPSG's views	Status
		Category 1 or 2 Incident occurs (in relation to MP104), and, 3. further information from the DCC to confirm the volume of end energy consumers at risk, and those that are operating in prepayment mode.	
8. The DCC has completed assurance of the Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery processes	DCC Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery team (BCDR) confirm there are no new capabilities introduced by June 2022 SEC Release that impact the BCDR or require an update to the BCDR plan. This assessment was undertaken as part of the activities during the operational readiness phase. The impact on BCDR was also reviewed by DSP and CSPs and documented in the Full Impact Assessment and has been assured by DCC BCDR.	The OPSG accepted the DCC's statement of readiness but noted that the DCC have yet to present an updated Annual Outage & BCDR 2022 plan to seek approval for the DSP deferred dates. The DCC were expected to attend the OPSG on 14 June 2022 to provide this plan, however this was deferred as the documentation provided was not representative of an updated Annual Outage & BCDR 2022 plan with auditable version control. On this basis, the OPSG agreed to classify this criterion as Amber but that this should not prevent go live.	AMBER

Appendix 2: TAG's view on the DCC's statement of readiness

Acceptance criteria	TAG's views	Status
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	Each change has been tested in accordance with the Test Approach Document (TAD) and testing has not highlighted any risk to the implementation date.	GREEN
2. The DCC has completed and closed each test phase against the agreed exit criteria specified in the TAD	All testing has completed in accordance with the TAD, with any excluded tests assessed and agreed by the TAG. There were nine Severity 3 and two Severity 4 TIs which the TAG agreed to exclude from its test completion decision, along with four TIs closed without a retest. Three TIs were device related. Seven TIs were pre-existing and four of those had an existing issue number associated with them. The DCC provided sufficient evidence that any defects associated with TI 151047 will not have been introduced by the June 2022 SEC Release code, and the TAG agreed exclude it from its assessment. This is within the tolerances agreed with the TAG.	GREEN
3. The DCC has successfully completed regression testing	Regression Testing was successfully executed. All failed regression tests are linked to Testing Issues accepted by the TAG.	GREEN
4. The DCC has allowed adequate opportunity for Users to test the changes prior to deployment	The DCC enabled User testing in line with the requirements of the TAD agreed with the TAG.	GREEN
5. The DCC has confirmed that there are no Severity 1 or 2 defects outstanding that would be deployed to the live environment	There were no Severity 1 or 2 defects reported as outstanding at the end of Systems Integration Testing (SIT).	GREEN
6. The DCC has produced a clear resolution plan for any outstanding Severity 3, 4 or 5	All TIs that require a code change have a plan and target date for resolution, except for TI 151047 which requires a new firmware image to be developed to allow the test to be	GREEN

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Acceptance criteria	TAG's views	Status
defects and that the number of remaining testing issues is within the agreed threshold figures specified in the TAD	undertaken. The TAG will monitor progress and will review the results of TI 15104 when they become available. The number of outstanding Testing Issues is within the tolerances agreed with the TAG.	
7. The DCC has demonstrated that the SIT and User Integration Testing (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	The DCC has set out the environment specification for SIT and the TAG has not raised any issues.	GREEN

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June 2022 SEC Release (30 June 2022)

SEC Release Implementation Document

Version 8.0

17 May 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.

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This document also has one annex:

- **Annex A** contains the Data Communication Company's (DCC's) SEC Release Testing Approach Document (TAD) for this release. This document is provided separately to this RID.

1. Scope

Approved Modification Proposals

- [SECMP0015 'GPF timestamp for reading instantaneous Gas values'](#) will allow Parties and Devices reading the instantaneous values from the Gas Proxy function (GPF) to know the time on the Gas Smart Metering Equipment's (GSME's) clock when the value was provided.

