

SEC Newsletter



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Welcome

Welcome to the latest edition of the fortnightly newsletter from the Smart Energy Code.

We would love to hear from you - get in touch by emailing secas@gemserv.com if you have any feedback.



Quarterly Budget Report – Q1 2025-2026

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The SEC Panel has released its [Quarterly Budget Report](#), detailing the budget out-turn for the period 01 April to 30 June 2025 (Q1 2025 – 2026).

The report provides SEC Parties with a transparent view of budget use, key variances, and forecasted expenditure for the full year.

For a comprehensive understanding, this report can be read alongside the [SECCo Business Plan & Budget](#), which provides detailed breakdowns of each element of the budget.



Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Smart Meter Testing

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

In September 2025 the SEC Panel approved the completion of an investigation into the use of AI in testing of the smart metering system. Throughout 2025 the TAG has been assessing the potential use of AI in testing

by the DCC and DCC Users, and has produced a report, risk register, and guidance note for industry's benefit on recommended uses of AI and how to mitigate risks.

Following the conclusion of the project, the TAG is seeking a proposer for a SEC modification to incorporate regulation of AI in testing into the SEC. The Testing Advisory Group (TAG) will continue to monitor how the risks and uses of AI in testing evolve to keep the guidance up to date.

Operations Group (OPSG) Marks 150th Meeting Milestone

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

On 14 October 2025, OPSG met for the 150th time, a milestone that reflects the group's enduring role in shaping smart energy operations.

Jason Stevens, Chair of the OPSG, offered his reflections before the 150th meeting:

“For me, passing this milestone is just a reflection of the importance of the business coming through OPSG's doors. It's a massive achievement to have over 36.5m smart meters now connected to the DCC in one of the most complex retail energy markets in the world, but it's been a monumental effort to get to this point. OPSG's work in every one of the 149 meetings so far made a significant contribution to this achievement – something that can often be overlooked. Over the past 18 months, we've focused on working alongside SEC Parties and the DCC to improve successful first-time install & commissioning outcomes and reducing the number of non-operating smart meters. In addition to staying focused on the operational impacts of the evolving smart eco-system has been a real step-change in making sure OPSG stays relevant, and continues to deliver the value that SEC Parties demand, expect and need.

So, what's next? With the introduction of the SEC Performance Assurance Framework, the rollout of 4G comms technology, alongside additional consumer protections in the form of Guaranteed Standards of Performance, OPSG's priorities will clearly change – but OPSG's purpose remains relevant. We've got an amazing breadth of industry knowledge and expertise in OPSG's membership, and the working relationship with the DCC is now much stronger, focused and collaborative than it ever has been. So as meeting 150 passes (probably without too much of a fuss), there's an exciting journey and still lots of hard work to look forward to.”

Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC) Nominations Now Open!

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

November 2025 signals the end of the term for several TABASC members. The 2025 TABASC nominations are now open, and the following seats are up for nomination:

- 3 Large Suppliers
- 1 Small Supplier
- 1 Electricity Network
- 1 Gas Network
- 2 Other SEC Parties



SEC Parties are invited to make a nomination for their Party category using the [online form](#) by 17:00 on Friday, 31 October 2025. You will need to be [logged in](#) to access the form.

The purpose of the TABASC is to provide advice and guidance to the SEC Panel regarding Technical Code Specifications, End-to-End Technical Architecture, and Business Architecture. The TABASC meets monthly and is responsible for developing and maintaining both the Technical Architecture Document and the Business Architecture Document. Learn more about the roles and responsibilities of the [TABASC](#) on the SEC website.

How to Make a Nomination: You may nominate a prospective candidate or nominate yourself if you wish to contribute to key industry developments.

Nominee Requirements: As outlined in the SEC, nominees must be eligible to become and remain a Member under SEC Section C6 at the time of nomination. You may use the nomination form's text box to outline your relevant experience, though this is optional.

Voting Process: If nominations exceed available seats in a Party Category, a vote will take place. Each Voting Group within that category will be entitled to cast one vote for its preferred nominee. Eligible candidates will be notified after the nomination window closes. If voting is required, it will open on Monday, 10 November 2025, and voting forms will be distributed to the relevant Voting Groups. For any questions, please email secas@gemserv.com.

