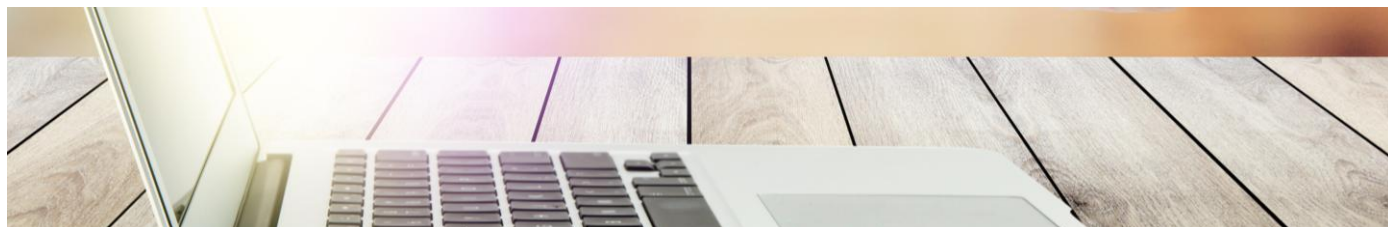


Published 31 October 2024

Welcome to the latest edition of the fortnightly newsletter from the Smart Energy Code. Please get in touch by emailing the [SECAS Helpdesk](#) if you have any feedback.



SECCo Panel and Board Headlines

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The October 2024 Panel and SECCo Board meeting 133 took place on 22 October 2024. The Headlines from [SEC Panel 133](#) and [SECCo Board 133](#) are now uploaded to the SEC Website.

The next Panel and SECCo Board meetings will be held on 26 November 2024.

Operations Group Update

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The purpose of the Operations Group (OPSG) is to deal with operational matters relating to the services provided under the SEC, including DCC Services, and to enable close co-operation between the DCC and DCC Users.

In May 2024, SECAS issued a survey to OPSG members to gather feedback on its structure, productivity, focus, issue prioritisation, and objectives. The incoming OPSG Chair, Jason Stevens, held one-to-one meetings with members to clarify responses and gain further insights into the group's effectiveness.

Based on this feedback, the OPSG Chair proposed several changes in a paper published to OPSG on 09 July 2024:

- Introducing four new focused OPSG workstreams: Workstream 1 – Improving first-time install and commission outcomes; Workstream 2 – Maintaining ongoing operational of smart metering equipment (post-install and commission); Workstream 3 – Maintaining DCC Service Performance; and Workstream 4 – Other Operational processes/issues.
- Moving to twice monthly OPSG meetings from four to six hours.



- Repurposing the second meeting each month from a dedicated 'reporting' meeting, to include more of a focus on making progress against key priority Issues raised by Service Users.
- Providing more papers 'For Information' and encouraging members to read papers outside of meetings.
- Spending around 50% of meeting time to focus on discussing operational issues, how these should be resolved, and progress being made by relevant parties, rather than mostly reviewing DCC programmes and SEC reports.

The OPSG agreed to these changes, which were successfully implemented in August 2024. Since then, the group has received regular updates and made progress on high-priority issues, such as Communications Service Provider North (CSPN) birthing, in-life communications, and non-communicating devices. The OPSG has seen increased collaboration and information sharing among industry participants, improving operational processes.

SECAS and the OPSG Chair are committed to continuing to receive feedback and thank OPSG members and the DCC for their input and efforts in making these changes successful and look forward to further improvements.

Modifications Update

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

MP275 Update

Following the October Change Sub-Committee on 15 October 2024, it was recommended that MP275 (formerly under Communications Hubs Fixed Charges) and [DP276 'Communications Hubs returned not redeployed'](#) be amalgamated into one modification. SECAS and the Proposer agreed with the Change Sub-Committee recommendation and subsequently DP276 was withdrawn. MP275 was renamed '[Section K changes to support 4G Communications Hubs rollout](#)' and will address the issue initially raised under DP276.

An ad hoc Working Group was held on 24 October 2024 to gather initial views from Parties. The [Refinement Consultation](#) will run until **7 November 2024** with another ad hoc Working Group scheduled on **13 November 2024**.

In the meantime, SECAS and the DCC will run a joint session aimed at providing further information on the Proposed Solution on **5 November 2024**. Interested Parties can reach out to the Lead Analyst if they would like to attend by emailing Georgiana.Severin@gemserv.com.



Latest Modcast

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties



[Listen to our latest Modcast now.](#) In this episode we have our usual roundup of the past month in SEC Change before an overview of the [November 2024 SEC Release](#), including how to get more information and support. This is followed by two guest speakers, Tom Rothery from SECAS and Joseph Hehir from the DCC, who gave us an update on [DP218 'Review of the SEC Charging Methodology'](#), a re-cap of what's happened to date and what to look forward to.

SMDA Sub-Committee Elections are now Open

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The key objectives of the Smart Meter Device Assurance Sub-Committee (SMDASC), as defined by SEC Section F12.4, are to ensure that Smart Meters and other Devices are interoperable and interchangeable within a Smart Metering System.

