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Operations Group (OPSG) Meeting 96 on 13 June 2023

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. DCC Operational Update (DCC): The OPSG discussed the continuing upward trend in the ratio of SRVs per device daily average. The DCC noted that it will engage with Suppliers on these trends.

The DCC also commented that Alerts volumes increased in May due to an increase in 8F3E Alerts.

The OPSG noted that there had been one Category 2 Incident in May, which impacted 0.05% of prepayment vends. The DCC noted that it has achieved 39 days without a SMETS1 Incident and 70 days without a SMETS2 Incident in June so far.

The OPSG noted that the success rates for prepayment transactions remained generally stable, being approximately 96% in Communication Service Provider North (CSPN) and CSP Central and South (C&S), 97% for Initial Operating Capability (IOC), and 93% for Middle Operating Capability (MOC). SMETS1 Final Operating Capability (FOC) achieved an 76% success rate for May, although volumes remain low. The OPSG noted that the FOC performance does not seem to be stable. The DCC noted that it will reach out to Suppliers with devices that exhibit problematic behaviour.

3.1 SMETS1 (DCC): The DCC reported that a total of 11.5 million meters have been migrated and 10.7 million have become operational. The DCC reported that there are now 458,848k meters left to become operational by Users and 321k devices have been decommissioned.

4. CSP N Scaling & Optimisation (DCC): The OPSG noted that this item was related to Risk 006 (*CSPN failure to meet the SEC requirements which will create barriers to Service Users when operating at a large scale*). The OPSG also noted the update on Phase 2 of the plan, outlining the risks and next steps. The DCC proposed a Scheduled Read Window Pilot to trial extending the 6-hour Scheduled Read Window. The OPSG supported the objective and approach to the pilot.

5. June 2023 SEC Release (DCC): The OPSG accepted the DCC's statement of readiness of the June 2023 SEC Release against the eight operational acceptance criteria. This view will be relayed to the Change Sub-Committee (CSC).

6. ECoS: LSC Recommendation Discussion (DCC): The OPSG accepted the DCC's statement of readiness for ECoS against the Live Service Criteria. The OPSG noted that LSC3 has an Amber RAG status as members have not seen details of the enduring solution post migration and how that will address installations that had failed migration. The DCC confirmed a plan would be published in August 2023.

The OPSG also noted that its view is given in the context of the assurances given regarding progress to User readiness (and, consequently, the low probability of adverse consumer impact).

7. OMS & Logistics Business Requirements (DCC): The DCC set out the main features of how it has gathered requirements and how engagement will continue. The DCC confirmed that the requirements had been based on the SEC, previously experienced pain points, and opportunities for improvements. The DCC noted that a workshop will be held on 12 July 2023 to discuss the bulk

returns process to support the return of 2G/3G CHs. The OPSG requested that the DCC confirm when the requirements document will be published to SEC Parties.

8. Firmware Improvements - GBCS 3.2 and 4.1 (DCC): The DCC provided a status update on GBCS 3.2 and GBCS 4.1. Regarding GBCS 3.2, the DCC re-iterated that it had encountered some issues with EDMI CHs during the pilot phase. The firmware fix has been developed and is expected to be implemented by August/September 2023. Regarding GBCS 4.1, the DCC noted that it had upgraded approximately 10k devices and is currently monitoring their performance.

9. MP217 'Obtaining Timestamps to allow Target Response Time Measurements' (SECAS): The OPSG noted that, due to the high costs, the SEC Working Group did not agree that the modification should be progressed to the next stage. The OPSG noted the high costs quoted for implementing what could be seen as standard capabilities in communications networks.

The OPSG could not support this modification due to the high costs being quoted. The OPSG noted that the approach to performance measurement will need to be reviewed if this modification does not go ahead.

10. MP224 'SEC Performance Assurance Framework' (SECAS): This item was deferred due to time constraints [*Post Meeting Note: SECAS noted that members should contact the Change Team at sec.change@gemserv.com if they have any further comments on the modification*].

11. Customer Perspective: None proposed.

12. AOB

12.1. DSP Update

The OPSG noted that the programme remains on-track to submit the Outline Business Case to DESNZ by 30 June 2023. The DCC noted that it will now pursue a competitive procurement for the future DSP. The DCC noted that it will inform wider industry on progress at a briefing session on 30 June 2023 and encouraged members to attend.

12.2. SEC Party Engagement Day

The OPSG noted that the SEC Party Engagement Day will be hosted in person on Wednesday 19 July 2023. The OPSG noted that members should email SECAS at secas@gemserv.com if they wish to attend.

12.3. Oversight of User Interface Testing (UIT)

The OPSG noted that at present oversight of UIT is outside the scope of TAG, and in the progress to readiness review process issues arising there are not considered until OPSG looks at operational impacts. The Panel Chair, the TAG Chair, and the Chair of OPSG consider that this gap should be filled by making oversight of UIT part of TAG's responsibilities, as for other testing. A formal proposal will be drafted for consideration.

Next Reporting Meeting: 26 June 2023; Main Meeting: 11 July 2023.