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SECMP0055 Initial Modification Report

Incorporation of multiple Issue Resolution Proposals into the SEC

About this document

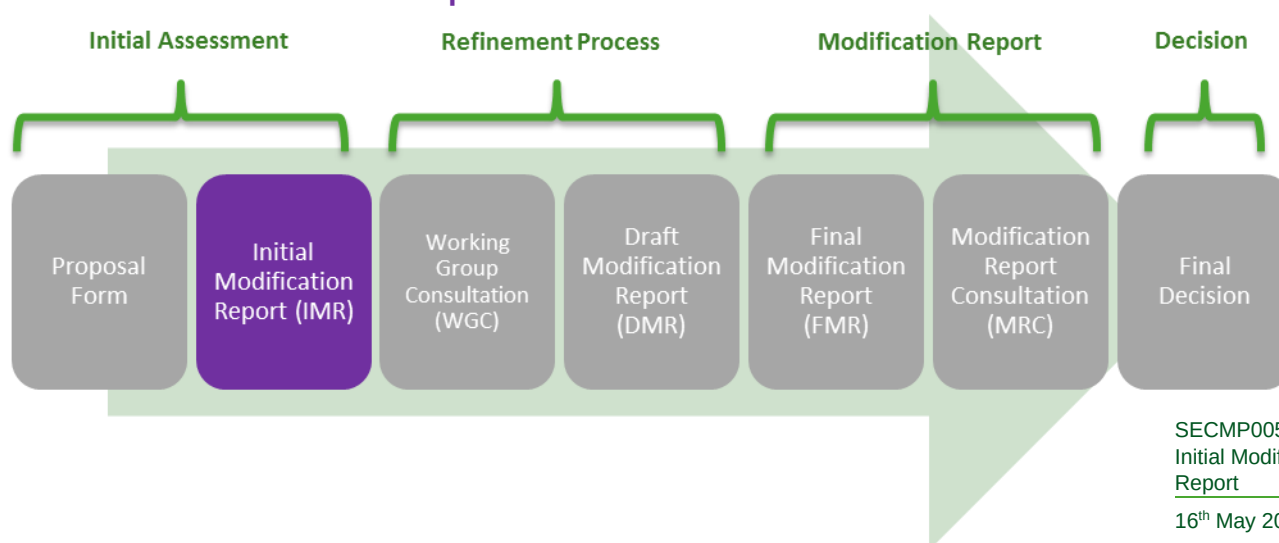
This Initial Modification Report (IMR) contains our initial assessment of SECMP0055. It also provides information on the issue, the Proposer's solution, potential impacts, costs and proposed progression.

This document was submitted to the Smart Energy Code (SEC) Panel for consideration to determine how this Modification Proposal should be progressed through the Modification Process.

As part of this document the Panel:

- **AGREED** that this modification should be submitted into the Refinement Process to be assessed by a Working Group;
- **AGREED** the Working Group Terms of Reference (ToR);
- **AGREED** the progression timetable set out in Section 6; and
- **AGREED** that SECMP0055 should be progressed as a Path 3 Modification Proposal.

Where are we in the process?



SECMP0055
Initial Modification
Report

16th May 2018

Version 1.0

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Stage 01: Initial Modification Report

SECMP0055:

Incorporation of multiple Issue Resolution Proposals into the SEC

Summary

This modification proposes to incorporate a number of clarifications into the Technical Code Specifications. The clarifications were developed by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) through the Issue Resolution Proposal (IRP) process and have been packaged together as a SEC Modification Proposal.

Proposed Progression

This Modification Proposal is recommended to be progressed:

P3

- as a Path 3: Self-Governance Modification Proposal; and
- through the refinement process for three months.

3
Months

Potential Impacts

!

- There are no impacts on SEC Parties identified.
- There are no impacts on Data Communication Company (DCC) Central Systems and/or Party interfacing systems identified.

What stage is this document in the process?

01	Initial Assessment
02	Refinement Process
03	Modification Report
04	Decision

SECAS Contact:

Name:

Phillip Twiddy

Number:

07926 903789

Email:

SEC.change@gemserv.com

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About this Document

This is an Initial Modification Report (IMR). This document contains details of the issue, solution, potential impacts and costs as well as the proposed progression for SECMP0055.

This document has three attachments:

- Attachment A contains the SECMP0055 Modification Proposal Form;
- Attachment B provides a list of the candidate IRPs to be considered during the refinement process¹, along with the Technical Code Specification impacted by each IRP; and
- Attachment C provides the IRPs or similar documentation, with details of specific issues raised and their proposed solutions.

The Panel considered this IMR at its meeting on 11th May 2018 and determined how this modification should be progressed through the Modification Process.

¹ If significant impacts are identified during the refinement process an IRP may be delayed to a subsequent release. Similarly, further IRPs may be included during the refinement process if they do not have significant on SEC Parties.



