

This document is classified as **White** in accordance with the Panel Information Policy. Information can be shared with the public, and any members may publish the information, subject to copyright.

Paper Reference:	SECP_107_1208_19
Action:	For Information
<u>Acronyms and Defined Terms SEC Glossary</u>	

Operations Report – July 2022

1. Purpose

The Operations Report is a monthly update on SECAS activities undertaken in support of the SEC during July 2022.

2. Recommendation

The Panel is requested to **NOTE** the contents of this paper.

3. SECAS Service highlights from July 2022

This report covers the following notable highlights from the previous month:

- **Party Engagement** – we hosted our Annual SEC Panel Q&A webinar and a webinar with the Alt HAN Co for Suppliers. Our next webinar will be our highly popular Intro to the SEC event which will take place on 4 October 2022. Details of upcoming webinars can be found [here](#). Slides and recordings of previous webinars can be found [here](#).
- **Security and Privacy** – we issued further guidance to SEC Parties from NCSC regarding the cyber security threat awareness and the Security Risk Assessment project completed with the final deliverables presented and signed off by SSC on 27 July 2022.
- **Tech Ops** – we undertook analysis to understand the level of risk that the randomised offset applied to Half Hourly (HH) Profile Reads used in Smart Meters may introduce a Settlement Gap that energy suppliers are unable to mitigate.
- **Change Management** – we continue to manage a high number of modifications, with 42 proposals currently open; more information on modifications and releases can be found in the SEC Change Update Report.
- **Committee Support** – we facilitated 13 Panel, Sub-Committee and Working Group meetings.

Eloise Evans

SECAS Team

5 August 2022

4. Market Entry, Exit and updates

4.1 SEC Parties

The following chart shows a breakdown of the number of [current SEC Parties](#) to the SEC by Voting Group. Excluding the DCC, there are currently 336 Parties and 270 Voting Groups. The full list of SEC Parties and their Voting Groups can be found in the [SEC Parties List](#).

SEC Parties can view all Parties, including Registration Data Providers and withdrawn / expelled Parties, in the [ID Allocation spreadsheet](#).

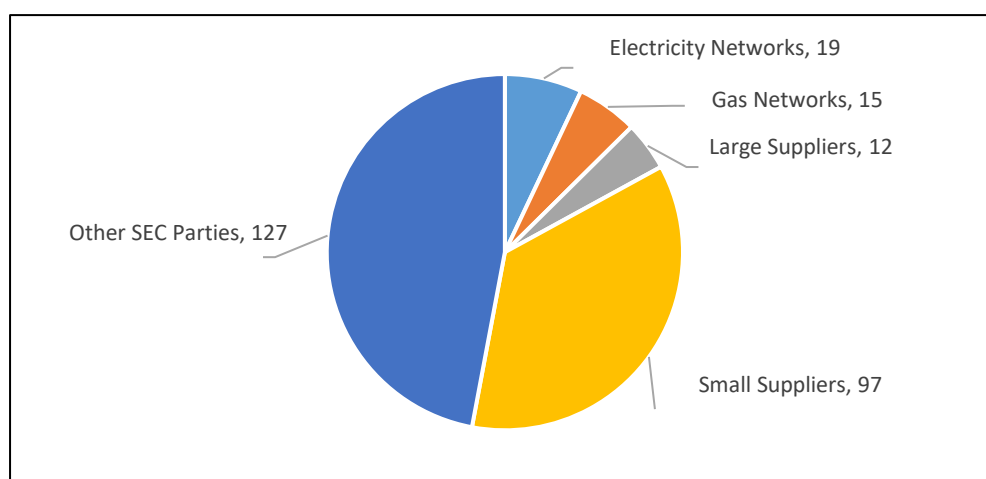


Figure 1: Breakdown of SEC Party Voting Groups by Party Category (excluding the DCC)

4.2 Market Entry and Exit

The following presents the number of Parties who entered and exited the market over the past 12 months. It also displays the Events of Default where two Parties Defaulted in July 2022:

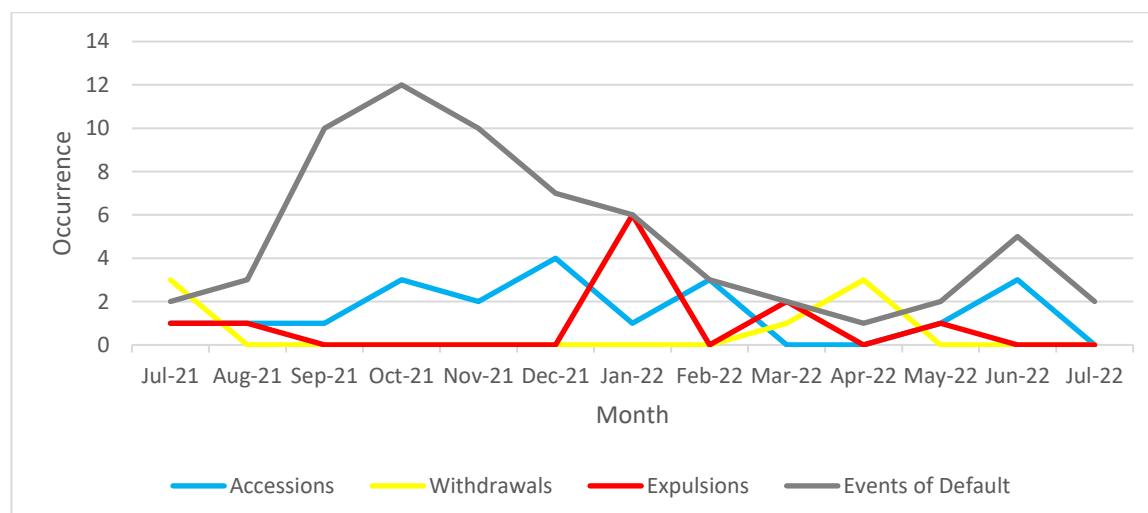


Figure 2: Accessions, withdrawals, expulsions and Events of Default in the past 12 months

In July 2022, no new Parties acceded to or exited the SEC.

