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June 2025 SEC Release (26 June 2025)

SEC Release Implementation Document

Version 0.1

11 June 2024

Corporate member of
Plain English Campaign
Committed to clearer
communication

592



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

There are currently no approved Modification proposals within this release.

Targeted Modification Proposals

The following Modification proposals have been targeted for inclusion in this release:

- [MP239 'Enduring Solution for Resolving SMETS2 Device Certificate Misalignment Issue'](#) will allow Suppliers to identify the correct Device Certificates and update any misaligned Certificates on Devices via the Self-Service Interface (SSI) or Self-Service Management Interface (SSMI) instead of raising an Incident with the DCC for manual correction.
- [MP246 'DCC User access to metadata via the DCC Self-Service Interface'](#) will remove the Meter Read Transaction (MRT) function screen from the DCC SSI application. All code specific to this screen will be removed from the application. Removal will be more than simply preventing access to the screen by configuration of Role Based Access Controls (RBAC). Once removal has been completed, the MRT function would cease to exist.

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
MP239	✓				✓
MP246	✓	✓		✓	✓

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
Supplier Parties	(MP239) - Suppliers will be able to identify the correct Device Certificates and update any misaligned Certificates on Devices via the Self-Service Interface (SSI) or Self-Service Management Interface (SSMI) instead of raising an Incident with the DCC for manual correction (MP246) - Suppliers will no longer be able to access the MRT function within the DCC SSI
Electricity Network Parties	(MP246) – Network Operators will no longer be able to access the MRT function within the DCC SSI
Other SEC Parties	(MP246) – Other SEC Parties that have access to the SSI will no longer be able to access the MRT function within the DCC SSI
DCC	(MP239) – The DCC will no longer need to manually correct misaligned Certificates on Devices raised via an Incident (MP239) – The DCC will provide a new capability to deliver a report to DCC's Data Science and Analytics (DS&A) team which provides an agreed set of information for all the Certificates held in the DSP's Key Management System database¹ (MP246) – The DCC will be required to remove the MRT function and associated code from the SSI

DCC System Impacts	
Area impacted	Summary of impacts
DCC Systems	(MP246) - The DCC will be required to remove the MRT function and associated code from the SSI
Data Services Provider	(MP239) – The DCC will amend the Certificate Confirmation Scheme (CCS) so where there is uncertainty as to which Device Key Agreement (KA) Certificate is on a Device, then a retrieval will be attempted using each possible such Certificate until a response is received and the Certificate is identified (MP239) – The DCC enhance Service Audit Trail (SAT) logging to indicate the current stage of CCS processing. This revised functionality can be initiated through installation, SRV 6.15.2 timeout, SSI, and SSMI

SECAS impacts

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

¹ Which is a copy of the data held in the SMKI repository.

SEC document impacts

The following SEC documents will be updated in this release:

- SEC Section H 'DCC Services'
- SEC Section I 'Data Privacy'
- Appendix AC 'Inventory Enrolment and Decommissioning Procedures'
- Appendix AD 'DCC User Interface Specification'
- Appendix AH 'Self Service Interface Access Control Specification'

Each of these documents is affected by the following modifications:

Impacted Documents		
Document	MP239	MP246
SEC Section H		✓
SEC Section I		✓
SEC Appendix AC	✓	
SEC Appendix AD	✓	
SEC Appendix AH	✓	✓

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 June 2025 SEC Release:

Technical Specification impact matrix			
Tech Spec	Version	MP239	MP246
DUIS	5.4 (anticipated)	✓	

Currently, the DCC User Interface Specification (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 the Technical Specification impacting modifications have been received, SECAS 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 by 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.

Release implementation timetable		
Date	Event	Notes
18 Jun 24	CSC baselines RID for system-impacting modifications	The CSC will review the RID for DCC System-impacting modifications (including modifications targeted but not approved) and baseline the document.
18 Sep 24	DCC submits draft SEC Release TAD	
25 Sep 24	TAG reviews draft SEC Release TAD	
Oct 24	DCC consults on draft SEC Release TAD	The DCC will consult the industry on the draft TAD.
20 Nov 24	DCC submits updated SEC Release TAD	The TAD will be updated to account for comments provided by the TAG and from the consultation.
27 Nov 24	TAG reviews updated SEC Release TAD	The TAG will provide a view to the CSC on whether this document is suitable for use.
10 Dec 24	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
17 Dec 24	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.
Jan 25	SIT commences	
Mar 25 OPSG Meeting (Date TBC)	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
Apr 25 OPSG Meeting (Date TBC)	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	

Release implementation timetable		
Date	Event	Notes
May 25 (Date TBC)	DCC submits SIT Completion Report	
May 25 OPSG Meeting (Date TBC)	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
May 25	Test Participants inform DCC of their regression testing plans	By 10 Working Days before UIT begins.
May 25	UIT commences	
May 25 TAG Meeting (Date TBC)	TAG reviews SIT Completion Report	The TAG will provide a recommendation on whether SIT has been completed successfully.
Jun 25	OPSG reviews status against the operational acceptance criteria	The OPSG will provide a recommendation on whether the release should be implemented as planned.
Jun 25 CSC Meeting (Date TBC)	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.
Jun 25	Test Participants to provide regression testing results to DCC	By five Working Days before UIT completion
Jun 25	UIT window closes	
26 Jun 25	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 TAD 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 TAD will be provided as Annex A to this document in due course. This will cover the DCC's approach to UIT.

Regression 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 regression testing.

The DCC's SEC Release TAD will be approved by the TAG.

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 cost of this release will be £528,832.

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
MP239	£339,178	£147,331		£5,649	£12,384
MP246	£23,096	£0	£0	£490	£704

No additional impact on operational costs have been identified.

The DCC will provide 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.

Currently it is assumed that Regression Testing will be carried out post approval of any modifications, with the DCC providing costings for this activity per Release to the Change Sub-Committee (CSC) once understood, but prior to implementation.

SECAS costs

SECAS will incur two days effort, equating to around £1200, 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 24	First draft published.
1.0	18 Jun 24	Version baselined by the CSC.

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
CSC	Change Sub-Committee
DCC	Data Communications Company
DUIS	DCC User Interface Specification
MHHS	Market-Wide Half Hourly Settlement
MRT	Meter Read Transaction
RBAC	Role-Based Access Controls
RID	Release Implementation Document
SEC	Smart Energy Code
SECAS	Smart Energy Code Administrator & Secretariat
SIT	System Integration Testing
SMETS	Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specification
SSI	Self-Service Interface
SSMI	Self-Service Management Interface
TABASC	Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee
TAD	Testing Approach Document
TAG	Testing Advisory Group
UIT	User Integration Testing