Only the DCC User Interface Specification (DUIS) and Message Mapping Catalogue (MMC) document changes required for SECMP0015 will be implemented in the June 2022 SEC Release alongside other DUIS and MMC changes. The functionality, including the DCC System and Data Services Provider (DSP) System changes, and the associated changes to the technical specifications will not be implemented until the November 2022 SEC Release (3 November 2022). Therefore, there will be no User impacts resulting from SECMP0015 in the June 2022 SEC Release.
- [SECMP0024 'Enduring Approach to Communication Hub Firmware Management'](#) will implement a new DCC Alert that will be sent to Suppliers upon firmware being activated on Communications Hubs which contains the Communications Hub firmware version.
- [MP104 'Security Improvements'](#) will implement a new DCC validation check to identify if DCC Users are Digitally Signing Extensible Markup Language (XML) format Service Requests and Signed Pre-Commands with a User Role Signing Private Key.
- [MP159 'Credit Cover Review'](#) will address inefficiencies within SEC Section J3 'Credit Cover' and clarify areas that have been previously misinterpreted.
- [MP195 'Security Sub-Committee guidance on Device Assurance'](#) will add an obligation on the Security Sub-Committee (SSC) to develop and maintain a guidance document for Device security assurance.
- [MP199 'June 2022 SEC Release Supporting Changes'](#) will make minor additions and amendments to the DUIS which would ensure greater clarity.

No further modifications are expected to be added to the scope of this release.

DCC Change Requests

A list of any DCC Change Requests being implemented alongside this SEC Release will be provided here.

Concurrent implementation with ECoS

The June 2022 SEC Release will be tested alongside the Enduring Change of Supplier (ECoS) changes being implemented by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). Both releases will uplift the DUIS which is why they are being targeted for implementation in parallel. They will also each uplift changes onto the test environments and into Production concurrently. The ECoS changes do not form part of this SEC Release, and so this RID does not cover the details of the impacts these will have.

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
SECMP0015					
SECMP0024	✓				✓
MP104 ¹	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
MP159	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
MP195	✓			✓	✓
MP199					

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	- All DCC Users will have their Service Requests validated to check they have used an XML User Role Signing Private Key to sign XML format Service Requests and Signed Pre-Commands. - Any changes to the Credit Cover process will need to be adhered to by all SEC Parties – these changes are still being agreed. - Although SEC Parties are not directly impacted by the MP195 as this only places an obligation onto the SSC to develop and maintain a guidance document, they will be impacted indirectly by the guidance itself.
Supplier Parties	Suppliers will receive a DCC Alert once firmware Images are activated on CHs.
Electricity Network Parties	No additional impacts
Gas Network Parties	No additional impacts
Other SEC Parties	No additional impacts

¹ MP104 will impact all DCC Users.

DCC impacts	
Area impacted	Summary of impacts
DCC User Interface Specification	A new DUIS version will be released to implement changes to existing Service Requests and to implement a new DCC Alert.
Data Services Provider (DSP)	- The following DSP components will be affected: - DCC User Gateway Interface Design Specification (DUGIDS) updates, DUIS Service Requests, and MMC, Alerts and Messages - Updates to Service Request processing - The DSP will build a mechanism to track the Certificates used by Service Users to sign the Service Requests - The DSP will amend the Service User validation checks to verify that the Service Request submitted by a Service User has been signed using the XML Signing Certificate
Communication Services Providers (CSP)	The CSPs will implement the associated system changes resulting from SECMP0007.
Regulatory changes	Any changes to the Credit Cover process will need to be adhered to by all SEC Parties – these changes are still being agreed.

SEC document impacts

The following SEC documents will be updated in this release:

- Section A 'Definitions and Interpretation'
- Section G 'Security'
- Section J 'Charges'
- Schedule 11 'TS Applicability Tables'
- Appendix AB 'Service Request Processing Document'
- Appendix AD 'DCC User Interface Specification'
- Appendix AF 'Message Mapping Catalogue'

Each of these documents is affected by the following modifications:

SEC document impact matrix						
Document	SECMP 0015	SECMP 0024	MP104	MP159	MP195	MP199
Section A			✓	✓	✓	
Section G					✓	
Section J				✓		
Schedule 11	✓	✓	✓			✓
Appendix AB			✓			
Appendix AD	✓	✓	✓			✓
Appendix AF	✓					

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 of the Technical Specifications will be implemented in the June 2022 SEC Release:

Technical Specification impact matrix					
Tech Spec	New Version	SECMP0015	SECMP0024	MP104	MP199
DUIS	v5.1	✓	✓	✓	✓
MMC	v5.1	✓			

Other code impacts

No other Codes are impacted as a result of this SEC Release.

3. Implementation timeline

This section lists the provisional 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.