The 2024 SMDASC elections are now open, and the following seats are up for nomination:

- 3 representatives from Large Suppliers
- 2 representatives from Small Suppliers
- 1 representative from Networks
- 4 Other SEC Parties (One ESME Manufacturer, One GSME Manufacturer, One Display Manufacturer and One MAP)



SEC Parties are invited to make a nomination for their Party category [by completing the online form](#) by **18 November 2024**.

Nominee Requirements: As set out in the SEC, the person to be nominated (the nominee) should be a person who (at the time of their nomination) is capable of becoming and remaining a SMDASC Member in accordance with Sections C6. You may wish to use the text box in the nomination form to detail any relevant experience, although this is not mandatory.

Voting: If there are more nominations than there are available seats in a particular Party Category, a vote will occur. Each Voting Group within a Party Category up for election is entitled to cast one vote for their preferred nominee. Once the nomination window has closed, eligible candidates will be advised if a vote is going ahead, and voting forms will be distributed to the relevant Voting Groups. If required, voting will go live on **26 November 2024**.

If you have any questions, please contact the [SECAS Helpdesk](#).



OPSG Election Outcome

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties



Following the completion of the nomination and election process for the Operations Group (OPSG) which commenced in August 2024, SECAS is pleased to announce the results for the Other SEC Parties category.

There were three nominations for the two seats available. The successful candidates were James Murphy (Stark Software International) and Michael Snowden (Secure Meters).

The new OPSG membership term commenced on 28 October 2024. The OPSG membership list is available on the [SEC website](#).

TABASC Election Outcome

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The 2024 TABASC election has now closed. We'd like to thank all Parties who participated in the nominations process. The returning members are as follows:

Large Supplier Parties. There were three nominations for three available seats. The successful candidates are Joey Manners, Robert Williams and Alex Hurcombe. All nominees bring a wealth of experience to TABASC in areas such as firmware strategy and governance for SMETS1 and SMETS2 assets, technical specifications, Devices and DCC design.

Small Supplier Parties. There was one nomination for one available seat. The successful candidate was Joshua Broomhead who has extensive experience in the Smart Meter industry with Small and Large Suppliers as well as Software Providers.

Gas Network Operators. The TABASC did not receive any nominations for the available Gas Network seat. If you would like to apply or if you know anyone that would be interested in this position then please let SECAS know by contacting secas@gemserv.com.

The new term will begin on 28 November 2024, therefore the first TABASC meeting with returning members will take place on 10 December 2024.

Reminder to Participate in the ECoS 2024 – DCC Engagement Survey

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The deadline to participate in the ECoS (Enduring Change of Supplier) programme 2024 survey has been extended to **8 November 2024**. We welcome your views on how well you believe the DCC managed and



engaged with you during the ECoS programme and will help the SEC Panel determine its response to DESNZ in the New Year. [Complete the brief survey here](#).

Please note responses to the survey is limited to one per SEC Party. If you have any question about the survey, please reach out to the [SECAS Helpdesk](#).

Industry News and Consultations

Ofgem Webinar - Smart Meter Communication Licence

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

Ofgem is hosting a preliminary market engagement webinar to discuss the future opportunity to apply for the Smart Meter Communication Licence. This webinar aims to shape the opportunity and gather market feedback. The Pre-Tender Market Engagement (PTME) event will take place on 08 November 2024 (09:00 – 10:00).

This event is open to all prospective bidders, and anyone interested in the appointment of the successor Smart Meter Communication Licence holder. The purpose of this PTME is to:

- Inform you of the principles and objectives for the Licence procurement,
- Understand the capacity of the market to tender and possible risks involved,
- Understand the enablers and further information you require to decide to submit a bid,
- Understand what you need from Ofgem throughout the tender process,
- Provide the market with an opportunity to ask questions, raise queries and identify any issues to be addressed at an early stage.

If you wish to attend and are interested in applying for this future opportunity, [please confirm your attendance](#) by 5pm, 6 November 2024. You will need to provide the names, positions, and email addresses of those attending on behalf of your organisation.

A webinar link will be sent to you on 7 November 2024. If you encounter any issues connecting on the day, please email dccregulation@ofgem.gov.uk.

Consultations

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

[FSM consultation on the SEC Variation Testing Approach Document | Smart DCC](#)

You are invited to consider this DCC consultation on the SEC Variation Testing Approach Document (SVTAD) for the Future Service Management (FSM) Programme, closing on 08 November 2024. Feedback is also sought on the proposed designation date for the SVTAD.



[CACoP Survey 2024 | CACoP](#)

The CACoP Forum is conducting the CACoP (Code Administrators Code of Practice) survey this year, as requested by Ofgem. This survey allows you to evaluate the performance of various Code Administrators. Please note, only one response per individual code should be completed. The survey closes on 15 November 2024. For any queries, contact: box.CACoP@uk.nationalenergyso.com.

