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MP262 Referral of Change Board decision

1. Purpose

The Change Board voted to reject [MP262 'Extending the Installation End Date for CHTS v1.0 and GBCS v1.1'](#) under Self-Governance on 24 July 2024. Drax, the Proposer, has elected to refer this decision to the Change Sub-Committee (CSC).

The CSC is now required to review the MP262 and the Change Board's decision and determine whether to uphold or overturn the Change Board's decision.

2. Summary of MP262

The Proposer is aware of approximately 122,000 uninstalled Communications Hubs which are compliant with the Communications Hub Technical Specification (CHTS) v1.0 and the Great Britain Companion Specification (GBCS) v1.1. The Technical Specification Applicability Tables (TSAT) contain an Installation End Date of 30 April 2023 for these Communications Hubs. These were the final dates established in which these Communications Hubs could be installed on their respective versions. Any stock remaining after this date could still be installed, however will not contribute towards Suppliers roll out targets.

The Proposed Solution is to extend the Installation End Date in the TSAT for CHTS v1.0 and GBCS v1.1 to 30 April 2025 to allow installs of these Devices to contribute towards Suppliers rollout targets.

Full information on MP262 can be found in the Modification Report in Appendix A.

3. Change Board vote and subsequent referral

Members of the Change Board who voted to reject MP262 noted the recommendations from the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub Committee (TABASC) not to extend the Installation End Dates when making their decision. It was also noted that having old Communications Hubs and firmware in the system could cause poor system performance.

The Change Board members who voted to approve MP262 noted that this would be a beneficial change, and that the previous 3-month extension established by the implementation of [MP221 CHTS v1.0 and GBCS 'v1.1 Installation End Date and Maintenance End Date'](#) was insufficient. Therefore, they suggested this outweighed the TABASC recommendation.

Further information on the Change Board vote can be found in Appendix B. The full Modification Report Consultation responses can be found in Appendix C.

Following a Self-Governance decision, there was a 10 Working Day period where any Party can refer the Change Board's decision to the Panel. Drax, the Proposer, subsequently elected to do so for MP262.

In its referral, Drax noted that the DCC currently have no method of returning Communications Hubs in bulk. Drax does not agree with the views of the Change Board members which felt it is necessary to reject MP262 based on the TABASC recommendation to not extend the TSAT Installation End Dates for CHTS v1.0 and GBCS v1.1. Drax stated the last extension which was formed in [MP221 CHTS v1.0 and GBCS 'v1.1 Installation End Date and Maintenance End Date'](#) was insufficient. Drax, all three Small Supplier representatives and a Large Supplier representative suggested this outweighed the TABASC recommendation and that this modification better facilitates General SEC Objective (a)¹. Drax considers the Change Board's decision should have been based on whether it better facilitates the SEC Objectives. Drax believes there is merit in the proposal being implemented as the approximate 122,000 Communications Hubs are scattered across different Suppliers and that every Party who is in possession of these Devices can have them count towards their install targets if the Proposed Solution is approved.

4. Next steps

The Change Sub-Committee is now required to review the Change Board vote, where it can either:

- Uphold the Change Board's decision to reject MP262; or
- Overturn the decision and determine that MP262 should be approved.

The CSC's decision would be subject to a further 10 Working Day referral period where any SEC Party could refer this to the Authority. If a referral is received in this time, the CSC's decision becomes a recommendation, and the Modification Report is submitted to the Authority for final determination as an Authority Determined Modification. If no referral is received, the CSC's decision would be final.

5. Recommendations

The CSC is requested to:

- **DETERMINE** whether MP262 Change Board vote should be **UPHELD** or **OVERTURNED** under Self-Governance;
- **PROVIDE** rationale for this decision against the General SEC Objectives

Mo Sumro

SECAS Team

13 August 2024

Attachments:

- **Appendix A:** MP262 Modification Report
 - **Annex A:** MP262 Legal text
 - **Annex B:** SSC statement on extending the Installation End Date (**GREEN**)
- **Appendix B:** MP262 Modification Report Consultation responses

¹ facilitate the efficient provision, installation, and operation, as well as interoperability, of Smart Metering Systems at Energy Consumers' premises within Great Britain

- **Appendix C:** MP262 Conclusions Report