1. Summary

What is the issue?

In the early stages of the Smart Metering Implementation Program, BEIS took the lead in developing the technical specifications that sit under the SEC. As part of this, BEIS also took responsibility for receiving and responding to issues raised internally, by the DCC and other interested industry parties. Several hundred issues have been raised in relation to technical specifications under the SEC. In some cases, these queries have been resolved by providing an explanation of the specifications, whilst some have resulted in proposed amendments to the specifications in the form of Issue Resolution Proposals (IRPs).

BEIS has implemented IRPs required for the initial DCC Releases and has begun handing over those not required for initial releases for implementation through the Modification Process.

What is the Proposed Solution?

The proposed solution is to consider each of the candidate IRPs for inclusion in this Modification Proposal. Individual IRPs may be considered for a subsequent modification if consequences that were unforeseen during the development of the IRP are identified during the refinement of this modification.

Potential impacts

Party

There are no impacts on SEC Parties anticipated as part of the implementation of this modification

System

There are no impacts on DCC Central Systems and/or Party interfacing systems identified.

Potential implementation costs

We believe that the cost to implement SECMP0055 will be limited to SEC time and effort to deliver the necessary document changes.



Proposed progression

We believe that this Modification Proposal should be progressed:

- as a Path 3: Self-Governance Modification Proposal; and
- through the Refinement Process for three months.



2. What is the issue?

Background

In the early stages of the Smart Metering Implementation Program, BEIS took the lead in developing the technical specifications that sit under the SEC. As part of this, BEIS also took responsibility for receiving and responding to issues raised internally, by the DCC and other interested industry parties.

Several hundred issues have been raised in relation to technical specifications under the SEC, both prior to and during the initial stages of the Smart Meter roll-out. In some cases, these queries have been resolved by providing an explanation of the specifications, whilst some have resulted in proposed amendments to the specifications in the form of Issue Resolution Proposals (IRPs).

BEIS has implemented IRPs required for the initial DCC Releases and has begun handing over those not required for initial releases for implementation through the Modification process.

What is the issue?

The Proposer and SECAS have reviewed the list of IRPs submitted by BEIS thus far and have developed a 'candidate list' (Attachment B) of IRPs that we believe can be effectively joined together and delivered under a single modification.

There are currently 25 candidate IRPs for consideration under this Modification Proposal, each of which is considered to be a clarification or alignment to the current arrangements. Most of these candidate IRPs are simply looking to introduce clarifications into technical specifications (primarily into the Great Britain Companion Specification (GBCS)).

The particular issues being resolved and the proposed solutions agreed by Technical Specification Issues Resolution Subgroup (TSIRS) is set out in individual IRPs, included in Appendix C.

3. Solution

Proposed solution

[SECMP0055 'Incorporation of multiple Issue Resolution Proposals into the SEC'](#) was raised by the DCC on 2nd May 2018.

This modification proposes to implement several IRPs that have been developed and agreed by TSIRS. As part of this modification's refinement, SECAS, the Proposer and the Working Group will consider each of the 25 candidate IRPs for inclusion in this Modification Proposal. Individual IRPs may be considered for a subsequent modification if consequences that were unforeseen during the development of the IRP are identified during the refinement of the modification.

As part of the IRP process, led by BEIS, a proposed solution to each issue has been developed and agreed through TSIRS. The intention is to implement the solutions documented for each IRP. However, the Working Group may agree changes to these solutions should a better approach be developed.

The proposed solution for each of the IRPs typically:

- clarifies requirements in the affected technical specification document (meaning, implementing the IRP reduces the risk of the end-to-end solution failing to work as expected); or
- aligns the affected technical specification to the end-to-end solution as currently implemented (meaning, implementing the IRP reduces the risk that the implemented solution needs adjusting to align to the technical specification or that a part of the solution is deemed non-compliant).

The list of candidate IRPs can be found in Attachment B. The BEIS process of considering issues will continue during the progression of this modification. Any additional IRPs submitted to SECAS during the Refinement process may be added to the candidate list, if the Proposer and the Working Group see it feasible.

The proposed legal text changes to [SEC Schedule 8 'Great Britain \(GB Companion Specification\)](#) and [SEC Schedule 9 'Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specification'](#) are provided in Attachment B.



Views against the General SEC Objectives

The Proposer believes that this Modification Proposal better facilitates General SEC Objectives (a)² and (b)³.

- **Objective (a):** Incorporating these IRPs into the SEC will reduce the risk of future operational issues arising if the solution proposed in the IRP is not implemented consistently across each affected party.
- **Objective (b):** Formalising these solutions, where they align with the DCC's or Devices' implementation, avoids an inefficient redesign by various parties and / or perceived or real compliance issues.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Proposer believes that this modification is neutral against the remaining Objectives.