[Innovation in the energy retail market | Ofgem](#)

You are invited to consider this Ofgem consultation, closing on 27 November 2024. Ofgem seeks to identify and address barriers to innovation in the energy retail market, with a focus on regulatory routes to market.

[June 2025 SEC Release Testing Approach Document | Smart DCC](#)

You are invited to consider this DCC consultation on the draft Testing Approach Document for the June 2025 SEC Release, closing on 7 November 2024.

Upcoming Events

Privacy Webinar

When: 8 November 2024, 10:00 - 12:00 **Who:** Other Users & Other SEC Parties

What: We will provide clarity on the User Independent Auditor (IPA) and Privacy Experts roles, give an overview of the SEC I Obligations with a focus on the Consent Approach and the impact of any recent Mods, and request input on the SEC I review. We will share tips from the Validations team based on trends in User understanding and common areas where Users may encounter difficulties. We will cover the Privacy Change Notification process, reminding Users of their responsibilities and expectations for assessment.

How: Microsoft Teams. To sign up, please email the [SECAS Helpdesk](#) by 31 October 2024 to request the webinar invite.

Security Assessment Webinar

When: 29 November 2024, 10:00 - 12:00 **Who:** SEC Parties

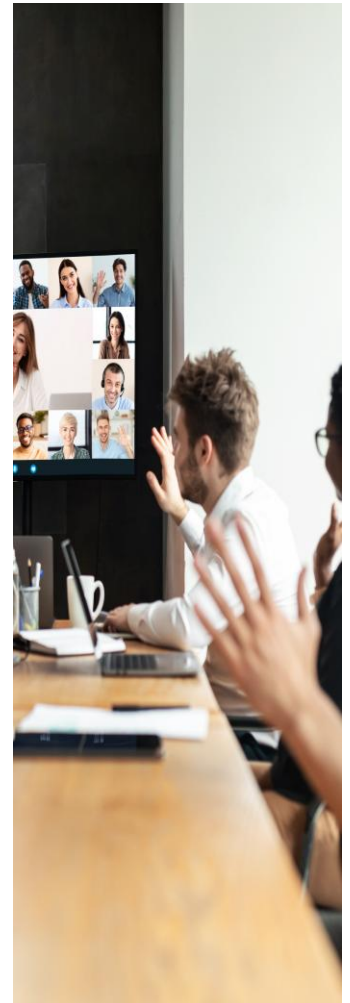
What: SECAS and the User CIO are hosting this webinar to address feedback and provide useful valuable advice to help Parties prepare for their annual assessments. We will clarify the User CIO role, focus on risks and obligations, with a particular emphasis on Small Suppliers, Triage Facility providers, and understanding the ISO27005 risk assessment approach. We will share tips from the Validations team, discuss the Material Change process and Meter Data Retrieval (MDR) role assessment, and run through Users of responsibilities and expectations for their assessment.

How: Microsoft Teams. To sign up, please email the [SECAS Helpdesk](#) by 15 November 2024 to request the webinar invite.



Upcoming Events and SEC Meetings

- 04 Nov, 13:00 - [Strategic Working Group 20](#) (Members)
- 06 Nov, 10:00 - [DCC/SEC Chairs Monthly Programme Engagement](#) (Members)
- 06 Nov, 10:00 - [SEC Monthly Working Group](#) (Members)
- 06 Nov, 14:00 - [SEC Monthly Issues Group](#) (Members)
- 07 Nov, 09:30 - [TABASC 107](#) (Members)
- 08 Nov, 10:00 - [SEC Privacy Webinar](#) (Open to Party Type)
- 11 Nov, 10:30 - [Communications Transition Group 21](#) (Members)
- 12 Nov, 09:20 - [Operations Group Meeting 129](#) (Members)
- 13 Nov, 09:15 - [SECPMA 123](#) (Members)
- 13 Nov, 11:15 - [SEC Security Sub-Committee](#) (Members)
- 19 Nov, 10:00 - [Change Sub-Committee 69](#) (Members)
- 20 Nov, 10:00 - [Change Board 96](#) (Members)
- 21 Nov, 09:30 - [TABASC 107X](#) (Members)
- 21 Nov, 10:00 - [Privacy Sub-Committee](#) (Members)
- 22 Nov, 10:30 - [Other SEC Party Engagement Call](#) (Open to Party type)
- 25 Nov, 12:20 - [Operations Group 130](#) (Members)
- 25 Nov, 10:30 - [Large Supplier Call](#) (Open to Party Type)
- 26 Nov, 09:30 - [SEC Panel 134](#) (Members)
- 26 Nov, 14:00 - [SECCo Board 134](#) (Members)
- 27 Nov, 09:00 - [TAG 120](#) (Members)
- 27 Nov, 14:00 - [Security Sub-Committee 103](#) (Members)
- 28 Nov, 15:00 - [Small Supplier Engagement Call](#) (Open to Party Type)
- 29 Nov, 10:00 - [SEC Security Assessment Webinar](#) (SEC Parties)



View all upcoming industry events, consultations, and publications from SECAS, the DCC, DESNZ and Ofgem in the [Industry Events Calendar](#).



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