SEC Customer Satisfaction Survey 2025 Results

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

We are pleased to share the results of the 2025 SEC Customer Satisfaction Survey, which provide valuable insight into how SEC Parties view the services and support delivered under the SEC.

This year's results show strong performance across all key areas, reflecting continued progress in customer experience, operational delivery, and governance. The feedback also provides valuable guidance for future improvement, particularly in transparency and accessibility.

Performance highlights (ranked by satisfaction)

- 100% satisfaction with support to the SEC Panel and Sub-Committees, demonstrating confidence in the quality of oversight and meeting delivery.
- 100% of respondents who used the Helpdesk found it easy to access support, with comments highlighting responsiveness and expertise.
- 93% satisfaction with communication channels, and 87% reporting these as easy to access and use.
- 80% satisfaction with modification reports and release communications, confirming confidence in the clarity and timeliness of information.
- Meetings rated highly: 80% for timeliness, 78% for transparency, and 77% for the quality of recommendations.
- Increased satisfaction with the delivery of key projects, including the 4G Transition (Asset Life) and AI Risks & Opportunities initiatives.
- Positive feedback on the quality of expertise across smart metering and technical functions.

While the **response rate was lower than in previous years**, the feedback received was detailed and constructive. It has informed a **clear action plan** focused on:

- Enhancing transparency around decision-making, costs and performance;
- Improving access to information through clearer communication and easier navigation; and
- Continuing to strengthen engagement and support for all SEC Parties.

We would like to thank everyone who took part in the survey. Your feedback is vital in helping us build on our progress and continue to deliver effective, transparent and high-quality governance for the smart energy industry.

Check out the full [survey results](#).

Did you Know?

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The SEC website uses Google's reCAPTCHA tool on its webforms to protect against spam. For it to function properly, users must enable **Targeting cookies**.

Here's how:

- Click the green **"Manage Consent"** tab at the bottom right of any page.
- Toggle **"Targeting"** cookies to green and select **"Save Preferences."**

Once enabled, the reCAPTCHA checkbox will appear at the end of the form. Tick **"I'm not a robot"** and click **Submit** to complete your entry.

If you experience any issues or have questions, please contact secas@gemserv.com.

Modifications

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

Celebrating the 300th SEC Modification!



Today we celebrate a major milestone — the **300th Modification** proposed to the SEC!

We're taking a moment to reflect on how far the Modifications Process has come since the very first proposal back in 2014. Over the years, we've evolved, streamlined, and strengthened the way we deliver change. Some of the most impactful improvements include:

Smarter Oversight

The SEC Panel delegated oversight to the Change Sub-Committee and Change Board, ensuring the process receives the expert focus it requires as volumes grew.

Faster Wins

By identifying ‘Straight-to-Report’ Modifications early, which require only a one consultation, we’ve accelerated delivery and reduced unnecessary consultations for SEC Parties.

Stronger Collaboration with the DCC

Working closely with the DCC has boosted the accuracy of business requirements and assessments. In fact, by the end of 2024, the DCC hit a 100% SLA delivery rate on requested assessments.

Lower Costs, Smarter Testing

By reviewing testing protocols with the DCC, the SEC Change team has successfully eliminated unnecessary steps - driving down implementation costs significantly.

As we celebrate this landmark, we remain committed to continuously improving the SEC Change Process and working together with stakeholders to deliver meaningful change and real value for SEC Parties and consumers.

Refinement Consultations

Title	Closing Date	Impacted Parties	Link
MP184 ‘Increase in smart capability of SMETS2 Twin Element ESME to support solar and storage use cases’	29 October 2025	DCC, Device Manufacturers, Other SEC Parties, Meter Installers	DOWNLOAD
Currently, the SMETS2 defines how a twin element ESME captures and records electricity consumption on a per element basis. The twin element ESME measures and records the energy imported and exported on the primary measurement element, whereas the secondary measuring element records imported energy but is not mandated to record export active energy consumption. The Proposed Solution will allow Export Data to be recorded on the Secondary Element of a Twin Element ESME.			

