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June 2024 SEC Release

(27 June 2024)

SEC Release Implementation Document

Version 7.0

27 Jun 2024

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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.

Contents

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:

- MP162 'SEC changes required to deliver MHHS' will create a new DCC User role, 'Meter Data Retriever', to allow Supplier Agents to be able to collect half-hourly meter readings from Electricity Smart Metering Equipment (ESME) for Market-Wide Half-Hourly Settlement (MHHS) purposes.

  Please note that the MP162 changes to SEC Appendix R 'Common Test Scenarios Document' were implemented on 29 February 2024 as part of the February 2024 SEC Release.

- MP178 'Removing DSP validation against the SMI join status for SR8.8.x' will remove the Data Service Provider (DSP) validation of Join status in the Smart Metering Inventory (SMI) when sending an Unjoin Service Request. This will allow the processing of unjoin commands irrespective of the join status held in the SMI.

- MP211 'Aligning the SMI with the CPL' proposes that any Device with a Firmware Version which is not on the SMI or CPL and mark as 'Suspended' and alert the Service User of the 'Suspended' Device status.

- MP256 'SEC Alignment with DCC SMETS1 MHHS Capacity Requirements' proposes to minimise the impact of MHHS on Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specification (SMETS)1 Service Providers (S1SP's), SMETS1 Wide Area Network (WAN) Providers, and the Dual Control Organisation (DCO) by allowing the DCC to implement a short-lived (up to 25 hours) secure data cache of the response data at the S1SP.

- MP260 'June 2024 SEC Release housekeeping' - Amongst other housekeeping changes, SEC Appendix AD 'DCC User Interface Specifications' (DUIS) v5.3 is set to go live as part of the June 2024 SEC Release (27 June 2024). Therefore, any housekeeping associate with DUIS should be included in this modification.

- MP269 'June 2024 SEC Release Supporting Changes' aims to add an amendment to the legal text of MP256 to clarify the intention of the modification and remove ambiguity for Parties.

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**
MP162	✓			✓	✓
MP178	✓			✓	✓
MP211	✓	✓	✓		✓
MP256					✓
MP260					
MP269					

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	• (**MP162**) Existing Users will need to update their DCC User Interface Specification (DUIS) schema if they wish to schedule SR 4.2 for Devices, but otherwise will not need to update their DUIS version for MHHS.
Supplier Parties	• (**MP162**) Suppliers, via the Smart Data Service (SDS), will be able to choose, for each Meter Point Administration Number (MPAN), whether to collect half-hourly data for settlement themselves or whether to appoint a third-party agent to perform this activity. • (**MP162**) If Suppliers elect to collect the data themselves, it is likely that their internal systems will need changing to set up the additional schedules and manage the additional data that will be received to facilitate the MHHS requirements. This will likely be in addition to any existing data they currently receive. • (**MP162**) If Suppliers elect to appoint a separate Meter Data Retriever (MDR), they will need to undergo the process to appoint this agent. They may also want to liaise with this agent to manage any potential duplication of data collected. • (**MP178**) Suppliers will not encounter failures due to the join status of the Device when sending Service Request Variant (SRV) 8.8.1 and 8.8.2. • (**MP211**) Suppliers will require changes to internal processes due to MP211 and may see an increase in firmware validation failures.
Electricity Network Parties	• (**MP211**) Electricity Network Parties will only be allowed to send Service Request (SR) 11.2 'Read Firmware Version' to 'suspended' Devices.
Gas Network Parties	• (**MP211**) Gas Network Parties will only be allowed to send SRV 11.2 'Read Firmware Version' to 'suspended' Devices.
Other SEC Parties	• (**MP162**) Supplier Agents that wish to operate as a Meter Data Retriever will need to accede to the SEC and undergo the

SEC Party impacts	
Participant	**Summary of impacts**
	relevant User Entry Process Testing (UEPT) and security assessments for the MDR User Role. Any Users that wish to register in the MDR User Role will need to be on the DUIS version introduced by this release or a later version. • (**MP178**) Other Users (Shared Resource Providers and Meter Installers) will not encounter failures due to the join status of the Device when sending SRV 8.8.1 and 8.8.2.
DCC	• (**MP256**) The DCC will implement a short-lived cache (up to 25 hours) in order to process SMETS1 Devices and manage MHHS capacity requirements.

