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SEC Panel Meeting 105

09:30 – 13:15, 17 June 2022

SECP_105_1706 – Meeting Headlines

Decision, Discussion and Information Items

1. Minutes and Actions Outstanding (For Information)

The Panel noted that the minutes from the May Panel meeting had been approved ex-committee. The Panel **NOTED** the update and **AGREED** that all actions marked as Propose to Close could be closed.

2. GBCS Programme v4.1 – Readiness Review approach (For Decision) (**GREEN**)

SECAS provided the Panel with an overview of the proposed approach and timeline for reviewing the readiness and monitoring the deployment of the Great Britain Companion Specification (GBCS) v4.1 Communication Hub (CH) Firmware. The Panel **APPROVED** the proposed approach, Readiness Review milestones and next steps.

3. Privacy Assessments for MDR Users – Follow Up (For Decision)

SECAS presented the Panel with further information regarding the approach to controlling data access for the new Meter Data Retriever (MDR) User Role being introduced under [MP162 'SEC changes required to deliver MHHS'](#), and provided an analysis of what this means for privacy risk assurance. The Panel:

- **AGREED** that MDR Users will not need to undergo User Privacy Assessments under the MP162 solution;
- **AGREED** that, if further information subsequently arises that would conclude that MDR Users would need to undergo User Privacy Assessments, a further modification could be raised to address this; and
- **AGREED** that SECAS will arrange a meeting with the MHHS Programme and the REC Code Manager to discuss the questions regarding Supplier assurance.

4. Programme Assurance – Project Initiation Document v0.1 (For Decision) (**GREEN**)

SECAS provided the Project initiation Document (PID) v0.1 for the Programme Assurance Project. The Panel was requested to approve the PID and recommend release of funds for the next phase of work to the SECCo Board. The Panel **APPROVED** the current draft PID v0.1, **AGREED** that any governance proposals should be considered at a later date once further activities in the PID have been completed, and **APPROVED** the recommendation of the project to the Board for release of funds utilising the Network Evolution project budget.

5. The Future Development of Smart Meter Communications (For Decision) (**GREEN**)

The Operations Group (OPSG) Chair invited the Panel to open discussions of a governance framework encompassing the various programmes of work addressing the delivery of and migration to new communications infrastructure for Smart Metering. The Panel **PROVIDED** initial comments, **AGREED**

the need to establish an overall governance framework under the auspices of the SEC Panel, and **AGREED** that further discussions need to take place with principal stakeholders on the outline Framework and for a second level description of the framework to be developed for approval by the SEC Panel.

6. SMETS Interoperability Project Update and Reporting IA (For Decision) (GREEN)

SECAS provided the Panel with updates against the recommendations made in the 'Review of Smart Metering assurance for Device interoperability on change' report, commissioned by BEIS. The Panel:

- **NOTED** the updates against the recommendations 5, 8, 9 and 10;
- **APPROVED** the SMETS Reporting Impact Assessment;
- **RECOMMENDED** the release of funds to deliver the Reporting to the SECCo Board; and
- **AGREED** that SECAS produce a draft Panel letter for submission to BEIS recommending the closure of the project, for approval at the July Panel meeting.

7. Project Initiation Document: DCC Monitoring and Assurance (For Decision) (GREEN)

SECAS sought Panel approval of the DCC Monitoring and Assurance Project Initiation Document (PID), and to make a recommendation to the SECCo Board to approve the project budget for the next phases of the project. The Panel **APPROVED** the scope of this project as set out in the DCC Monitoring and Assurance – Project Initiation Document v0.5, **APPROVED** the next stages of project delivery, and **AGREED** to recommend the project to the SECCo Board for release of funds.

8. Faster Switching Programme - SEC Panel Sub-Committee Readiness Review (For Decision) (AMBER)

SECAS updated the Panel on the readiness of the new capabilities being implemented under the SEC to support the Faster Switching Programme. This includes readiness of this capability to start Transition Stage 3 and then to proceed to Go-live. This assessment does not address broader aspects of the Faster Switching Programme. The Panel **CONSIDERED** the assessments made by the TAG, OPSG and SSC and **AGREED** to recommend to the DCC that the new capability introduced under the SEC by the Faster Switching Programme can be put operationally live without any detrimental impact to the existing SEC Services.

9. OPR Regulatory Year 2021/2022 – Panel Assessment of DCC Engagement (For Decision) (GREEN)

SECAS provided the Panel with an updated draft of the SEC Panel assessment of the Ofgem Operational Performance Regime (OPR) for DCC Engagement for the Regulatory Year (RY) 2021/2022. SECAS has engaged with the OPSG for their feedback. The Panel **REVIEWED** the draft response and **APPROVED** the response is submitted to Ofgem, subject to Panel comments received.

