SEC
Smart Energy Code

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MP208 'Northbound Prioritisation of N56 Alerts'

February 2023 Working Group – meeting summary

Attendees

Attendee	Organisation
Ali Beard (AB)	SECAS
Rachel Black (RB)	SECAS
Kev Duddy (KD)	SECAS
Mike Fenn (MF)	SECAS
Ben Giblin (BG)	SECAS
Elizabeth Woods (EW)	SECAS
Abhijit Pal (AP)	DCC
Christopher Thompson (CT)	DCC
David Walsh (DW)	DCC
Patricia Massey (PM)	BEAMA
Julie Brown (JB)	British Gas
Beth Davey (BD)	Calvin Capital
Steve Blackler (SBlac)	E Gas & Electricity
Alex Hurcombe (AH)	EDF
Robert Williams (RW)	EON
Daniel Davies (DD)	ESG Global
Martin Bell (MB)	EUA
Matthew Roderick (MRo)	N3rgy
Kelly Kinsman (KK)	National Grid Electricity Distribution
Stuart Blair (SB)	Northern Power Grid
Ralph Baxter (RBa)	Octopus
Audrey Smith-Keary (ASK)	Ovo Energy
Mahfuzar Rahman (MR)	Scottish Power
Jeff Studholme (JS)	Smart Meter Assets
Tom Woolley (TW)	SMS Plc
Shuba Khatun (SK)	SSE
Joanne Rush (JR)	SSE
Kevin Clark (KC)	Utilita
Luke Brady (LB)	Vantage Meters
Karen Jacks (KJ)	Vantage Meters

Overview

The Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat (SECAS) provided a summary of the issue and impacts, business requirements, Proposed Solution and DCC Preliminary Assessment.

Working Group Discussion

A Working Group member (JB) queried whether the reporting being delivered on DCC System processing times under CR4630 may show that there are delays occurring within the DCC System and therefore reduce the benefits case for the Proposed Solution. Another member (SB) stated that their organisation is able to see that there are issues at each step of the process and the reporting would help to diagnose those issues within the DCC System. SECAS (MF) agreed that this may be the case, but noted that there are known instances of delays to N56 Alert delivery occurring between the Data Service Provider (DSP) and the Supplier, so the Proposed Solution would deliver an improvement on delivery timescales, although it may not address all the issues.

A member (MR) queried why this information wasn't already available. The DCC (DW) advised it has been identified as a shortfall in the DSP's reporting and CR4630 was raised to address this.

A member (ASK) highlighted concerns that the DCC Preliminary Assessment response implied that this issue could be resolved by Suppliers changing the way in which they accept Responses from the DCC. The member noted that their organisation has previously undertaken extensive work with the DCC to alleviate the issue and that raising this modification was agreed as the next step towards a full solution. SECAS (MF) noted the concerns and agreed to follow up with the member and the DCC after the meeting to discuss amendments to the wording of the Preliminary Assessment response. SECAS (MF) also advised that the DCC would be engaging directly with the member's organisation to work on mitigating the issue in the interim.

SECAS (MF) noted that the DCC would be presenting an update on CR4879 at the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC) meeting on 2 February 2023 and that this may help to make the links between MP208 and other prioritisation workstreams clearer. The DCC (DW) noted that the technical solution being implemented in CR4879 comes from MP162 'SEC changes required to deliver MHHS'.

A member (MR) queried whether these links meant that MP208 would be implementing a framework which would also work for the future changes. The DCC (DW) confirmed that the MP208 Proposed Solution should be configurable to meet the needs of the other workstreams. The member (MR) queried whether this would lead to cost savings. The DCC (DW) advised Parties would not be charged multiple times for the same work.

The member (MR) queried whether the 'framework' would still be built if the overall delivery strategy for prioritisation workstreams changed. SECAS (AB) and the DCC (DW) advised that the DCC is working to align strategies and costs but that the supporting architecture of the solution would be largely similar regardless of the vehicle for implementation.

The DCC (DW) noted that there must be sufficient infrastructure in place to allow the DCC to process messages within their Service Level Agreements (SLAs), so an unwritten requirement of this modification is that the existing infrastructure can't be undercut. A member (ASK) noted that the Preliminary Assessment implies that changes to the infrastructure could alleviate the issue altogether.

A member (DD) noted that while the Proposed Solution to MP208 does deliver the business requirements, the other prioritisation workstreams would as well. SECAS (MF) advised that this may be the case and that any work completed under MP208 would not then be repeated elsewhere, and that this would be a consideration of the delivery strategy. SECAS (MF) further noted that at this time there is no reason to delay the progression of MP208 due to the severity of the issue it looks to address.

Next Steps

The following actions were recorded from the meeting:

- SECAS (MF) to discuss amendments to the DCC Preliminary Assessment response with ASK and the DCC (DW).
- SECAS (MF) to discuss the DCC Preliminary Assessment response with the Operations Group (OPSG) and the TABASC.