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Operations Group Meeting 125_1009

10 September 2024, 09:50 – 16:00

Meeting Headlines

At every meeting, the OPSG will focus on cross-industry matters that affect, or have the potential to affect, multiple Smart Energy Code (SEC) Parties. This month, the OPSG meeting included the following discussions (referenced by agenda item number):

3. Issues Review (DCC/SECAS): The OPSG Chair presented the purpose of this agenda item which focussed on non-operating devices and potential definitions for the OPSG. The aim was to agree a collective way forward that works towards making the approach to tracking issues more relevant and effective to the OPSG. The OPSG Chair summarised a need to encourage all parties to still follow the principles set out in the Good Practice guidance developed and issued by the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) and for the OPSG to collaborate effectively to implement a systematic categorisation of issues for resolution that contribute to devices that are not being operated in smart mode.

4. DCC Operational Update (DCC): The DCC presented one Category 1 Major Incident that occurred on 05 August. The DCC reported that Major Incident INC000001195060 was attributed to the failure of hardware memory module. The DCC noted it would exercise future caution when implementing these types of inevitable changes and would use training for future risk assessment.

5. Major Incidents – DSP Heightened Service Management (DCC): The DCC reported that Major Incident volumes and associated outage times due to system changes had been decreasing. The OPSG discussed other radical options that could possibly create additional capacity for Suppliers. The OPSG agreed to pass this topic to TABASC for a view of particular hotspots that the DSP can share as known weaknesses and the DCC agreed to provide a specific list of risks.

6. 4FSK (DCC): The DCC presented the short, medium, and long-term solutions for the CSPN communications infrastructure though focused on the medium-term solution that seeks to deliver improvements as part of the wider Scaling and Optimisation to facilitate effective operation of circa 5M CHs in the CSPN region. The DCC presented a geographic representation of 2FSK and 4FSK capability, with urban areas operating mostly showing greater concentration of 4FSK and lower density of 4FSK in rural areas. The OPSG discussed operational risks of dual utilisation of masts that were potentially also being used for smart metering in the water industry. The DCC agreed to come back to the OPSG with more information on the utilisation of masts deployed in the CPSN region by other entities.

7. Network Traffic Management (NTM) (DCC): The DCC presented the NTM portfolio which would focus on the intelligent use of peak capacity to minimise investment and optimise performance. The OPSG noted sizes of certain messages should be looked into as this could cause potential issues. The DCC noted that the OPSG should feedback any other potentially problematic issues within the system.

8. DP271 'SEC Sub-Committee seats for Other Users, Meter Data Retrievers and Registered Supplier Agents' & OPSG 2024 Elections (SECAS): This item was deferred due to time constraints. SECAS noted that OPSG 2024 Elections close on 12 September 2024.

9. MP252 'Amending the process for Communications Hub returns' (SECAS): This item was deferred due to time constraints.

10. Work Package: Q3 2024/25 (SECAS): The OPSG approved the SECAS Work Package.

11. AOB:

Future Connectivity Strategy Cost (FCS) Approval: SECAS reported that the Future Connectivity Strategy cost was approved ex-committee.

ANSO Ex-Committee Approval: SECAS reported the ANSO was approved ex-committee.

Centralised Registration Service (CRS) Survey: SECAS requested the OPSG to respond to the CRS survey by 17 September 2024.

Next Reporting Meeting: 23 September 2024; Next Main Meeting: 08 October 2024.