

SEC Newsletter



Published 27 June 2025

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

We would love to hear from you, so get in touch by [emailing the SECAS Helpdesk](#) if you have any feedback.



Panel and SECCo Board Headlines

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The latest meetings of SEC Panel and SECCo Board took place on 24 June 2025. The Headlines from [SEC Panel 141](#) and [SECCo Board 141](#) are now uploaded to the SEC Website.

The next Panel and Board meetings will be held on 22 July 2025.

End of Budgetary Year Report Published

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

[The SEC End of Budgetary Year Report 2024-2025](#) has been published on the SEC Website, setting out the SEC Panel's full-year financial outturn for the 2024-25 Regulatory Year.

Published as part of our commitment to transparency, this report supports continued efforts to strengthen visibility and accountability over spending. It complements the [End of Regulatory Year Report 2024-25](#) published in May which sets out the full suite of SEC activities.

Look out for the next quarterly report on expenditure introduced in response to SEC Party feedback. Together, these reports provide a clearer picture of spending throughout the year and help Parties stay informed.

If you have any questions regarding the report, please contact SECAS@gemserv.com



SSC & SMKI PMA Update



This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority (SMKI PMA) continues to provide governance over cryptographic algorithms used for securing communications

with smart meters. In collaboration with the Security Sub-Committee (SSC), it ensures the end-to-end smart metering system remains secure and resilient against unauthorised access. As of October 2024, SEC Section G7.3(f) provides for a seat on the SSC for a 'CPL Manufacturer'. No nominations have been received to date, so interested Parties are invited to submit nominations by emailing SECAS@gemserv.com.

SMKI PMA Highlights:

- Investigated the rise in incorrect Gas Network Operator Certificates on devices with the DCC and implemented corrective actions.
- Agreed test scenarios for the Apex SMKI Recovery Key process with volunteer Users and the DCC to provide assurance.
- Issued guidance to the DCC on a Supplier of Last Resort (SoLR) event (SEC Section L1.16).
- Collaborated with the DCC and DESNZ on potential requirements for a Virtual WAN Key Infrastructure (VWKI), ahead of industry consultation.
- Provided governance and decision-making on the re-procurement of a Trusted Service Provider (TSP) by the DCC as the PKI-E Programme.
- Provided cryptographic expertise into planning and implementation of other DCC Programmes including Future Service Management, Comms Hub and Networks etc.

SSC Highlights:

- Completed the transition of the CPA Scheme from the National Centre for Cyber Security (NCSC). The CPA Scheme is now operated on behalf of the SSC by CyTAL who have signed Framework Agreements with the CPA Test Labs (NCC and KPMG) and Manufacturers undergoing CPA evaluations. The CPA Policies and Procedures and CPA Certificates etc are now published on the SEC website.
- Considered options for smart metering preparation for Post Quantum Computing (PQC) which requires stronger cryptographic algorithms to those currently used. This aligns with the NCSC timetable to define migration goals by 2028 and carry out priority activities by 2031 and will share proposals with industry.



- Review and approve User and DCC Security Assessments (SEC Section G3.9), material changes to components and functionality. Review monthly Anomaly Detection Reports and approve global thresholds and monthly Post Commissioning Reports to identify failures. Review the security implications and risk assessments of all DCC projects and re-procurements.
- Approved a new Use Case (Use Case 005) for the refurbishment of 4G Comms Hubs.
- Approved and published on the SEC website Certificates for Trial Devices without CPA certification (SEC F2.18).
- SCIRS – SSC CPA Issue Resolution Sub-Group: A monthly sub-group of SSC includes Manufacturers, MAPS, DESNZ, DCC and DCC CSPs, CPA Test Labs, CPA Scheme Operator and Manufacturer Trade Bodies. It serves as a forum to engage industry on CPA developments and issues, walk through new CPA Policies, Procedures and SSC Guidance on Device Security Assurance and Triage. Liaise with the Scheme Operator to address issues and raise Use Cases or issues from CPA evaluations and processes.