² facilitate the efficient provision, installation, and operation, as well as interoperability, of Smart Metering Systems at Energy Consumers' premises within Great Britain

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

4. Potential Impacts

The following section sets out the initial assessment of likely impacts should SECMP0055 be approved and implemented. Additional impacts may be identified by the Working Group as part of the Refinement Process.

SEC Party impacts

For the avoidance of doubt it is considered that no Party should be impacted by this Modification Proposal as it simply seeks to make clarifications to documents or align to existing solutions.

Central System impacts

For the avoidance of doubt it is considered that the Central Systems and Party interfacing systems will not be impacted by this Modification Proposal as it simply seeks to make clarifications to documents or align to existing solutions.

Testing

No testing is considered necessary, as the proposed solutions align to current implementation or are expected to clarify existing requirements.

SEC and Subsidiary Document impacts

Changes are required to:

- Schedule 8 'Great Britain Companion Specification'; and
- Schedule 9 'Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specifications'.

Impacts on other industry codes

No changes to other industry codes are anticipated.

Greenhouse Gas Emission impacts

There is no impact on Greenhouse Gas Emissions.



5. Potential Costs

Potential implementation costs

The cost to implement SECMP0055 is expected to be limited to the SEC Administration time and effort for:

- making the necessary amendments to the SEC;
- releasing a new version of the SEC to SEC Parties; and
- publication of this updated version on the SEC website.

However, this will be confirmed as part of the Working Group's assessment and development of the modification.

6. Proposed Progression

Modification Path

We and the Proposer recommend that SECMP0055 be progressed as a Path 3: Self-Governance Modification Proposal.

None of the candidate IRPs is expected to meet the criteria set out for a Path 2 modification in Section D2.6 of the SEC.

Proposed progression

We recommend the following progression timetable for Panel consideration.

Activity	Date
Modification Proposal raised	2 nd May 2018
IMR presented to Panel	11 th May 18
Working Group Meeting	May - Jun 18
Working Group Consultation	Jun - Jul 18
Working Group Meeting	Jul 18
Panel reviews Modification Report	Aug 18
Modification Report Consultation	Aug – Sep 18
Change Board vote	Sep 18

Refinement length

We recommend that this modification is submitted for a three-month Refinement and assessment by a Working Group. This three-month timeframe will allow for:

- a full Working Group assessment to take place (anticipated one to two meetings); and
- one 15 Working Day industry consultation to be issued and reviewed.

For a more detailed progression plan please see Appendix 1.

Working Group

Membership

We recommend that the SECMP0055 Working Group be made up of individuals with expertise in the Great Britain Companion Specification.

Ideally, this will include the individuals or organisations that raised the original issues as well as any other interested parties.

Terms of Reference

In order to assess the Modification Proposal fully, we recommend that the Working Group consider the following specific questions in addition to the standard Terms of Reference questions.

Q1: Do you consider that the solution identified in each IRP remains necessary?

The IRPs each set out a solution to an issue that has been raised with BEIS. The IRPs have been agreed by TSIRS. The Working Group should consider whether each issue still needs to be addressed.

Q2: Do you foresee any unintended consequences of implementing these IRPs?

Each IRP is considered to be a clarification or alignment to the existing solution. However, the Working Group should consider whether any of the IRPs will introduce a change to the current operating arrangements.

Q3: Do you see any reason not to implement each of these IRPs as part of a single change?

The changes are considered to be discrete and are not anticipated to create conflict if implemented at the same time. However, the Working Group should consider whether there are any unintended consequences.

Q4: Are there other IRPs that should be implemented as part of this Modification.

We believe the Working Group should consider any other IRPs that they are aware of and believe should be implemented as part of this modification.



7. Implementation

Recommended implementation date

We and the Proposer consider that these IRPs are documentation-only and resolve ambiguities or align technical specifications to the current operating arrangements. We, BEIS and the Proposer recommend that this modification be implemented as part of the June 2019 SEC Release. However, the most appropriate implementation date will be determined as part of the refinement of this modification.



8. Recommendations

The Panel is invited to:

- **AGREE** that this modification should be submitted into the Refinement Process to be assessed by a Working Group;
- **AGREE** the Working Group terms of reference;
- **AGREE** the progression timetable set out in Section 6; and
- **AGREE** that SECMP0055 should be progressed as a Path 3 Modification Proposal.



Please note that the progression plan shown below is subject to change.

[illegible]



Appendix 2: Glossary

The table below provides definitions of the terms used in this document.

Acronym	Defined Term
BEIS	(Department for) Business Energy and Industrial Strategy
DCC	Data Communications Company
IMR	Initial Modification Report
IRP	Issue Resolution Proposal
SEC	Smart Energy Code
SECAS	Smart Energy Code Administrator & Secretariat
TSIRS	Technical Specification Issue Resolution Subgroup