SEC
Smart Energy Code

SEC Change Board Meeting 74_2501

25 January 2023, 10:00– 11:25

Teleconference

SECCB_74_2501 – Final Minutes

Attendees:

Category	Change Board Members
Change Board Chair	David Kemp (DK)
Large Suppliers	David Rodger (DR)
	Emma Johnson (EJ)
	Emslie Law (EL)
	Sharon Armitage (SA)
	Alex Hurcombe (AH)
Small Suppliers	Carolyn Burns (CB)
	Gareth Evans (GE)
Network Parties	Matthew Alexander (MA) *(alternate for Gemma Slaney)*
	Stephen Charlton (SC)
	Andy Clasper (ACl)
Other SEC Parties	Alastair Cobb (ACo) *(part meeting)*
	Mike Woodhall (MW)
	Patrick Caiger-Smith (PCS) *(part meeting)*

Representing	Other Participants
Data Communications Company (DCC)	David Walsh (DW)
	Christopher Thompson (CT)
Ofgem	Scott McPhillimy (SMcP)
	Jamie Flaherty (JF)

Representing	Other Participants
SECAS	Rachel Black (RB) *(Meeting Secretariat)*
	Liz Woods (EW) *(part meeting)*
	Ali Beard (AB)
	Mike Fenn (MF)
	Bradley Baker (BB)
	Kev Duddy (KD)
	Ben Giblin (BG) *(part meeting)*
	Mohammedanwar Sumro (MS)

Apologies:

Representing	Participant
Large Suppliers	Robert Johnstone
Security Sub-Committee	Gordon Hextall

1. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The Meeting Secretary (RB) informed the Change Board that comments had been received on the minutes of the previous Change Board meeting held on Wednesday 21 December 2022. The Change Board agreed the changes and **APPROVED** the minutes as final.

2. Actions Outstanding

Action Reference	Action
71/01	The DCC to provide a view on the share of the MP162 costs each Supplier would be apportioned.
The Chair advised that this action would be left open until a view of the remaining costs are made available in June 2023. **Status**: Open	
73/01	SECAS to provide further detail on the underlying processes involved in MP172 ahead of the Change Board voting on this modification.
The Chair advised that this would be covered under the MP172 'Reduced CPA & CPL requirements for innovation and Device field trials' discussion later on in the meeting. **Status**: Closed	
73/02	SECAS to review whether the Change Board terms could be staggered throughout the one-year term instead of all seats being up for election at the same time.

Action Reference	Action
	The Chair advised that SECAS will review the most effective way to change the Change Board's term set out in the SEC to align with other Sub-Committees, and would introduce a stagger after that. **Status**: Closed

3. Change Board Votes

MP167A 'Review of SEC documents (Testing Approach Document criteria)'

The Change Board was invited to perform the final vote on [MP167A 'Review of SEC documents (Testing Approach Document criteria)'].

There were no comments and the Change Board agreed to proceed to vote. The voting outcome is shown below:

Party Category	Approve	Reject	Abstain	Conclusion
Large Suppliers	5	0	0	**Approve**
Small Suppliers	2	0	0	**Approve**
Network Parties	3	0	0	**Approve**
Other SEC Parties	2	0	0	**Approve**
			Overall conclusion:	**Approve**

The view of the Change Board is that MP167A will better facilitate SEC Objectives (a)[1] and (e)[2] for the reasons given by the Proposer in the Modification Report.

The Change Board:

- **AGREED** that this Modification Proposal should proceed to vote
- **APPROVED** the Modification Proposal under Self-Governance
- **PROVIDED** rationale for this decision against the General SEC Objectives

There will now be 10 Working Days for any SEC Party who wishes to refer the Change Board's decision to the Change Sub-Committee (CSC). This referral period will close at **5pm on Thursday 9 February 2023.** If no referrals are notified, the decision will be final.

MP172 'Reduced CPA & CPL requirements for innovation and Device field trials'

The Change Board was invited to perform the final vote on [MP172 'Reduced CPA & CPL requirements for innovation and Device field trials'].

[1] Facilitate the efficient provision, installation, and operation, as well as interoperability, of Smart Metering Systems at Energy Consumers' premises within Great Britain.
[2] Facilitate such innovation in the design and operation of Energy Networks (as defined in the DCC Licence) as will best contribute to the delivery of a secure and sustainable Supply of Energy.

In relation to the legal text amendment, a Change Board member (ACo) asked if this will only apply to trials taking place under this modification, or if it will apply to all trials. SECAS (MF) advised that it will not apply to all trials, and this will be an added protection as not all Devices will be fully Commercial Product Assurance (CPA) certified. SECAS (AB) added that this amendment is a back-up to clarify that informed consumer consent is needed before trials can proceed. SECAS (MF) agreed with this, and advised that they had been operating on the assumption that this would always be the case, but that additional assurance for consumers had been requested by the Change Board's consumer representative.