SSC Briefing Note – User Security Assessments and Emerging Technologies

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The Security Sub-Committee (SSC) created a [briefing note](#) to provide guidance and awareness for Users who are subject to User Security Assessments. Parties will need to be logged in to access this.



This briefing note aims to help Users prepare for both the possibility of using Emerging Technologies, such as artificial intelligence tools or equivalent systems, in relation to its SEC obligations, as well as considering the related threat vectors in order to avoid potential observations of non-compliance in relation to G3.7, G3.8, G3.9, G5.14, G5.15, or G5.16.

This briefing supplements guidance from organisations including National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC), the EU AI Act, and the [Ofgem 'Ethical AI use in the energy sector guidance'](#) but puts this into the context of User Security Assessments to assist Users in maintaining compliance with SEC security obligations.



Have Your Say: 4G – What Would You Like to Hear About?

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

We've heard your requests for a session on 4G, and we'd like your input to help ensure you're getting the information you want. Here's some potential topics we can cover:

- Why the transition to 4G is needed
- What's happening now with 4G
- What's the next milestones
- Where to find further information and resources
 - The Terms of Reference (ToR), Factsheets (GREEN), and the Plan on a Page (POAP) are available on the SEC website [here](#).
 - The Overall Transition Plan (OTP) and Factsheets (AMBER) are accessible on request or via the CTG Teams channel for SEC Parties.

Are there specific areas you'd like us to explore in more detail? Please send your suggestions to the SECAS Helpdesk as your feedback will help us tailor the communications to your needs.

New Report: AI and the Smart Energy Code

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The Privacy Sub-Committee commissioned a [report on the SEC and AI](#) (Risks, Opportunities, and the Role of the SEC), to better understand the ways that AI is being used to process smart metering system data and how that intersects with the SEC objectives. The report is now available for all SEC Parties. You will need to be logged in to access the report. You are encouraged to share this report with SEC Parties and SMIP stakeholders, but please do not make it publicly available.

The SEC includes objectives to support innovation as well as to keep smart metering system data secure. It is important that we get the balance right between protecting consumers and the smart metering system and enabling innovators to access and use smart metering system data in new and beneficial ways.

We hope you find this report insightful. If you have any feedback or thoughts on the issues discussed, we'd love to hear from you. Please feel free to reach out at pssc@gemserv.com. We're especially keen to connect with organisations that don't typically engage with the SEC.



Modifications Update

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

New Modifications

Title	Issue	Solution
MP295 'Amendment to SMETS1 Cache Solution'	The SMETS 1 Data cache solution is intended to allow the Data Communications Company (DCC) to support the increased Service Request (SR) volume to SMETS1 Devices resulting from Market Wide Half Hourly Settlement (MHHS). The DCC has carried out analysis of scheduled Service Reference Variant (SRV) data to understand the data windows being requested on the current production system for scheduled SRVs. This analysis showed that a large proportion of the current scheduled SRVs' read windows requested data from the current day and as such could not be serviced from the cache.	The Proposed Solution applies to SMETS1 Smart Metering Systems only. The Proposed Solution is to enable the cache to store 24 hours plus an additional three hours up to 03:00AM of the current day. This will better facilitate Supplier behaviour as analysed since the original cache solution was implemented through SEC Modification MP256 on 27 June 2024. This amendment to the current solution will allow industry to further realise the benefits of the cache by reducing the amount of DCC System traffic required to support MHHS.

Modification Report Consultations

Title	Closing Date	Impacted Parties	Link
MP288 'Erroneous Section J Default Notices'	09 Jul 2025	Large Suppliers, Small Suppliers, Network Parties, DCC	DOWNLOAD
MP290 'Incorporation of Category 3 Issue Resolution Proposal into the SEC – Batch 11 and GBCS Changes'	09 Jul 2025	Large Suppliers, Small Suppliers, DCC, Electricity Network Parties	DOWNLOAD
MP295 'Amendment to SMETS1 Cache Solution'	09 Jul 2025	Large Suppliers, Small Suppliers, DCC	DOWNLOAD
MP288 proposes to place an obligation within the SEC preventing the DCC from raising an Event of Default Notice against a Party on the grounds of the DCC's late Direct Debit collection.			



