



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

Department for Business,
Energy & Industrial Strategy
1 Victoria Street,
London SW1H 0ET

www.gov.uk/beis

Penny Brown
Chief Operating Officer
Data Communications Company

By email only

12 October 2022

Dear Penny,

Smart Metering Implementation Programme: decision on DCC's proposed Decommissioning Timetable for the Requesting Party (RP) services for the MOC (MDS) SMETS1 cohort.

On 27 July 2022, DCC consulted on a range of dates for a draft Decommissioning Timetable for the Requesting Party (RP) services for migrating SMETS1 devices in the MOC (MDS) cohort, as required by Clause 7 of the SMETS1 Transition and Migration Approach Document (TMAD). Clause 7 also requires BEIS Secretary of State's approval of the proposed Decommissioning Timetable.

On 30 September 2022, DCC submitted to BEIS the revised [draft Decommissioning Timetable](#) that proposes to decommission the Requesting Party service on 23 October 2022. Activities to close the service would begin on 24 October 2022, provided that all in-progress migrations have concluded.

In determining whether to approve the proposed Decommissioning Timetable for the MOC (MDS) cohort Requesting Party, I have sought to gain sufficient confidence that it is in consumers' best interests for the MOC (MDS) migration capability to be closed and that more generally DCC has followed due process and has confirmed that it is ready to undertake the closure activities required by TMAD.

I have received a range of evidence on these matters including:

- DCC consultation and recommendation on closing the MOC (MDS) RP service;
- Additional evidence from DCC on its plans to close the MOC (MDS) RP service;
- No concerns raised by stakeholders directly with us since DCC's submission to BEIS of the draft Decommissioning Timetable on 30 September 2022;
- Confirmation; from the installing supplier that they are content with the decommissioning timetable; and
- Advice from my own team in BEIS

Based on this evidence, I am assured that:

- DCC consulted on the revised draft Decommissioning Timetable for the MOC (MDS) RP proposing a Decommissioning Date between 25 September 2022 and 27 November 2022, which includes contingency in case of delay and was supported by stakeholders;

- Migrating the MOC (MDS) cohort installations is now almost complete. By the proposed RP Decommissioning Date, DCC expects there will be no eligible dormant installations that remain unmigrated that are not otherwise captured by exclusion categories set out in TMAD for installations that face unsurmountable technical or communication challenges. Moreover, DCC considers that there are no further installations that require an entry on the Eligible Product Combinations List (EPCL). The precise number of both eligible unmigrated and migrated dormant installations may be subject to change where, for example, additional migrations are successful or where installations are replaced with SMETS2-compliant devices. We have asked DCC to keep us informed on the numbers of unmigrated dormant installations and note that at the point of this approval 160 installations have repeatedly failed to migrate but where DCC have not yet exhausted efforts;
- DCC plans to continue attempting to migrate all eligible dormant installations in the cohort up to the proposed RP Decommissioning Date; and
- DCC has considered all technical and data security aspects linked to closing the cohort's RP services in line with Clause 7 of the TMAD and has confirmed its readiness to begin the technical changes to close the services.

In line with Clause 7 of the SMETS1 TMAD, I have considered the full range of evidence and recommendations available to me and hereby approve DCC's proposed Decommissioning Timetable for the MOC (MDS) cohort Requesting Party.

I would note that, should there be any material changes between now and the RP Decommissioning Date that mean a different date might be appropriate, DCC would need to consult immediately on a revised later RP Decommissioning Date.

Finally, I would ask that in line with its obligations under Clause 7 of the SMETS1 TMAD, that DCC now proceeds to publish the approved RP Decommissioning Timetable to all Supplier Parties and send a copy of the final document to the Secretary of State and to the Authority.

Yours sincerely,



Duncan Stone

Deputy Director & Head of Delivery
Smart Metering Implementation Programme

(An official of the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy authorised to act on behalf of the Secretary of State)