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# DP260

## ‘June 2024 SEC Release housekeeping’

### Modification Report

Version 0.2

9 April 2024

Corporate member of  
Plain English Campaign  
Committed to clearer  
communication

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## About this document

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This document is a Modification Report. It sets out the background, issue, solution, impacts, costs, implementation approach and progression timetable for this modification, along with any relevant discussions, views and conclusions.

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This document also has one annex:

- **Annex A** contains the redlined changes to the Smart Energy Code (SEC) required to deliver the Proposed Solution.

## Contact

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## 1. Summary

This proposal has been raised by David Walsh from the Data Communications Company (DCC).

The Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat (SECAS) maintains a log of typographical errors, cosmetic and other inconsistencies, omissions and other clarifications that are required to be corrected within SEC documentation. Any such instances that are identified by any party and notified to SECAS are placed on the log and are amended at an appropriate point. The Proposed Solution to this modification aims to address all the highlighted issues that are currently identified within SEC including Appendix AD 'DCC User Interface Specification' (DUIS).

This modification will have no direct impacts on any SEC Party but will give greater clarity and transparency to the SEC including the DUIS document. Implementation costs are limited to SECAS time and effort to update the SEC. Implementation is targeted for the June 2024 SEC Release. The rationale for implementing this modification into the June 2024 SEC Release is that this is when the next uplift to DUIS is due to take place.

This is a Self-Governance modification.

## 2. Issue

### What are the current arrangements?

The current SEC Documents may contain minor errors which were either in the SEC from inception or introduced via various changes over the years since it was created. SECAS maintains a log of these errors, which are either identified by SECAS or notified to SECAS by other Parties.

### The DCC User Interface Specification

The DUIS specifies the technical details of the DCC User Interface. It sets out mechanisms, formats, protocols, and other technical details necessary for DCC Users to send and receive communications to and from the DCC. The document is updated at a maximum of once a year, either through a major (X+1.X) or minor (X.X+1) uplift. The latest version is DUIS v5.2, with v5.3 set to go live as part of the June 2024 SEC Release (27 June 2024). Therefore, any housekeeping associated with DUIS should be included in this modification.

### What is the issue?

These errors make the SEC documents harder to understand and potentially lead to confusion or misinterpretation. The housekeeping changes are listed below along with the specific amendments that are needed in this modification:

| Summary of error                                                 | Sections affected | Proposed change                                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| H17.5 is written that the report will only include items (a)-(g) | H17.5             | To clarify that this list is a minimum requirement |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Smart Meter ID is specified but GUID can also be used                                                                                                                                                     | H17.5 (a)                     | Add GUID to H17.5 (a)                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Definition of TLS                                                                                                                                                                                         | Appendix AD Definitions       | There are currently four separate definitions of TLS and Transport Layer Security in the SEC. This definition should be amended to refer back to SEC Section A.                                       |
| Transport Layer Security (TLS) version specified                                                                                                                                                          | Appendix AD Section 2.2       | Remove specific version. <a href="#">MP259 'Triage System Interface Definition'</a> has amended the Section A definition to address which version is to be used.                                      |
| S1SP Alert contains the incorrect reference                                                                                                                                                               | Appendix AD Section 1.3       | Correct the reference                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| E60 – E71 Error code response not specified                                                                                                                                                               | Appendix AD Section 3.5.10    | Value aligned to DCC Error Handling Strategy document                                                                                                                                                 |
| E64 – is missing                                                                                                                                                                                          | Appendix AD Section 3.5.10    | Add the error code and correct details                                                                                                                                                                |
| In 3.8.17.1 The Meter Data Retriever (MDR) is added as an Eligible User in the <a href="#">MP162 'SEC changes required to deliver MHHS'</a> legal text however this is not possible in the case of SMETS2 | Appendix AD Section 3.8.17    | Clarify only applicable for SMETS1 Devices.<br>(New MDR Users, should always use SRV 4.6.1 Retrieve Import Daily Read Log for SMETS2 Devices and obtain the midnight read position for MHHS purposes) |
| 3.8.21.1 MDR is added as an Eligible User in the MP162 legal text however it is not possible to schedule this SRV for SMETS2                                                                              | Appendix AD Section 3.8.21.1  | Clarify this is only applicable for SMETS1 Devices.<br>(For SMETS2 Devices existing SRV 4.6.2 RetrieveExportDailyReadLog should be used, which is already Schedulable)                                |
| Update PPM mode functionality is already in place, but it is missing in the document.                                                                                                                     | Appendix AD Section 3.8.117.2 | Include 'Update Prepayment Mode'.                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Original value of 'sr:FirmwareVersionUpdate' is incorrect and should say 'sr:FirmwareVersionActivation'.                                                                                                  | Appendix AD Section 3.9.1     | Correct typo                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| LowerBandSubGHzChannels0To26                                                                                                                                                                              | Appendix AD Section 3.8.82.2  | Remove one instance and correct the reference                                                                                                                                                         |
| LowerBandSubGHzChannels27To34                                                                                                                                                                             | Appendix AD Section 3.8.82.2  | Remove one instance and correct the reference                                                                                                                                                         |
| LowerBandSubGHzChannels35To61                                                                                                                                                                             | Appendix AD Section 3.8.82.2  | Remove one instance and correct the reference                                                                                                                                                         |
| UpperBandSubGHzChannels0To26                                                                                                                                                                              | Appendix AD Section 3.8.82.2  | Remove one instance and correct the reference                                                                                                                                                         |