The member (ACo) was uncertain if it is being implied that the consumer is agreeing that at the end of the trial the Device will have to be removed if the Device does not achieve full CPA certification. SECAS (AB) acknowledged this and advised that this approach came about as a result of a query raised by a Change Board member at the last meeting. SECAS (MF) noted that each trial will have different parameters and the SEC shouldn't dictate what these would be in all cases as the Security Sub-Committee (SSC) has the authority. The SEC should however mandate the basic requirements of all trial applications, and the informed consent of consumers should be one of them.

Another Change Board member (AH) suggested that not enough information had been given to allay their concerns of what will happen if a consumer changes to a different Supplier partway through a trial, and queried whether the legal text amendment was designed to prevent consumer churn. SECAS (MF) advised that the addition may help to ensure the consumer does not churn by ensuring they know the implications of leaving the trial, but it is designed to protect the consumer rather than prevent the consumer from churning. They advised that if a consumer does churn, what this means for the trial and the next steps will be decided by the SSC. They advised that Suppliers must have processes in place that will apply at the end of a trial or if a consumer churns. In the event that a consumer churns, the SSC will notify the incoming Supplier of the change. After this, the firmware would have to be upgraded or the trial participant would have to retrieve the physical Device from the site. Again, the consumer would need to be aware of this before entering the trial. The member was still uncertain if this was enough to ease their concerns. Another member (ACo) highlighted that this modification will speed up the process of Devices being trialled and ensuring that feedback is received from consumers on how functional these Devices are. SECAS (AB) assured AH that the SSC will have full visibility of any trials taking place. SECAS also advised that a benefit to this modification is the reduction in costs associated with bringing innovative products to market.

The majority of the members voiced concerns around not understanding how the SSC process will occur. However, the SSC Chair was not able to attend this meeting. The Chair proposed that an ad-hoc meeting be held with the SSC Chair in attendance to address the issues raised by the members, and Change Board could proceed to a vote after this. The Change Board agreed with this approach.

The Change Board:

- **DEFERRED** the vote on this Modification Proposal until an ad-hoc meeting can be held with the SSC Chair.

MP183 'Post Commissioning Obligations Reporting'

The Change Board was invited to perform the final vote on [MP183 'Post Commissioning Obligations Reporting'](#).

There were no comments and the Change Board agreed to proceed to vote. The voting outcome is shown below:

Party Category	Approve	Reject	Abstain	Conclusion
Large Suppliers	5	0	0	**Approve**
Small Suppliers	2	0	0	**Approve**
Network Parties	3	0	0	**Approve**
Other SEC Parties	3	0	0	**Approve**
			Overall conclusion:	**Approve**

The view of the Change Board is that MP183 will better facilitate SEC Objectives (a) and (b)[3] for the reasons given by the Proposer in the Modification Report.

The Change Board:

- **AGREED** that this Modification Proposal should proceed to vote
- **APPROVED** the Modification Proposal under Self-Governance
- **PROVIDED** rationale for this decision against the General SEC Objectives

There will now be 10 Working Days for any SEC Party who wishes to refer the Change Board's decision to the Change Sub-Committee (CSC). This referral period will close at **5pm on Thursday 9 February 2023.** If no referrals are notified, the decision will be final.

MP220 'MMC Changes resulting from GBCS v4.1 Device Testing'

The Change Board was invited to perform the final vote on MP220 'MMC Changes resulting from GBCS v4.1 Device Testing'.

There were no comments and the Change Board agreed to proceed to vote. The voting outcome is shown below:

Party Category	Approve	Reject	Abstain	Conclusion
Large Suppliers	5	0	0	**Approve**
Small Suppliers	2	0	0	**Approve**
Network Parties	3	0	0	**Approve**
Other SEC Parties	3	0	0	**Approve**
			Overall conclusion:	**Approve**

The view of the Change Board is that MP220 will better facilitate SEC Objective (a) for the reasons given by the Proposer in the Modification Report.

The Change Board:

- **AGREED** that this Modification Proposal should proceed to vote
- **APPROVED** the Modification Proposal under Self-Governance
- **PROVIDED** rationale for this decision against the General SEC Objectives

[3] Enable the DCC to comply at all times with the General Objectives of the DCC (as defined in the DCC Licence), and to efficiently discharge the other obligations imposed upon it by the DCC Licence.

There will now be 10 Working Days for any SEC Party who wishes to refer the Change Board's decision to the Change Sub-Committee (CSC). This referral period will close at **5pm on Thursday 9 February 2023.** If no referrals are notified, the decision will be final.

