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SEC Change Sub-Committee Meeting 87_1905

19 May 2026, 10:00 – 12:20

Teleconference

SECCSC_87_1905 – Final Minutes

Attendees:

Representing	CSC Members	Organisation
Change Sub-Committee Chair	Ali Beard (AB)	Change Sub-Committee Chair
Large Suppliers	Emma Johnson (EJ)	British Gas
Large Suppliers	Emslie Law (EL)	OVO
Small Suppliers	Daniel Davies (DD)	ESG Global
Other SEC Parties	Philip Doyle (PD)	Reverve Ltd
Other SEC Parties	Gerd Busker (GB)	Presciense
Other SEC Parties	Philip Doyle (PD)	Reverve Ltd

Other Participants		
DCC		
Bradley Baker (BB)	David Walsh (DW)	
Jeremy Gray (JG)		
Ofgem		
Shaun McRaith (SMc)		
Proposer		
Tony Pile (TP)		
SECAS		
Rainer Lischetzki (RL)		
The SEC Change Team		
Abi Obadan (AO) *Meeting Secretary*	Khaleda Hussain (KH)	Marc Rhodes (MR)
Georgie Severin (GS)	Simon Grimwood (SG)	

Smart Energy Code

Apologies:

Representing	CSC Members	Organisation
Other SEC Parties	Charlie Sands	Fuse Energy
Network Parties	Kelly Kinsman (KK)	National Grid Electricity Distribution
Consumers	Caroline Farquhar (CF)	Citizens Advice

1. Welcome and Introductions & Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The Chair welcomed members to the CSC meeting.

The SEC Change Team advised that no comments had been raised on the last meeting minutes. The CSC **APPROVED** the minutes as final.

2. Actions Outstanding

Action Reference	Action
76/04	SECCo (RH) to confirm Paper Classification approach with SECAS Governance Team
Meeting Update 19/05/2026: The CSC Chair (AB) queried whether this action remained appropriate for CSC oversight. A CSC Member (EJ) acknowledged that the issue also arose at Change Board level and agreed it could be appropriately raised in multiple sub-committees. **Status:** Open.	

3. SEC Modification Progression

DP322 'June 2026 SEC Release Housekeeping Changes'

The SEC Change Team (KH) introduced DP322 'June 2026 SEC Release Housekeeping Changes', explaining that it was a low priority fast-track modification aimed at correcting typographical errors and inconsistencies across Smart Energy Code (SEC) documentation, including updates to SEC Appendix AP1 relating to certificate policy. The DCC (JG) further added that the current certificate policy required re-keying every five years, however no new Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specifications 1 (SMETS1) Devices were being issued. As such, the requirement no longer reflected operational reality and risked repeated audit failures if not removed.

The DCC (DW) then raised concerns that the changes may have been drafted in the wrong part of the SEC and highlighted several legal drafting inconsistencies, including terminology and placement of provisions in the SEC

The CSC Chair (AB) agreed that these concerns required further review and confirmed that the CSC would not be asked to vote at this stage. She further noted that they would investigate the proposed amendments and return to a future CSC meeting with the revised amendments.

87/01: The SEC Change Team to review the proposed amendments to DP322 and return to a future CSC meeting with the revised amendments.

The CSC **NOTED** the update.

MP184 'Increase smart capability of SMETS2 Twin Element ESME to support solar and storage use cases'

The SEC Change Team (MR) presented MP184 'Increase smart capability of SMETS2 Twin Element ESME to support solar and storage use cases', outlining that the proposal sought to allow export Data collection from the secondary element of a twin element Electricity Smart Metering Equipment (ESME). He confirmed that the refinement consultation responses were limited, with only two respondents and no clear industry use case.

A CSC Member (EL) expressed concerns that there was no clear business case, no active sponsor or use case and highlighted that the proposed modification was dependent on an associated Retail Energy Code (REC) change. He further noted that the associated REC change had not progressed and therefore the modification was effectively in an abyss. The CSC Chair (AB) acknowledged these concerns but reiterated that the CSC has a responsibility to progress modifications through the governance process and were not permitted to allow them to remain indefinitely dormant. She proposed progressing the modification to Report Phase to enable formal closure through Change Board where it would likely be rejected.

Another CSC Member (EJ) requested that the modification report explicitly reference its dependency on the REC to ensure transparency during consultation and AB agreed to include this clarification.

EL then sought clarity on next steps and confirmed his support for this modification to progress to the Report Phase, provided it leads to an eventual resolution. AB confirmed that progression would enable a Change Board (CB) decision and closure of MP184 if CB Members favoured this decision.

The CSC:

- **AGREED** that MP184 should be progressed to the Report Phase;
- **APPROVED** the Modification Report;
- **APPROVED** the implementation approach and;
- **AGREED** that MP184 should be progressed as a Self-Governance Modification.

