



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

SMART METERING IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME

4G Communications Hubs & Network Testing Baseline Requirements Document for SIT

25 April 2024 v1.0

Versions of Smart Energy Code (SEC) Sections and SEC Subsidiary Documents that contain the requirements that are relevant for 4G Communications Hubs & Network (CH&N) SIT testing

1. This document specifies the versions of the SEC Sections and Subsidiary Documents that are intended to be legally effective following achievement of the 'LSC: Go-Live decision' milestone (dated 29 November 2024)¹ and that therefore act as the baseline versions that contain the requirements against which the DCC must conduct SIT testing in respect of 4G CH&N for the Go-Live release.
2. Where a SEC Section, Appendix or Schedule is already in legal effect², that version of the document shall be the relevant version, except where a more recent draft version of that document has been published and is listed in Annex A or B in which case that version is the relevant version. Explanation of how more recent draft versions have arisen are set out in the paragraphs that follow.
3. The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero ('the Department') has consulted³ and concluded⁴ on changes to the DCC Licence and the main-body of the SEC to support the provision of a 4G communications service by the DCC in the central and south regions of Great Britain. These draft changes – set out in Annex A of this document – will be laid before Parliament in May 2024 using powers conferred under section 88 of the Energy Act 2008.
4. The DCC has consulted and, in some cases, concluded upon changes to SEC Subsidiary Documents – listed in Annex B of this document. An update to SEC Appendix AU - Network Evolution Transition & Migration Approach Document is currently being consulted on by the DCC with a proposal that these updates are designated into the SEC in June 2024. As part of that same consultation, updates to SEC Appendix I - Communications Hub Installation and Maintenance Support Materials are also being consulted upon by the DCC which are proposed for designation at a later time. Changes to Appendix AD - DCC User Interface Specification are intended to be designated in June 2024 alongside the June 2024 SEC Release. Where proposed designation dates are not referenced in this document, the Department intends to designate changes to the SEC Subsidiary Documents listed in Annex B in timelines required to support the delivery of the DCC's 4G programme.
5. This document may be updated as required from time to time.

¹ As per the 4G CH&N milestone on the Joint Industry Plan (JIP).

² <https://smartenergycodecompany.co.uk/the-smart-energy-code-2/>

³ <https://smartenergycodecompany.co.uk/latest-news/department-for-energy-security-and-net-zero-smart-metering-implementation-programme-consultation-on-changes-to-the-dcc-licence-and-the-smart-energy-code-for-the-4g-communications-hubs-networks-prog/>

⁴ <https://smartenergycodecompany.co.uk/latest-news/smart-metering-implementation-programme-response-to-consultation-on-changes-to-the-dcc-licence-and-the-smart-energy-code-for-the-4g-communications-hubs-networks-programme/>

Annex A: SEC Sections that were subject to government consultation on 1 September 2023 and subsequent conclusion on 20 December 2023

- SEC Section A - Definitions and Interpretation⁴
- SEC Section F5 - SMETS2+ Communications Hub Forecasts & Orders⁴
- SEC Section F7 - Installation and Maintenance of SMETS2+ Communications Hubs⁴
- SEC Section F9 - Categories of SMETS2+ Communications Hub Responsibility⁴
- SEC Section H8 - Service Management, Self-Service Interface and Service Desk⁴
- SEC Section H14 - Testing Services⁴

Annex B: SEC Appendices

- SEC Appendix H - Communications Hub Handover Support Materials (CHHSM), DCC consultation⁵ on 17 January 2024 and subsequent conclusion⁶ on 4 April 2024.
- SEC Appendix I - Communications Hub Installation and Maintenance Support Materials (CHIMSM), first DCC consultation⁷ on 1 September 2023 and subsequent conclusion⁸ on 3 November 2023, second DCC consultation⁹ on 24 April 2024.
- SEC Appendix AD - DCC User Interface Specification (DUIS), DCC consultation⁷ on 1 September 2023 and subsequent conclusion⁸ on 3 November 2023.
- SEC Appendix AU - Network Evolution Transition & Migration Approach Document (NETMAD), DCC consultation⁹ on 24 April 2024.

⁵ <https://www.smartdcc.co.uk/consultations/chn-consultation-on-sec-changes-for-the-4g-ch-forecasting-ordering-delivery-service/>

⁶ <https://www.smartdcc.co.uk/consultations/chn-conclusions-on-sec-changes-for-4g-communications-hub-forecasting-ordering-delivery-service/>

⁷ <https://www.smartdcc.co.uk/consultations/communications-hubs-networks-consultation-on-transitional-and-enduring-regulatory-changes/>

⁸ <https://www.smartdcc.co.uk/consultations/chn-conclusions-on-its-consultation-on-transitional-and-enduring-regulatory-changes/>

⁹ <https://www.smartdcc.co.uk/consultations/chn-consultation-on-phase-2-regulatory-changes/>