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MP271 ‘Sub-Committee seats for Other Users, Meter Data Retrievers and Registered Supplier Agents’

December 2024 Working Group – meeting summary

Attendees

SEC Party Category	Working Group Members	Representing
Large Suppliers	Julie Brown (JB)	British Gas
	Emma Johnson (EJ)	British Gas
	Amy Cox (AC)	EDF
	Alex Hurcombe (AH)	EDF
	Francesca Scott (FS)	EDF
	Sharon Armitage (SA)	E.ON Next
	Ralph Baxter (RB)	Octopus Energy
	Joey Manners (JM)	Octopus Energy
	Emslie Law (EL)	OVO
	Mahfuzar Rahman (MR)	Scottish Power
	Kevin Clark (KC)	Utilita
Small Suppliers	Steve Blackler (SB)	E Org
Other SEC Parties	Patricia Massey (PM)	BEAMA
	Rob Heath (RH)	Calisen
	Daniel Davies (DD)	ESG Global
	Michael Snowdon (MS)	Secure Meters
	James Murphy (JMu)	Stark
	Nik Wills (NW)	Stark
Network Parties	Kirsty Maddock (KM)	National Grid
	Jamie Lowe (JL)	Northern Power Grid
	Matthew Alexander (MA)	SSEN

Other Participants		
DCC		
Bradley Baker (BB)	David Walsh (DW)	Stuart Drinan (SD)
Ofgem		
Cristina Ullastre (CU)		
SECAS		
Simon Grimwood (SG)	Abi Obadan (AO)	Elizabeth Woods (EW)

Other Participants		
<i>Working Group Chair</i>	<i>Meeting Secretary</i>	<i>Lead Analyst</i>
Alison Beard (AB)	Georgiana Severin (GSe)	Ben Giblin (BG)
Sophia Master (SM)	Rainer Lischetzki (RL)	Marc Rhodes (MRh)

Overview

Issue

- The Proposer believes that due to the scale and nature of the Other SEC Party (OSP) category, it is not possible for OSP representatives at SEC Sub-Committees to adequately represent the entire category. This is because of the high number of Parties in the category, but also because of the different types of organisations within the OSP category. Due to the differing nature of these organisations, they have conflicting priorities, issues and concerns which makes it difficult for OSP representatives to act on behalf of all OSPs.
- In particular, the Proposer notes there is a clear delineation between OSPs who are Data Communications Company (DCC) Users (specifically Other Users, MDRs and RSAs) and those who are not. At the TABASC and Change Board the Proposer believes that the existing representatives have expertise mostly as Manufacturers rather than DCC Users.

Proposed Solution

- The Proposed Solution is to add an OSP seat to the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC) membership to be filled by an elected Other User, MDR or RSA. This will increase the number of OSP seats at the TABASC from two to three.
- The Proposed Solution also seeks to re-allocate an existing OSP seat at the Change Board to an elected Party who acts in the role of Other User, MDR or RSA. The elected Other User, MDR or RSA would be responsible for representing the entire OSP category, rather than just the interests of OSPs who are DCC Users.

Refinement Consultation responses

- SECAS received nine responses to the Refinement Consultation, with six Parties in support of the modification, with three unsupportive Parties.
- All six supportive Parties were OSPs. These Parties that Other Users, MDR and RSA should have specific representation at the TABASC and Change Board, to ensure technical solutions are developed with correct insight. These Parties also noted that usage of the DCC System for these groups are set to increase in the coming years and as such this modification would ensure representation as Users.
- Two of the three unsupportive Parties were OSPs, the other unsupportive Party was a Large Supplier. These Parties believed that there was limited evidence of the issue identified. They commented that there have been few occasions where elections were needed due to more Parties applying than seats were available. They also believed that this was an issue experienced only by the Proposer not applying for seats, rather than an issue across the entire category. These parties noted that individuals in the OSP category have the same

chance of election for OSP seats and specific representation should not be given to certain organisations. Furthermore, they added that engagement within the OSP category should be improved, rather than amendments made to existing seating arrangements.

Working Group Discussion

SECAS (BG) provided an overview of the issue, Proposed Solution and responses to the Refinement Consultation for [MP271 'Sub-Committee seats for Other Users, Meter Data Retrievers and Registered Supplier Agents'](#).

OSP Engagement

A Working Group member (SA) noted that OSPs can be involved in discussions on modifications and are able to submit consultation responses. They believed that there is a lack of engagement within the OSP category which should be resolved. SECAS (BG) noted that SECAS is undertaking a project to improve engagement within the OSP category. A Working Group member (RB) noted they would like to understand OSP needs and agreed to discuss with the Proposer (JM).

Voting on MP271

A Working Group member (EJ) noted that this modification is proposing changes to the OSP category, however any Party can submit a Modification Report Consultation response, even if they are from a different constituency. The member added that in this instance as changes are being proposed to one constituency, it should be Parties within that group making the decision. SECAS (BG) acknowledged these comments and added that MP271 had been discussed with the OSP Engagement Call to encourage as many responses from OSPs as possible.

Next Steps

The following actions were recorded from the meeting:

- SECAS to present the modification to the Change Sub-Committee to determine whether it should enter the Report Phase.