DP321 'Managing SEC Party Organisation Changes'

The SEC Change Team (SG) presented DP321 'Managing SEC Party Organisation Changes'. SG noted that the proposal sought to address a gap within the SEC where there was no mechanism to accommodate organisational changes, such as a change in company name, without requiring a full accession process. He outlined that the proposed solution would be a text-only change enabling a transfer of SEC Party rights to a new legal entity where appropriate.

The DCC (DW) queried the scoring methodology used in determining the prioritisation of the modification. SG and the CSC Chair (AB) clarified how scoring is calculated and AB confirmed that further clarification will be provided under agenda item 5 ‘Review of Modification Prioritisation’.

The Proposer (TP) confirmed that whilst the proposal primarily related to name changes, it may also apply in broader organisational restructuring scenarios.

The CSC:

- **AGREED** that the issue and the impact this modification is having was clearly defined and understood;
- **AGREED** that DP321 should be converted to a Modification Proposal;
- **AGREED** that MP321 should be progressed to the Refinement Process;

- **AGREED** the prioritisation of the modification and;
- **AGREED** the first package of work and the timetable for MP321.

4. Update on Old Modifications

The CSC Chair (AB) provided an update on a number of legacy modifications.

In relation to MP085B 'Synchronisation of Smart Meter voltage measurement periods (meters currently installed)', she explained that resolution remained dependent on firmware updates from Manufacturers. A CSC Member (EJ) queried whether oversight from the Technical and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC) was effective and Members of both the CSC and TABASC (EL and DD) noted that it was difficult to impose obligations on Manufacturers retrospectively. EL and DD added that the issue was one whose outcome should be monitored until Manufacturers release working firmware. They further noted that there was no clear way to accelerate progress and that attempting to use alternative routes such as the Technical Specification Applicability Table (TSAT) would introduce additional risks. In addition to this, DD noted that it would be helpful to better understand the financial impact and particularly whether the cost savings from resolving the issue would justify the potential cost of implementation. AB acknowledged this suggestion and agreed that providing further clarity on the potential savings would be useful. She also explained that informal monitoring was taking place through engagement with relevant stakeholders.

87/02: The SEC Change Team to return to a future CSC meeting with further clarification on the cost vs business case for MP085B.

For MP094 'Supporting prepayment customers in no SM WAN scenarios', AB outlined that the issue related to SMETS1 functionality in no-Wide Area Network (WAN) areas. DD challenged the framing of potential solutions, questioning how Virtual WAN (VWAN) could resolve issues relating to Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specifications (SMETS)1 functionality. He stated that SMETS1 meters cannot regain lost functionality through such approaches and questioned whether the issue could realistically be solved at all. EJ agreed, noting that the issue appeared inherent to SMETS1 technology and queried whether meter replacement may be the only viable long-term outcome. DD added that the issue had effectively stalled, noting that enrolment has already completed and that SMETS1 meters are expected to be phased out. He concluded that there was no way to solve this problem in the current framework.

AB then presented MP137 'Sharing information on Defects and Issues' and explained that this modification related to the ability to search the Remedy database for category 4/5 Incidents to see if they were common and noted that the previous system (Remedy) was being replaced by Future Service Management (FSM) and that the resolution was dependent on FSM functionality. AB confirmed that they believed that the modification had already been taken off hold and that the Proposer would be asked to assess whether the implementation of FSM resolved their issue.

In relation to MP165 'ESME Voltage Accuracy', AB explained that the proposal related to meter accuracy. EL noted that Electricity Smart Metering Equipment (ESME) were not designed as voltage measurement Devices and that this requirement sat outside the intended scope of the SEC. The DCC (BB) supported this view, noting that the issue did not relate to the SEC and AB acknowledged that this modification is unlikely to progress.

For MP169 'Managing the Consumer's refusal of a Smart Meter', AB provided an update on discussions with Ofgem. She explained that concerns were raised relating to the psychological impact on Consumers rather than the physical health effects of installing smart meters in their homes. EL challenged this position, stating that it created a conflict with Manufacturer licence obligations and that industry cannot comply with both regulatory requirements and Ombudsman decisions. EJ then queried whether the technical realities of "dumb mode" had been recognised and sought clarification on Citizens Advice position[1]. EJ then highlighted that there was no workable technical or regulatory solution currently available and queried whether withdrawal of the modification should be considered. EL supported this view, noting that this may be appropriate and that the original purpose of the modification was to identify a compliant solution, which now appeared unachievable. He further proposed that the issue may instead need to be resolved through engagement with the Department for Energy Security and Net-Zero (DESNZ) and Ofgem rather than through the SEC modification process.

The CSC **NOTED** the update.

5. Review of Modification Prioritisation

The CSC Chair (AB) introduced the updated modification prioritisation approach, noting that an updated prioritisation spreadsheet had been circulated to CSC Members before the meeting and that all modifications had been reassessed against the revised framework.

AB highlighted that only a small number of modifications had been categorised as High priority under the new methodology and invited Members to provide comments on the outcomes or request clarification where required.

