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MP214 ‘Clarification of Acceptable DCC User ID’s for Import and Export Suppliers’

February 2023 Working Group – Meeting Summary

Attendees

Attendee	Organisation
Ali Beard (AB)	SECAS
Rachel Black (RB)	SECAS
Bradley Baker (BB)	SECAS
Kev Duddy (KD)	SECAS
Ben Giblin (BG)	SECAS
Mark Pitchford (MP)	DCC
Christopher Thompson (CT)	DCC
David Walsh (DW)	DCC
Patricia Massey (PM)	BEAMA
Julie Brown (JB)	British Gas
Steve Blackler (SBlac)	E Gas & Electricity
Alex Hurcombe (AH)	EDF
Daniel Davies (DD)	ESG Global
Martin Bell (MB)	EUA
Craig Biffen (CB)	EUA
Stuart Blair (SB)	Northern Power Grid
Ralph Baxter (RB)	Octopus
Jamie Flaherty (JF)	Ofgem
Audrey Smith-Keary (ASK)	Ovo Energy
Mahfuzar Rahman (MR)	Scottish Power
Jeff Studholme (JS)	Smart Meter Assets
Joanne Rush (JR)	SSE Networks
Shuba Khatun (SK)	SSE Networks
Karen Jacks (KJ)	Vantage Meters
Luke Brady (LB)	Vantage Meters

Overview

Issue

When a SEC Party wishes to become a DCC User it is required to use a unique ID number, applied by the SEC Panel, for each User Role it wishes to act in. The wording in SEC Section H1.5 excludes a Party from using the same ID number for both the 'Import Supplier' and 'Export Supplier' User Roles unless it also intends to act in the 'Gas Supplier' User Role.

Not allowing the use of the same User ID for the Import and Export Supplier User Roles means Parties must request multiple ID numbers from the SEC Panel. The Proposer notes that the DCC frequently receive requests to use the same User ID for multiple roles.

Solution

The solution to this modification is to amend SEC Section H1.5 to allow a Party to use the same identification number when acting in any combination of some or all the User Roles 'Import Supplier', 'Export Supplier' or 'Gas Supplier'.

The full amendments to the legal text can be found [here](#).

Working Group Discussion

SECAS (BG) provided an update on the issue and the amendments to the legal text required to fulfil the Proposed Solution.

SECAS (AB) questioned whether members understood the identified issue and explained that to use the same identification number, Parties must be assigned as Import Suppliers, Export Suppliers and Gas Suppliers, even if they do not intend to act in all those roles. The affect of this is that Parties who only want to act in the User Roles of Import and Export Supplier can send messages to Gas Smart Metering Equipment (GSME) of which they are not the Gas Supplier. However, there is no security risk as the request would be rejected by the Device.

A member (RB) asked whether the issue identified by MP214 was an error with drafting or a deliberate choice of words when Section H1.5 was written. SECAS (AB) explained that this scenario was likely not foreseen at the time of drafting and confirmed that the Sub-Committees which SECAS has engaged with did not identify an issue with the changes this modification is proposing. SECAS (BG) confirmed that when Section H1.5 was drafted a series of assumptions were made about Party activities and their roles and a more diverse set up to Party roles is needed.

A member from the DCC (DW) asked SECAS to present figures about the User Roles which SEC Parties are currently using. SECAS (BG) presented the data, explaining there are 15 active SEC Parties using just the Import Supplier role and 16 active SEC Parties using just the Gas Supplier role. In six of these cases, these are the same Parties, however they have separated their business between electricity and gas and therefore have different SEC Party ID's for different parts of their organisation. The data also showed the majority of Supplier organisations have not separated their electricity and gas business and have a single SEC Party ID which makes use of the Combined Supplier role. There are 40 active SEC Parties using the Combined Supplier role in this way, including the vast majority of Large Suppliers. There are four instances where a SEC Party is using the Combined Supplier role only for the purposes of Import Supplier and Export Supplier.

SECAS (AB) explained this data supported the business case for the modification, as only four Suppliers are currently using the Combined Supplier role for Import and Export as is drafted in the SEC.

A member (MF) suggested the change to the SEC associated with this modification should consider the likelihood that a Party may wish to become just an Export Supplier. SECAS (AB) agreed that this should be investigated and included if possible. The chair then explained this will be presented to the TABASC and a Refinement Consultation will be issued.

Next Steps

The following actions were recorded from the meeting:

- SECAS (BG) to ensure that the legal text allows Parties to be one or any combination of the User Roles 'Import Supplier', 'Export Supplier' or 'Gas Supplier' and amend the legal text to allow for this possibility