Updates to Triage Security Controls Framework Part 3

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

Please note, the following updates have been made to Part 3 of the Triage Security Controls Framework (TSCF) to Sections 1 and 2:

- In Section 2, the ISO 27005:2011 & 2018 sections referenced in Appendix B (G5.14, G5.15) and Appendix F have been amended to reflect ISO 27001:2022 and 27005:2022.
- The versioning of Section 1 has been updated to align with the changes made in Section 2.

The TSCF Part 3 v1.5 (Sections 1 and 2) have been made available on the website [here](#). If you have any questions regarding this, please contact secas@gemserv.com.

Upcoming Online Events

SEC Security & Privacy Assessment Drop-In Sessions

Who: SEC Parties

What: Join us as we introduce E&Y as the new delivery partner for Security and Privacy Assessments, share early transition and Assessment insights, and invite your input to help shape future processes and engagement.

How to Register for a Session:

Microsoft Teams. Please use the links below on the dates to register for one of the available sessions.

[07 November 2025; 14:00 – 15:00](#)

[17 November 2025; 10:00 – 11:00](#)

We encourage SEC Parties to submit any questions or feedback you may have before the sessions by emailing secas@gemserv.com.

Introduction to the SEC Webinar

Who: SEC Parties, especially new joiners, those transitioning into relevant roles, or recently acceded Parties.

What: An “Introduction to the SEC” webinar on Wednesday, 19 November 2025, from 10:00 to 12:00. The session will provide key insights into the SEC and include opportunities for Q&A and discussion with our subject experts.

How to Register for a Session:

- Microsoft Teams. Register [here](#).
- Submit any questions you'd like addressed to secas@gemserv.com by 17:00 on 05 November 2025.
- Feel free to share this invite with colleagues or industry peers who may benefit.

We look forward to welcoming you.

Industry News and Consultations

[Consultation on DCC Specifications and Incorporation Dates | DESNZ](#)

DESNZ consultation on DCC User Interface Specification, the Message Mapping Catalogue and the Technical Specification Applicability Tables and upon the date of their incorporation into the SEC and the date of incorporation of the Communications Hub Technical Specification Version 1.7 and the GB Companion Specification Version 4.4. You are invited to submit feedback by **24 October 2025**.

[4G Communications Hub only exchange site visits: proposed methodology for calculating a centralised price | Ofgem](#)

Ofgem is proposing a methodology to set a centralised reimbursement price for site visits to replace only the 2G/3G communications hubs in SMETS2 systems, ensuring cost recovery is consistent. You are invited to submit feedback by **04 November 2025**.



[Draft new Smart Meter Communication Licence | Ofgem](#)

Ofgem is consulting on a draft Smart Meter Communication Licence for the successor licensee, reflecting decisions from the DCC Review. The revised Licence reflects DCC Review decisions, introducing a not-for-profit model, ex-ante cost controls, and independent governance. You are invited to submit feedback by **07 November 2025**.

[4G WAN Coverage Improvement consultation on the delivery plan | DCC](#)

This DCC consultation aims to gather your input on the proposed strategy for expanding and optimising 4G WAN coverage to meet DCC's 99.25% target. It also highlights further measures to improve coverage assurance and presents DCC's proposed plan for stakeholder engagement. You are invited to submit your views by **14 November 2025**.

Upcoming Events and SEC Meetings

Date	Event	Who can attend?
20 October, 13:00	Communications Transition Group 32	Members
21 October, 10:00	Change Sub-Committee Meeting 80	Members
21 October, 10:00	Customer Challenge Group 04	Members
22 October, 10:00	Change Board Meeting 107	Members
22 October, 10:00	SMDA Sub-Committee Meeting 20	Members
24 October, 10:30	Other SEC Party Engagement Call	Open to Party Type
27 October, 10:30	Large Supplier Engagement Call	Open to Party Type
27 October, 09:20	Operations Group Meeting 151	Members
28 October, 09:30	SEC Panel 145	Members
28 October, 14:00	SECCo Board 145	Members
29 October, 09:40	Testing Advisory Group 131	Members
30 October, 15:00	Small Supplier Engagement Call	Open to Party Type

View all upcoming industry events in the [Industry Events Calendar](#)



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