MP290 proposes a text only change to emphasise that CPV only applies to the replacement Certificates and does not apply under any circumstance to existing Certificates held as credentials in Trust Anchor Cells.

MP295 proposes to enable the cache to store 24 hours plus an additional three hours up to 03:00AM of the current day. This will better facilitate Supplier behaviour as analysed since the original cache solution was implemented through SEC Modification MP256 on 27 June 2024. This amendment to the current solution will allow industry to further realise the benefits of the cache by reducing the amount of DCC System traffic required to support MHHS.

June 2025 Code Release

The June 2025 SEC Release took place on 26 June 2025. This Release includes DCC System impacts as well as legal text changes. It includes the following five Modification Proposals:

[MP239 'Enduring Solution for Resolving SMETS2 Device Certificate Misalignment Issue'](#)

[MP246 'DCC User access to metadata via the DCC Self-Service Interface \(SSI\)'](#)

[MP271 'Sub-Committee seats for Other Users, Meter Data Retrievers and Registered Supplier Agents'](#)

[MP279 'June 2025 SEC Releases & DUIS Housekeeping Changes'](#)

[MP282 'Removal of Registration Check for Suppliers using SR8.9 targeting SMETS2+ CHF'](#)

To find out more about the Release visit the [SEC website](#)

Latest Modcast

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

[Listen to our latest Modcast now!](#)



In this episode, we had our usual roundup of the past month in SEC Change, before delving into the details of the three new Draft Proposals raised this month. We also provide our listeners a reminder of the SEC obligation relating to [MP253 'Traffic Management for Price Cap Update Event – User Actions Required'](#) which will become active on 07 August 2025.

If you want to know more about any of the above, please email SEC.Change@gemserv.com



Industry News and Consultations

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

[DCC Review Phase 2: Objectives, operational model and future role of DCC | Ofgem](#)

Ofgem is consulting on the future DCC licence framework ahead of 2027 –you are invited to submit feedback on this consultation by 14 July 2025.

[Draft Regulatory Instructions and Guidance \(Successor Licensee\) | Ofgem](#)

Ofgem is requesting feedback on how the next company running smart metering communications should plan and report its costs. You are invited to submit feedback by 15 July 2025.

[Communications Hubs & Networks Consultation on Changes to the Intimate Communications Hub Interface Specification \(ICHIS\) 2025 | Smart DCC](#)

The DCC is consulting on updates to the Intimate Communications Hub Interface Specification (ICHIS).

You are invited to submit feedback by 30 July 2025.



Upcoming Events and SEC Meetings

- 01 July, 10:00 – [SEC Party Engagement Day](#) (Open to Parties)
- 02 July, 10:00 – [SEC Working Group Meeting](#) (Members)
- 02 July, 13:00 – [SEC Issues Group Meeting](#) (Members)
- 03 July, 13:30 – [TABASC 115](#) (Members)
- 07 July, 13:30 – [TIRG Meeting 10](#) (Members)
- 08 July, 09:20 – [Operations Group Meeting 144](#) (Members)
- 09 July, 09:15 – [SMKI PMA Meeting 131](#) (Members)
- 09 July, 09:30 – [Performance Assurance Board 03](#) (Members)
- 09 July, 11:30 – [Security Sub Committee 219](#) (Members)
- 17 July, 13:00 – [TABASC 115X](#) (Members)
- 18 July, 10:30 – [Other SEC Party Engagement Call](#) (Open to Party Type)
- 21 July, 10:30 – [Large Supplier Engagement Call](#) (Open to Party Type)
- 21 July, 12:20 – [Operations Group Meeting 145](#) (Members)
- 21 July, 13:00 – [Communications Transitions Group 29](#) (Members)
- 22 July, 09:30 – [SEC Panel 142](#) (Members)
- 22 July, 14:00 – [SECCo Board 142](#) (Members)
- 24 July, 15:00 – [Small Supplier Engagement Call](#) (Open to Party Type)
- 30 July, 09:45 – [Testing Advisory Group 128](#) (Members)

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



[Manage your newsletter subscription](#)



[Follow the Smart Energy Code on LinkedIn](#)