10. Consequential Costs follow up (For Decision) (GREEN)

In response to action SECP104/02, in relation to SEC Party claims for service failures, SECAS provided an update on legal advice received. The Panel **NOTED** the legal advice provided and **CONFIRMED** there is no further action for SECAS. The Panel recognised the frustrations Parties have with the current legal framework, and will seek to feed that dissatisfaction into the Ofgem DCC licence renewal activities.

11. ECOS Project Panel Assessment Approach (For Information)

SECAS presented the requirements and approach for Panel to assess DCC performance per the Baseline Margin Project Performance Adjustment (BMPPA) Scheme for Enduring Change of Supplier Arrangements (ECoS). The Panel **NOTED** the update and approach.

12. P375 Closure Report (For Information) (GREEN)

SECAS provided the Panel with a summary of the conclusions from the recently completed TABASC project which considered the impacts of Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC) Modification P375 on the Smart Metering Technical and Business Architecture. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

13. Privacy Assessment Reviews (For Decision) (RED)

The SEC Panel is required to consider and set an assurance or compliance status for each SEC Party that has undergone a Privacy Assessment (SEC Section I2.23). SECAS provided the outcome of two assessments and the Panel **AGREED** SECAS' recommendations.

14. Strategic Plan Update (For Discussion) (AMBER)

SECAS presented the updated SEC Strategic Plan. The Panel **CONSIDERED** the contents of the SEC Strategic Plan and **APPROVED** the document for onward circulation.

15. SMDA Scheme Review (For Information) (GREEN)

SECAS provided an update on the scope of the review being undertaken on the Smart Meter Device Assurance (SMDA) Scheme, and the method of conducting that review. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

16. Annual Customer Satisfaction Survey Results and Cross Code Best Practice Findings (For Decision) (GREEN)

SECAS presented the Panel with the results from the Customer Satisfaction Survey (CSS), and the potential improvements identified, following the review of other Codes that performed significantly better than the SEC in certain areas of the Ofgem Cross Code 2021 survey. The Panel **NOTED** the update, **APPROVED** the list of actions which SECAS propose to take on the back of suggested improvements, and **APPROVED** the potential enhancements which SECAS propose to take on the back of the review of other Codes best practice.

17. Current Events of Default (For Decision) (RED)

SECAS updated the Panel on Events of Default, insolvent suppliers, and SEC Parties being expelled from or withdrawing from the SEC. The Panel **NOTED** the update and **AGREED** to SECAS' recommendations.

18. BEIS Update (For Information)

BEIS provided an update on its recent publications, forthcoming consultations, and key milestones. This included upcoming publications which may be of interest to the Panel throughout June and July 2022. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

19. DCC Update (For Information)

The DCC provided the Panel with an update on the activities undertaken by the DCC since the last Panel meeting. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

20. SEC Panel Sub-Committee Report (For Decision)

SECAS provided an update on recent activities of the SEC Panel Sub-Committees. The Panel is also requested to approve the approach recommended by the SMDASC. The Panel **NOTED** the update, **ENDORSED** the concerns raised by the Sub-Committees, and **ENDORSED** the SMDASC recommended approach to provide xml files and test scripts to Manufacturer Parties, on the basis they sign an NDA with SECCo, to improve transparency and visibility of testing.

21. Transitional Governance Update (For Decision) (GREEN)

SECAS presented an update from the transitional governance forums and other smart metering related meetings and workshops attended by SECAS and the Panel Chair in the last month. The Panel **NOTED** the update and **ENDORSED** the high priority items from the Transitional Governance groups and forums.

22. DCC Reporting (For Information)

SECAS provided the Panel with details of the Post Commissioning Information report as provided by the DCC. The Panel **NOTED** the OPSG observations in relation to DCC reports delegated to them.

23. Operations Report (For Information)

SECAS provided the Panel with the Operations Report for May 2022, outlining the activities undertaken by the SECAS team in support of the SEC. The Panel **NOTED** the report.

24. Any Other Business (AOB)

SECAS asked the Panel to indicate interest in attending another Greenhouse Day event with the User IPA, CIO, and the Sub-Committee Chairs. The Panel agreed to follow up with SECAS offline if interested.

A member informed the Panel that the Uniform Network Code (UNC) Fife100 trial is underway, and asked if members were interested in further information. The member agreed to forward further information to SECAS, who will also raise this with a representative of the Energy and Utilities Alliance (EUA).

SECAS sought confirmation that the Panel approves that the remaining Investment Fund is utilised for the SMDA review, and the Panel agreed.

SECAS informed the Panel of an upcoming BEIS consultation on Demand Side Response (DSR) and Electric Vehicles (EVs), which will be shared with the Panel when available.

SECAS suggested the Panel meets again in person in October 2022 to start the new term, and that the SECCo Directors meet for an in-person strategy day in September 2022. The Panel agreed to this approach.

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

Next Meeting Date: 15 July 2022