DCC System Impacts	
Area impacted	**Summary of impacts**
DCC Systems	• (**MP162**) The DCC will create a new User Role within the DCC Systems for MDR Users. • (**MP162**) The DCC will accept and action Service Requests from the new MDR User role to retrieve import consumption data and, where configured, export generation data from specified Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specifications (SMETS)1 and SMETS2 ESMEs enrolled within the DCC Systems. • (**MP162**) Changing the Primary Key of the Firmware Version Tables to include a new SMETS1 Indicator field. The value of the SMETS1 Indicator field will be derived from the Great Britain Companion Specification (GBCS) Version. • (**MP178**) The DCC will change the conduct of DCC Access Control Broker (ACB) validation checks by de-activating a current check. It does not impact the security posture of the service or its infrastructure, but, as with any change to security related code, its implementation will be security assured by the DCC throughout. • (**MP178**) The DCC changes will apply to both SMETS1 and SMETS2 Devices and to all existing versions of DUIS which are currently in operation. The removal of this validation check will require a change to the documentation, but the related error code will remain in the DUIS schema. Therefore, this change on its own does not require a DUIS schema uplift. A change will be made to update Annex 8 of DCC User Gateway Interface Design Specification (DUGIDS) to remove the validation check associated with Response Code E080801 from SRVs 8.8.1 and 8.8.2. No updates to the DUIS schema will be made a result of this documentation change. • (**MP256**) The DCC will implement a short-lived cache (up to 25 hours) in order to process SMETS1 Devices and manage MHHS capacity requirements.
Data Services Provider	• (**MP162**) The DSP will need to manage access and schedules for MDR Users.
SMETS1 Service Providers (S1SPs)	• (**MP162**) S1SPs will require changes to accommodate the new User Role and the changes to the DUIS schema for SRV 4.2. Infrastructure changes will also be required.

DCC System Impacts	
Area impacted	**Summary of impacts**
DCC Systems	• (**MP162**) The DCC will create a new User Role within the DCC Systems for MDR Users. • (**MP162**) The DCC will accept and action Service Requests from the new MDR User role to retrieve import consumption data and, where configured, export generation data from specified Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specifications (SMETS)1 and SMETS2 ESMEs enrolled within the DCC Systems. • (**MP162**) Changing the Primary Key of the Firmware Version Tables to include a new SMETS1 Indicator field. The value of the SMETS1 Indicator field will be derived from the Great Britain Companion Specification (GBCS) Version. • (**MP178**) The DCC will change the conduct of DCC Access Control Broker (ACB) validation checks by de-activating a current check. It does not impact the security posture of the service or its infrastructure, but, as with any change to security related code, its implementation will be security assured by the DCC throughout. • (**MP178**) The DCC changes will apply to both SMETS1 and SMETS2 Devices and to all existing versions of DUIS which are currently in operation. The removal of this validation check will require a change to the documentation, but the related error code will remain in the DUIS schema. Therefore, this change on its own does not require a DUIS schema uplift. A change will be made to update Annex 8 of DCC User Gateway Interface Design Specification (DUGIDS) to remove the validation check associated with Response Code E080801 from SRVs 8.8.1 and 8.8.2. No updates to the DUIS schema will be made a result of this documentation change. • (**MP256**) The DCC will implement a short-lived cache (up to 25 hours) in order to process SMETS1 Devices and manage MHHS capacity requirements.
Other DCC functions	• (**MP162**) Minor uplifts to Parse and Correlate (P&C), GBCS Integration Testing for Industry (GFI) and DCC Boxed will be required to accommodate the new DUIS schema for SR 4.2.

SECAS impacts

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

SECAS will manage subsequent accession requests from Party agents not yet signatories to the SEC seeking to operate as MDRs. It will also manage the UEPT and relevant security assessments needed for Users registering in the MDR User Role. It is not known how many additional requests will be received because of MHHS, but these will be managed as part of business-as-usual processes.

SEC document impacts

The following SEC documents will be updated in this release:

- Section A ‘Definitions and Interpretations’

- Section F ‘Smart Metering System Requirements’
- Section G ‘Security’
- Section H ‘DCC Services’
- Section I ‘Data Privacy’
- Section L ‘Smart Metering Key Infrastructure and DCC Key Infrastructure’
- Section M ‘General’
- Schedule 11 ‘Technical Specification Applicability Tables’
- Appendix E ‘DCC User Interface Services Schedule’
- Appendix P ‘SMKI Repository Code of Connection’
- Appendix R ‘Common Test Scenarios document’
- Appendix AB ‘Service Request Processing Document’
- Appendix AD ‘DCC User Interface Specification’
- Appendix AG ‘Incident Management Policy’
- Appendix AM ‘SMETS1 Supporting Requirements'

Each of these documents is affected by the following modifications:

SEC Document Impact Matrix						
Document	**MP162**	**MP178**	**MP211**	**MP256**	**MP260**	**MP269**
Section A	✓				✓	
Section F			✓		✓	
Section G	✓				✓	
Section H	✓		✓		✓	
Section I	✓					
Section L	✓					
Section M					✓	
Schedule 11	✓					
Appendix E	✓					
Appendix P					✓	
Appendix R	✓				✓	
Appendix AB	✓					
Appendix AD	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Appendix AG					✓	
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 2024 SEC Release:

Technical Specification impact matrix							
Tech Spec	**Version**	**MP162**	**MP178**	**MP211**	**MP256**	**MP260**	**MP269**
DUIS	v5.3	✓	✓	✓		✓	

The DUIS is the only technical specification impacted by this release.

