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June 2025 SEC Release (26 June 2025)

SEC Release Implementation Document

Version 3.0

10 December 2024



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

The following Modification Proposals have been approved 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.

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:

- [MP085B 'Synchronisation of Smart Meter voltage measurement periods \(meters currently installed\)'](#) proposes to populate the Maintenance Validity Period (MVP) end dates for pre-Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specification (SMETS) v5.2 version within the Technical Specification Applicability Tables (TSAT). This will mean that pre-SMETS v5.2 Devices can still be installed as the Installation Validity Period (IVP) will remain undetermined.

Cut-off date for inclusion: 25 June 2025

- [MP271 'Sub-Committee seats for Other Users, Meter Data Retrievers and Registered Supplier Agents'](#) proposes to re-allocate one existing Other SEC Party seat at the Operations Group (OPSG), Technical Architecture & Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC), Change Sub-Committee (CSC) and Change Board to an elected Other SEC Party who acts in the role of Other User, Meter Data Retriever (MDR) or Registered Supplier Agent (RSA).

Cut-off date for inclusion: 25 June 2025

- [DP278 'MHHS SMETS1 Cache Solution Amendment'](#) proposes to amend the current MHHS SMETS1 cache solution to allow the cache to store half hourly consumption data for the period between the current day and up to 72 hours before the commencement of the current day. This is instead of the current 24 hours' worth of half hourly consumption data as per the MP256 solution and better aligns with User behaviour. The current 25-hour retention period will remain as-is.

Cut-off date for inclusion: 25 June 2025

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
MP085B	✓	✓		✓	
MP239	✓				✓
MP246	✓	✓		✓	✓
MP271				✓	
DP278	✓	✓		✓	

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	(MP085B) Suppliers will need to upgrade their Devices to firmware upgrades compliant with SMETS v5.2. (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 (DP278) - Suppliers are able to retrieve 24-hour datasets with varying configuration as per their business needs.
Electricity Network Parties	(MP085B) once Devices are updated to a SMETS version which supports the MP085A solution, Networks will benefit from Root Mean Square (RMS) voltage measurement periods commencing at consistent time periods. (MP246) – Network Operators will no longer be able to access the MRT function within the DCC SSI (DP278) - Electricity Network Operators will be impacted by this change as they can also retrieve half hourly data.
Other SEC Parties	(MP085B) Device Manufacturers will need to design and produce firmware updates that contain SMETS v5.2 functionality.

SEC Party impacts	
Participant	Summary of impacts
	(MP246) – Other SEC Parties that have access to the SSI will no longer be able to access the MRT function within the DCC SSI (MP271) – The representatives for the Other SEC Party category will change. (DP278) - The Proposed Solution will also minimise trips to the SMETS1 meter for subsequent SRVs from other DCC Users.
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 Data Service Provider's (DSP) 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, Service Reference Variant (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:

- Section D 'Modification Process'
- Section F 'Smart Metering System Requirements'
- Section H 'DCC Services'
- Section I 'Data Privacy'
- Schedule 11 - Technical Specification Applicability Tables
- Appendix AC 'Inventory Enrolment and Decommissioning Procedures'
- Appendix AD 'DCC User Interface Specification'
- Appendix AH 'Self Service Interface Access Control Specification'
- Appendix AM 'SMETS1 Supporting Requirements'

Each of these documents is affected by the following modifications:

Impacted Documents					
Document	MP085B	MP239	MP246	MP271	DP278
Section D				✓	
Section F				✓	
Section H			✓		
Section I			✓		
Schedule 11	✓				
Appendix AC		✓			
Appendix AD		✓			
Appendix AH		✓	✓		
Appendix AM					✓

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	MP085B	MP239	MP246	MP271	DP278
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 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 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 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.

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Release implementation timetable		
Date	Event	Notes
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	
11 Mar 25 OPSG Meeting	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
8 Apr 25 OPSG Meeting	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
May 25 (Date TBC)	DCC submits SIT Completion Report	
13 May 25 OPSG Meeting	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	
28 May 25 TAG Meeting	TAG reviews SIT Completion Report	The TAG will provide a recommendation on whether SIT has been completed successfully.
10 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.
17 Jun 25 CSC Meeting	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
MP085B	N/A				
MP239	£339,178	£147,331		£5,649	£12,384
MP246	£23,096	£0	£0	£490	£704
MP271	N/A				
DP278	TBC				

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 three days effort, equating to around £1800, 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.
2.0	5 Sep 24	Addition of MP271 to the scope of the Release.
3.0	10 Dec 24	Addition of MP085B and DP278 to the scope of the Release.

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
CCS	Certificate Confirmation Scheme
CSC	Change Sub-Committee
DCC	Data Communications Company
DS&A	Data Science & Analytics
DSP	Data Service Provider
DUIS	DCC User Interface Specification
IVP	Installation Validity Period
KA	Key Agreement
MHHS	Market-Wide Half Hourly Settlement
MDR	Meter Data Retriever
MRT	Meter Read Transaction
MVP	Maintenance Validity Period
OPSG	Operations Group
PIT	Pre-Integration Testing
RBAC	Role-Based Access Controls
RID	Release Implementation Document
RSA	Registered Supplier Agent
SAT	Service Audit Trail
SEC	Smart Energy Code
SECAS	Smart Energy Code Administrator & Secretariat
SIT	System Integration Testing
SMETS	Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specification
SRV	Service Reference Variant
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
TSAT	Technical Specification Applicability Tables
UIT	User Integration Testing