|                                                                                     |                                                     |                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ScheduleEndDate                                                                     | Appendix AD Section 3.8.43.2                        | Correct the small error in the Mandatory field                                                                                      |
| After F4.17, Annex to Section F4                                                    | SEC Section F – Smart Metering System Requirements  | After F4.17 add wording to Annex to Section F4 to include 'Where Pages are used, at least two channels must be configured per Page. |
| Security Incident Management - G3.5                                                 | SEC Section G - Security                            | Include 'DCC' and correct typo to read 'the' Panel                                                                                  |
| Security Incident Management - G3.5A                                                | SEC Section G - Security                            | Add a section after G3.5 called G3.5A and add the reference                                                                         |
| 2.Incident Management Incident Parties other than Registration Data Providers 2.1.3 | SEC Appendix AG – Incident management Policy        | Add reference in 2.1.3 and correct typo                                                                                             |
| 2.10. DCC Major Incidents and Major Security Incidents                              | SEC Appendix AG – Incident management Policy        | Add in 'DCC' before Major Security Incidents in 2.10                                                                                |
| Major Security Incidents                                                            | SEC Appendix AG – Incident management Policy        | Amend heading after 2.10.9 (NOT USED) to read 'All Major Security Incidents'.                                                       |
| 8.1.26. Response Code Tests                                                         | SEC Section R – Common Test Scenarios Document      | Add in text under table                                                                                                             |
| Six instances of the term 'Fax' to be updated                                       | SEC Section M – General                             | Six instances of the term 'Fax' was replaced/removed with 'Email'.                                                                  |
| One instance of the term 'Fax' to be updated                                        | SEC Appendix P – SMKI Repository Code of Connection | One instance of the term 'Fax' was replaced/removed with 'Email'.                                                                   |

## What is the impact this is having?

If these corrections are not resolved, the SEC will contain inconsistencies. Although these are typographical errors, cosmetic and other inconsistencies, omissions and other clarifications, leaving these in could cause confusion for Parties when using this document.

If these errors remain, it could make it harder for Parties to utilise SEC documents and make them harder to maintain, increasing the chance of further inconsistencies occurring in the future.

## Impact on consumers

The identified errors do not impact consumers.

### 3. Solution

#### Proposed Solution

The Proposed Solution is to correct the errors and inconsistencies identified in the SEC.

The legal text can be found in Annex A.

### 4. Impacts

This section summarises the impacts that would arise from the implementation of this modification.

#### SEC Parties

| SEC Party Categories impacted |                               |  |                       |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------|
|                               | Large Suppliers               |  | Small Suppliers       |
|                               | Electricity Network Operators |  | Gas Network Operators |
|                               | Other SEC Parties             |  | DCC                   |

There are no direct impacts on SEC Parties from this modification. All Parties will indirectly benefit from this modification as DUIS will have these errors and inconsistencies addressed.

#### DCC System

This modification does not impact the DCC Systems.

