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February 2025 SEC Release (27 February 2025)

SEC Release Implementation Document

Version 2.0

28 January 2025



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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1. Scope

Approved Modification Proposals

The following Modification Proposals have been approved for inclusion in this release:

- [MP274 'Requirement for DCC Users to set TPS configurations'](#) proposes to introduce a requirement in Appendix R 'Common Test Scenarios Document' User Entry Process Testing (UEPT) Criteria for DCC Users (new and existing) to set Transactions Per Second (TPS) limits. This will enable the DCC to queue Southbound requests.

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:

- [MP277 'Virtual Gateway Connection'](#) proposes to implement an option of selection a virtual DCC Gateway Connection for new and existing DCC Users. In addition, the DCC will likely need to make changes to the Data Service Provider (DSP) Service Catalogue to reflect costs and options associated with a virtual DCC Gateway Connection.

Cut-off date for inclusion: 26 February 2025

- [MP280 'CPA Scheme Transition to SSC'](#) which will look to move some wording from Appendix AV be included into SEC Section G13.5 to ensure the appropriate Scheme Operator (SOp) can be appointed in future.

Cut-off date for inclusion: 26 February 2025

DCC Change Requests

There are no DCC Change Requests planned to be implemented alongside this SEC Release.

2. Impacts

This section lists the impacts that the changes 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
MP274	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
MP277	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
MP280					

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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
All SEC Parties	(MP274) All SEC Parties that are already DCC Users will need to set TPS limits (if these are not in place already). (MP274) All SEC Parties that wish to become a DCC User will need to set TPS limits as part of UEPT Entry Criteria. (MP277) All SEC Parties will be given the option to select a virtual DCC Gateway Connection via the DSP Service Catalogue.
DCC	(MP274) As part of UEPT Entry Criteria relating to TPS limits, the DCC would engage with existing and new DCC Users to discuss TPS limits and amend, if necessary.

DCC impacts	
Area impacted	Summary of impacts
Report Generation	N/A
Operational	(MP277) DCC will need to update existing operating processes to account for the product offering of a virtual DCC Gateway Connection.
Testing	N/A
Governance	N/A

SECAS impacts

SECAS will need to make the updates to the SEC to implement the modifications approved for this release.

SEC document impacts

The following SEC documents will be updated in this release:

- Section A 'Definitions and Interpretations'
- Section E 'Registration Data'
- Section G 'Security'
- Section H 'DCC Services'
- Appendix G 'DCC Gateway Connection Code of Connection'

Each of these documents is affected by the following modifications:

SEC document impact matrix			
Document	MP274	MP277	MP280
Section A	✓	✓	
Section E		✓	
Section G			✓
Section H	✓	✓	
Appendix G		✓	

The proposed changes to each document are annexed to the Modification Reports for each modification. These are available on the corresponding modifications' webpages.

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.

Release implementation timetable		
Date	Event	Notes
19 Nov 2024	Change Sub-Committee (CSC) baselines RID	The CSC will review the RID and baseline the document.
31 Jan 2025	DCC submits evidence against the operational acceptance criteria	
11 Feb 2025	Operations Group (OPSG) reviews status against the operational acceptance criteria	The OPSG will provide a recommendation to the CSC on whether the release should be implemented as planned. <i>Preliminary reviews of progress will be scheduled across preceding meetings.</i>
18 Feb 2025	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.
27 Feb 2025	Release go-live	The changes are implemented.

4. Test strategy

This release will not impact the DCC Systems and so will not require any Pre-Integration Testing (PIT), Systems Integration Testing (SIT) or User Integration Testing (UIT).

There are no User testing impacts for this release.

5. Costs

This section summarises the costs that will be incurred by the DCC and SECAS in implementing this release.

DCC costs

Breakdown of DCC implementation costs						
Modification	Design, Build & PIT	Additional Cloud Infrastructure	Power BI Report Build (5 Months)	DCC Test Assurance	Penetration Testing	DCC User Acceptance Testing (4 Weeks)
MP274	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MP277	£160,000	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MP280	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

SECAS costs

SECAS will incur two and a half days of effort, equating to around £1,500, to update and implement the changes to the SEC. SECAS estimates a maximum of six days of effort, equating to around £3,600, 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, OPSG will review the status of the release against these criteria. It will provide a recommendation to the CSC on whether to implement the release as planned. The CSC will review this recommendation 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.

Appendix 1: Version control

Document history		
Version	Date	Changes
0.1	12 Nov 2024	First draft published and presented to the CSC.
1.0	19 Nov 2024	Scope of the Release baselined by the CSC.
2.0	28 Jan 2024	Removal of MP273 and addition of MP277 and MP280 into the February 2025 SEC Release scope.

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
CSC	Change Sub-Committee
DCC	Data Communications Company
DSP	Data Service Provider
OPSG	Operations Group
PIT	Pre-Integration Testing
RID	Release Implementation Document
SEC	Smart Energy Code
SECAS	Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat

Glossary	
Acronym	Full term
SIT	System Integration Testing
SMETS	Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specification
SOp	Scheme Operator
TPS	Transactions Per Second
UEPT	User Entry Process Testing
UIT	User Integration Testing