Release implementation timetable		
Date	Event	Notes
18 Jun 2021	Panel baselines RID for system-impacting modifications	The Panel will review the RID for DCC System-impacting modifications (including modifications targeted but not approved) and baseline the document.
22 Sep 2021	DCC submits draft SEC Release TAD	
29 Sep 2021	TAG reviews draft SEC Release TAD	

Release implementation timetable		
Date	Event	Notes
Oct 2021	DCC consults on draft SEC Release TAD	The DCC will consult the industry on the draft TAD.
17 Nov 2021	DCC submits updated SEC Release TAD	The TAD will be updated to account for comments provided by the TAG and from the consultation.
24 Nov 2021	TAG reviews updated SEC Release TAD	The TAG will review the TAD and incorporate it into the RID.
7 Dec 2021	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
21 Dec 2021	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 2022	SIT commences	
8 Mar 2022	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
5 Apr 2022	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
18 May 2022	DCC submits SIT Completion Report	
3 May 2022	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
5 May 2022	Test Participants inform DCC of their regression testing plans	By 10 Working Days before UIT begins.
19 May 2022	UIT commences	
25 May 2022	TAG reviews SIT Completion Report	The TAG will provide a recommendation on whether SIT has been completed successfully.
14 Jun 2022	OPSG reviews status against the operational acceptance criteria	The OPSG will provide a recommendation on whether the release should be implemented as planned. <i>Preliminary reviews of progress will be scheduled across preceding meetings.</i>
21 Jun 2022	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.
22 Jun 2022	Test Participants to provide regression testing results to DCC	By five Working Days before UIT completion
29 Jun 2022	UIT window closes	
30 Jun 2022	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 has been provided as Annex A to this document. This covers the DCC's approach to SIT.

User testing approach

The DCC's SEC Release Testing Approach Document has been provided as Annex A to this document. This covers 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 are £1,006,881, not including Application Support costs.

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

Breakdown of DCC implementation costs					
Modification	Design, Build & PIT	SIT	UIT	Implement to live	Application Support
SECMP0015	N/A ²				
SECMP0024	£202,395	£309,608		N/A	N/A
MP104	£360,992	£66,230		£67,656	Early Life Support: £13,124 ³ Application Support: £27,666 ⁴

² The SECMP0015 implementation costs will be allocated to the November 2022 SEC Release, which includes all implementation of the SECMP0015 System changes and associated testing.

³ Application Support costs have been calculated for the period after Part 1 of the solution is implemented and are referred to as Early Life Support.

⁴ Application Support costs after Go Live for Part 2 of the solution, with Part 1 switched off, are calculated for the 12 months after Go Live.

No impact on operational costs have been identified.

Costs which are not split by each of the five categories in the tables are for those modifications where only one DCC Service Provider is impacted. These costs are available to named recipients from SEC Parties upon request to SECAS by emailing sec.change@gemserv.com.

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	11 Jun 2021	First draft issued to the Panel to baseline the scope of the release on the DCC Systems.
1.0	18 Jun 2021	Version baselined by the Panel to cover the proposed scope of the release on the DCC Systems.
2.0	24 Jun 2021	Updated following the withdrawal of MP117 and to reflect DCC's proposed DUIS and MMC versioning.
3.0	7 Sep 2021	Updated following the approval of SECMP0024 and MP104 and to reflect the agreed 2022 CSC meeting dates.
3.1	14 Dec 2021	Updated for the full scope of the release and the updated timeline, presented to the CSC to be baselined.

Document history		
Version	Date	Changes
		This includes the additions of MP096, MP159, MP167 and MP186 being added to scope.
4.0	21 Dec 2021	Version baselined by CSC to cover the full scope of the release.
5.0	27 Jan 2022	Updated following MP109 being added to scope.
6.0	15 Mar 2022	Updated to reflect MP167 and MP186 being removed from scope and MP195 and MP199 being added to scope.
7.0	4 May 2022	Update following the approval of MP159 and MP195 and following MP109 moving to the November 2022 SEC Release.
8.0	17 May 2022	Corrections to document impact matrix.

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
DUGIDS	DCC User Gateway Interface Design Specification
DUIS	DCC User Interface Specification
GPF	Gas Proxy Function
GSME	Gas Smart Metering Equipment
MMC	Message Mapping Catalogue
PIT	Pre-Integration Testing
RID	Release Implementation Document
SEC	Smart Energy Code
SECAS	Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat
SIT	System Integration Testing
SSC	Security Sub-Committee
TABASC	Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee
TAD	Testing Approach Document
TAG	Testing Advisory Group
XML	Extensible Markup Language
UIT	User Integration Testing