#### SEC and subsidiary documents

The following parts of the SEC will be impacted:

- Section F 'Smart metering System Requirements'
- Section G 'Security'
- Section H 'DCC Services'
- Section M 'General'
- Appendix P 'SMKI Repository Code of Connection'
- Appendix R 'Common Test Scenarios document'
- Appendix AD 'DCC User Interface Specification'
- Appendix AG 'Incident Management Policy'

Uplifting the DUIS document will also result in consequential changes to SEC Schedule 11 'TS Applicability Tables' (TSAT) although this will be done as part of the June 2024 SEC Release regardless of this modification. This is the case for each of the Technical Specifications.

The changes to the SEC required to deliver the proposed solution can be found in Annex A.

### Technical specification versions

The latest version is DUIS v5.2, with v5.3 set to go live as part of the June 2024 SEC Release (27 June 2024). The proposed changes this modification will make will be implemented into DUIS v5.3.

### Devices

This modification does not impact Devices.

### Consumers

This modification does not impact consumers.

### Other industry Codes

This modification does not impact other industry Codes.

### Greenhouse gas emissions

This modification does not impact greenhouse gas emissions.

## 5. Costs

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### DCC costs

There are no DCC costs associated with this modification.

### SECAS costs

The estimated SECAS implementation cost to implement this as a stand-alone modification is half a day of effort, amounting to approximately £300. This cost will be reassessed when combining this modification in a scheduled SEC Release. The activities needed to be undertaken for this are:

- Updating the SEC and releasing the new version to the industry.

### SEC Party costs

There are no SEC Party costs associated with this modification.

## 6. Implementation approach

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### Recommended implementation approach

SECAS is recommending an implementation date of:

- **27 June 2024** (June 2024 SEC Release) if a decision to approve is received on or before 13 June 2024; or
- **The next time a DUIS uplift occurs** if a decision to approve is received after 13 June 2024, but at least 10 Working Days before the Release.

Implementation is targeted for the June 2024 SEC Release. The rationale for implementing this modification into the June 2024 SEC Release is that this is when the next uplift to DUIS is due to take place. If a decision is made after 13 June 2024, the modification will be implemented the next time an uplift to DUIS occurs.

## 7. Case for change

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### Business case

This modification will only incur the costs for SECAS time and effort and will address multiple inconsistencies and points of potential confusion or misinterpretation.

### Views against the General SEC Objectives

#### Proposer's views

The Proposer believes that the modification will better facilitate SEC Objective (a)<sup>1</sup> as it will correct errors in the SEC and lead to less confusion or misinterpretation.

### Views against the consumer areas

#### Improved safety and reliability

This modification will have a neutral impact on safety and reliability.

#### Lower bills than would otherwise be the case

This modification will have a neutral impact on consumer bills.

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<sup>1</sup> Facilitate the efficient provision, installation, operation and interoperability of smart metering systems at energy consumers' premises within Great Britain.

### Reduced environmental damage

This modification will have a neutral impact on environmental damage.

### Improved quality of service

This modification will have a neutral impact on quality of service.

### Benefits for society as a whole

This modification will have a neutral impact on benefits for society.

### Final conclusions

This modification addresses multiple inconsistencies and points of potential confusion or misinterpretation. There are no DCC costs and only a minimal SECAS cost to implement.

## Appendix 1: Progression timetable

| Timetable                                                    |                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Event/Action                                                 | Date                            |
| Draft Proposal raised                                        | 11 Dec 2023                     |
| Presented to CSC for initial comment                         | 19 Dec 2023                     |
| <i>CSC converted Draft Proposal to Modification Proposal</i> | <i>16 Apr 2024</i>              |
| <i>Modification Report approved by CSC</i>                   | <i>16 Apr 2024</i>              |
| <i>Modification Report Consultation</i>                      | <i>17 Apr 2024 – 8 May 2024</i> |
| <i>Change Board Vote</i>                                     | <i>22 May 2024</i>              |

*Italics denote planned events that could be subject to change*

## 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                          |
| DCC      | Data Communications Company        |
| DUIS     | DCC User Interface Specification   |
| GUID     | Global Unique Identifier           |
| MDR      | Meter Data Retriever               |
| MHHS     | Market Wide Half Hourly Settlement |

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| Glossary |                                                  |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Acronym  | Full term                                        |
| PPM      | Prepayment Meter                                 |
| S1SP     | SMETS1 Service Provider                          |
| SEC      | Smart Energy Code                                |
| SECAS    | Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat  |
| SMETS    | Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specification |
| SRV      | Service Reference Variant                        |
| TLS      | Transport Layer Security                         |
| TSAT     | Technical Specification Applicability Tables     |