Please note: an Other SEC Party member (AC) had to leave after this vote. Two Other SEC Party members remained, so the meeting was still quorate.

MP221 'CHTS v1.0 and GBCS v1.1 Installation End Date and Maintenance End Date'

The Change Board was invited to perform the final vote on [MP221 'CHTS v1.0 and GBCS v1.1 Installation End Date and Maintenance End Date'].

A member (DR) questioned if the three-month extension period would allow enough time for the remaining Devices to be upgraded and what would happen if the Devices were not upgraded within this time period. SECAS (AB) advised that they were uncertain of what would happen if the Devices were not upgraded within the three months. However, they highlighted that out of the 200,000 Communications Hubs that needed to be installed when this issue was first raised, 100,000 of those should have been successfully installed by now. Therefore, SECAS does not envision a scenario where the last 100,000 Communications Hubs would not be installed on time.

The member also noted the one-month gap between the installation and maintenance end-dates, and asked if this would be enough time to upgrade all the Devices. The DCC (CT) noted that Suppliers need to request for the firmware be updated, and the DCC will then send the update to the Device. The DCC (DW) advised that it would be best to check this with the Proposer regarding the extension. SECAS (AB) noted that this would be clarified, and advised that the DCC have agreed to extending both end dates by three months. They also noted that there has always been only a one-month gap between the installation and maintenance end-date, and no concerns had been raised over this to date. Clarifications will be captured in the Conclusions Report.

The Change Board agreed to proceed to vote. The voting outcome is shown below:

Party Category	Approve	Reject	Abstain	Conclusion
Large Suppliers	5	0	0	**Approve**
Small Suppliers	2	0	0	**Approve**
Network Parties	3	0	0	**Approve**
Other SEC Parties	2	0	0	**Approve**
			Overall conclusion:	**Approve**

The view of the Change Board is that MP221 will better facilitate SEC Objective (a) for the reasons given by the Proposer in the Modification Report.

The Change Board:

- **AGREED** that this Modification Proposal should proceed to vote
- **APPROVED** the Modification Proposal under Self-Governance
- **PROVIDED** rationale for this decision against the General SEC Objectives

There will now be 10 Working Days for any SEC Party who wishes to refer the Change Board's decision to the Change Sub-Committee (CSC). This referral period will close at **5pm on Thursday 9 February 2023.** If no referrals are notified, the decision will be final.

4. Request for Impact Assessment

MP202 'Enduring Solution for SMETS1 and SMETS2+ PPMIDs'

The Change Board was presented with the DCC Impact Assessment request for MP202 'Enduring Solution for SMETS1 and SMETS2+ PPMIDs'.

A member (EJ) noted that the MP202 Refinement Consultation stated that six million Devices would be impacted, however this figure was not included in the presentation. The member questioned if this figure was accurate and questioned whether the Impact Assessment should be delayed until the exact number of Devices impacted by this modification has been clarified.

Another member (PCS) referred to one of the Refinement Consultation respondents stating that the interim solution was not working. The member asked if the interim solution is not working for some parties or all parties. SECAS (BG) confirmed that the feedback they received was that it works for some parties, but not for others. The member noted that this implied that if installing parties changed their process it might work. The Chair advised that SECAS would discuss this offline with the parties.

The member (PCS) also noted that it would be difficult to establish the value of this modification and how much Suppliers would save from this modification being implemented. The member suggested that it would be challenging to estimate the costs associated with this. SECAS (AB) advised that the best way to get an estimate on this would be to issue a request for information, and for Suppliers to advise how much the costs are worth to them. SECAS also stated that the six million figure is the total number of Pre-Payment Interface Devices (PPMIDs) that can currently be Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specifications (SMETS) 1 or SMETS2. SECAS advised that the number of Devices that will be affected will be less than this, but could not give an exact number at present. The DCC (DW) advised that this issue was raised in the problem statement, and it is based against the known level of SMETS1 stock. They noted that there would not need to be a doubling up of vehicles to carry out the installations, as the idea is that each vehicle will contain one PPMID to be used for both SMETS1 and SMETS2 installations. They added that the same image can be used, and prenotification prior to arrival on site is not required. The member (PCS) acknowledged this, but queried if the money saved will justify the costs. SECAS (AB) stated that currently, the range for the Preliminary Assessment is £350,000 to £750,000, and advised that the Impact Assessment would be needed to narrow down the cost.

The Change Board:

- **AGREED** that the DCC Impact Assessment should be requested.

5. Any other business

The Chair noted that this was the last Change Board meeting before the new term begins on 1 February 2023. The Chair thanked the members who were stepping down for their participation on the Change Board this term.

There was no further business, and the Chair closed the meeting.

Next scheduled meeting date: 22 February 2023