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 Change Sub-Committee (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 Operations Group (OPSG), Testing Advisory Group (TAG) and CSC meetings and will be confirmed as the DCC prepares the TAD.

Release implementation timetable		
Date	**Event**	**Notes**
20 Jun 2023	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.
20 Sep 2023	DCC submits draft SEC Release TAD	
27 Sep 2023	TAG reviews draft SEC Release TAD	
Oct 2023	DCC consults on draft SEC Release TAD	The DCC will consult the industry on the draft TAD.
22 Nov 2023	DCC submits updated SEC Release TAD	The TAD will be updated to account for comments provided by the TAG and from the consultation.
29 Nov 2023	TAG reviews updated SEC Release TAD	The TAG will provide a view to the CSC on whether this document is suitable for use.

Release implementation timetable		
Date	**Event**	**Notes**
14 Dec 2023	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
21 Dec 2023	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.
31 Jan 2024	SIT commences	
Mar 2024	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
Apr 2024	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
May 2024	DCC submits SIT Completion Report	
May 2024	OPSG reviews the DCC's progress against the operational acceptance criteria	
May 2024	Test Participants inform DCC of their regression testing plans	By 10 Working Days before UIT begins.
May 2024	UIT commences	
May 2024	TAG reviews SIT Completion Report	The TAG will provide a recommendation on whether SIT has been completed successfully.
Jun 2024	OPSG reviews status against the operational acceptance criteria	The OPSG will provide a recommendation on whether the release should be implemented as planned.
23 Jun 2024	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 2024	Test Participants to provide regression testing results to DCC	By five Working Days before UIT completion
Jun 2024	UIT window closes	
27 Jun 2024	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 Testing Approach Document 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 Testing Approach Document will be provided as Annex A to this document in due course. This will cover the DCC's approach to UIT.

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 minimum total DCC implementation cost of this release will be £4,384,267. The maximum total DCC implementation cost of this release will be £5,264,267.

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**
MP162	£1,500,000	£2,720,000-£3,600,000			N/A
MP178	£39,055	£0	£0	£1,349	N/A
MP211	£117,707	N/A	N/A	£6,156	N/A
MP256	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MP260	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MP269	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

No additional impact on operational costs have been identified.

The DCC has provided standalone costs for SIT, UIT and Implement to Live for each modification for inclusion in their Modification Reports as part of the Impact Assessment.

SECAS costs

SECAS will incur five days effort, equating to around £3,000, 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	13 Jun 2023	First draft published.
1.0	20 Jun 2023	Version baselined by the CSC.
2.0	17 Aug 2023	Document updated to note the approval of MP178 and the Change Board's vote to reject MP202.
3.0	2 Oct 2023	Document updated to note the approval of MP211 and MP176 being removed from scope.
4.0	12 Dec 2023	Document updated to remove MP234 from the scope, and to include MP253 and MP254 within the scope.
5.0	18 Jan 2024	Adding MP085B, MP230, MP248, MP256 and DP260 to the scope of the June 2024 SEC Release.
6.0	11 Jun 2024	Removing MP085B, MP230, MP248, MP253 and MP254 from the scope of the June 2024 SEC Release, alongside adding DP269 to the scope.
7.0	27 Jun 2024	June 2024 SEC 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**
ACB	Access Control Broker
CPL	Central Products List
CSC	Change Sub-Committee
DCC	Data Communication Company
DCO	Dual Control Organisation
DSP	Data Services Provider
DUGIDS	DCC User Gateway Interface Design Specification
DUIS	DCC User Interface Specification
ESME	Electricity Smart Metering Equipment
GBCS	Great Britain Companion Specification
GFI	GBCS Integration Testing for Industry
MDR	Meter Data Retrieval
MHHS	Market-wide half-hourly settlement
MPAN	Meter Point Administrator Number
OPSG	Operations Group
P&C	Parse and Correlate
PIT	Pre-Integration Testing
RID	Release Implementation Document
S1SP	SMETS1 Service Provider
SDS	Smart Data Service
SEC	Smart Energy Code
SECAS	Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat
SIT	System Integration Testing
SMETS	Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specifications
SMI	Smart Metering Inventory
SR	Service Request
SRV	Service Reference Variant
TABASC	Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee
TAD	Testing Approach Document
TAG	Testing Advisory Group
UEPT	User Entry Process Testing
UIT	User Integration Testing
WAN	Wide Area Network