A CSC Member (EJ) queried how the prioritisation scores had been derived, noting that whilst the new scoring approach based on three criteria was understood in principle, it was not clear how this translated from the previous prioritisation framework. EJ specifically requested clarification on how the earlier scoring methodology had produced overall prioritisation outcomes and how these compared to the revised approach. In response, AB explained that the previous prioritisation methodology had used multiple weighted criteria, including legal and regulatory impact, operational performance, cost-benefit, consumer impact and security, which were combined through a calculation to derive an overall prioritisation score. She acknowledged that the underlying calculations were not transparent in the version circulated and that elements of the methodology had been simplified in the updated approach.

AB further noted that the revised prioritisation framework introduced Strategic Direction Statement (SDS) alignment as a new criterion, alongside importance and complexity. Each scored out of three, with the total score determining whether a modification is categorised as High or Standard priority.

EJ noted that the inclusion of SDS alignment appeared to have materially changed the prioritisation of certain modifications (such as MP094 'Supporting prepayment customers in no SM WAN scenarios') which were previously Medium priority being categorised as High. She sought to understand whether this reflected a deliberate reprioritisation or a consequence of the revised scoring framework. AB confirmed that the introduction of the SDS criteria (particularly for the modifications that affected vulnerable Consumers), had influenced the prioritisation outcomes and explained that this had resulted in certain modifications receiving higher scores than under the previous methodology.

[1] The CSC Member (CF) from Citizens Advice was unavailable for comment.

A CSC Member (DD) also highlighted the interaction between prioritisation and modification status, querying how modifications categorised as High priority could remain on hold due to external dependencies. He also noted that this created an apparent inconsistency within the framework. AB acknowledged this and explained that the prioritisation scoring does not currently take account of external constraints or dependencies and therefore a modification may be identified as High priority but remain on hold pending further developments.

AB confirmed that the prioritisation would be reviewed on a regular basis and that Members were able to provide further feedback following the meeting. She also confirmed that the presented spreadsheet would be circulated to support further review.

The CSC **NOTED** the update on the modification prioritisation approach.

6. Changes to ToR – Code Reform

The SEC Change Team (GS) introduced the proposed changes to the Terms of Reference (ToR), noting that they would be implemented following an Ofgem decision and would come into effect shortly.

A CSC Member (DD) identified a drafting issue within the document, noting duplication of the word "code" within Section D1.7(k).GS agreed that this was an error and confirmed it would be corrected offline.

The CSC **NOTED** the update on the modification prioritisation approach.

7. SEC Modification Timetables

The SEC Change Team (KH) presented the latest view of the SEC modification timetables, highlighting both active and on-hold modifications.

The CSC **NOTED** the update.

8. Baseline November 2026 Release

The SEC Change Team (GS) introduced an update on the November 2026 SEC Release, outlining the modifications currently included within the release scope.

The CSC **NOTED** the update and **AGREED** to re-baseline the November 2026 SEC Release.

9. Baseline June 2027 Release

The SEC Change Team (GS) provided an update on the Baseline June 2027 Release. She confirmed that there were no modifications targeting the June 2027 Release and noted that future releases may be impacted by Future Data Service Provider (DSP).

The CSC **NOTED** the update and **AGREED** to baseline the June 2027 SEC Release.

10. SEC Releases Update

The SEC Change Team (GS) provided and update on the SEC Releases.

The SEC Modifications affected by the implementation of Future Service (FSM) are:

- MP137 'Sharing information on Defects and Issues';
- MP239 'Enduring Solution for Resolving SMETS2 Device Certificate Misalignment Issue' and;
- MP252 'Amending the process for Communications Hub returns'.

87/03: The SEC Change Team to confirm the delivery of FSM-dependent modifications following FSM implementation.

The June 2026 Release will include:

- MP289 'BCDR Engagement' .

The November 2026 Release will include:

- MP304 'Scheduling Services for SMETS1 Devices (SRV 4.3)' and;
- MP316 'DUIS SRV12.2 Pre-Notification of CHF Ambiguity' and will target;
- MP281 'Install Codes in the SMI';
- MP293 'Deferment of DCC Planned Maintenance during Adverse Weather';
- MP301 'Review of Additional Registration Data (Gas Transporters)' and;
- MP318 'Incorporation of Category 3 Issue Resolution Proposal into the SEC – Batch 12 and GBCS Changes'

The Ad Hoc 2026 Release will include;

- MP234 'Addition of Public Task and Legitimate Interests into the SEC'
- MP241 'Interoperability Checker Update'
- MP312 'Caching SRV 4.10 for SMETS1 Devices'
- DP315 'Dual running of DCC Smart Meter Communication Licence'
- MP317 'SMETS1 FOC ANSO implementation housekeeping changes'

The CSC **NOTED** the SEC Releases update.

11. Any Other Business (AOB)

The CSC Chair (AB) noted that she would be taking a 12-month sabbatical, and that Simon Grimwood would be covering in her absence.

There was no further business and the CSC Chair closed the meeting.

Next Meeting: 16 June 2026