4.3 User Entry Process (UEP) completion

No new Parties completed the UEP in July 2022. All current Parties that have completed the UEP can be viewed in the [SEC Parties List](#). To date, 127 current Parties have completed the UEP, and a

combined total of 62 current Electricity Networks, Large and Small Suppliers have not completed the UEP.

4.4 Testing Updates

Since the last Panel meeting:

- No new SEC Parties have completed **SMKI and Repository Entry Process Testing (SREPT)**;
- No new SEC Party have completed **User Entry Process Testing (UEPT)**; and
- No new SEC Parties have completed **SMETS1 Eligibility Testing**.

SEC Panel members can view the full list of testing completions [here](#).

5. Monthly SECAS Highlights

5.1 July 2022 Snapshot

Security Statistics		Modification Statistics		Committee Support	
100% Assessment compliance	6 SECAS Initial validations	3 New modifications raised	42 Modifications undergoing assessment	100% Meeting notice 5WD in advance	100% Papers issued 5WD in advance
10 Assurance or Compliance Status' Set	6 Assessments underway	6 Modifications decided upon	1 Modification implemented	100% Minutes issued 5WD after meeting	13 Meetings held
Party Engagement		Technical Operations			
7 Latest News Updates	2 Webinars hosted	2 New CPL Versions	3 New CPL Entries		
2 Events of Default	91 Number of webinar attendees	0 New PPCL / EPCL Versions	0 CPL Removals		

5.2 Security and Privacy Update

- We hosted our monthly SSC CPA Issue Resolution Sub-Group (SCIRS) meeting; the usual bi-monthly Security Sub-Committee (SSC) meetings; and the monthly Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority (SMKI PMA) meeting.
- We published the [Security Controls Framework \(SCF\) V2.8](#) on Monday 1 August 2022. Updates to Part 2 include SSC clarifications on Post Commissioning Obligations (Appendix AC 5.3(b)); evidence required to support Security Self Assessments (SSA); risks and longevity of personnel screening (G4.2 and G4.3); XML Signing checks now carried out by the DCC rather than the User CIO.

- We issued further NCSC guidance to SEC Parties regarding heightened cyber security awareness during this period of heightened cyber threat. This new guidance [Maintaining a sustainable strengthened cyber security posture](#) follows previous guidance published in January on [Actions to take when the cyber threat is heightened](#). The guidance is accompanied by a [blog](#) by Dr Marsha Quallo-Wright, NCSC Deputy Director for CNI, which explains the context.
- We completed the annual SMKI Standards and Best Practices review and provided an update at the July SMKI PMA meeting.
- The closing workshop for the End-to-End Security Risk Assessment Iteration 9 (RAI9), took place on 27 July 2022 where the final deliverables were presented for approval and sign off by the SSC and recommendations were provided. Positive feedback was provided regarding improvements in the process and documentation and the recommendations will be discussed at a future SSC meeting.

5.3 Change Management Update

- As at the end of July, we had 42 open proposals going through the modification framework. Three new proposals were raised in July, and we are currently working on further new submissions from Proposers. Six modifications were closed (five approved and one withdrawn). One modification was implemented during July. More detailed information on modification progression and the Change Sub-Committee (CSC) and Change Board's decisions is available in the SEC Change Update Report.
- The Change Board voted on seven modifications this month. This included two modifications that are now with the Authority for determination: [MP162 'SEC changes required to deliver MHHS'](#), which the Change Board recommended be rejected; and [MP186 'Section D Review \(2020\): further enhancements'](#), which the Change Board recommended be approved. Please see section 5.6 below for further details on our ongoing engagement with the market-wide half-hourly settlement (MHHS) programme in relation to MP162.
- The consequential SEC changes for the Central Switching Service (CSS) go-live were successfully implemented via [MP200 'Faster Switching consequential changes to the SEC'](#) on 18 July 2022.
- We are continuing to work towards restarting our Modcasts, which provided bite-size audio updates on key activities relating to modifications and releases. We are also working towards holding a monthly webinar updating on modifications that are or will soon be out for consultation.

5.4 Committee Support Update

- In July, the Committee Support Team facilitated 13 Panel, Sub-Committee and Working Group meetings.
- The Security Sub-Committee (SSC) elections opened on Tuesday 19 July. Nominations are invited for two Large Suppliers, one Shared Resource Provider, one Small Supplier, and one Gas Network seat. Nominations are due by Tuesday 9 August.
- Following the recent Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority (SMKI PMA) election, there are still two Large Supplier vacancies on the SMKI PMA, for which SECAS is also accepting nominations by Tuesday 9 August.
- SEC Panel elections opened on Friday 29 July. Nominations are invited for one Large Supplier, one Small Supplier, one Electricity Network, and one Other SEC Party. Nominations close on Friday 19 August. Nominations for all mentioned elections can be made using the online form [here](#).

5.5 Party Engagement Update

- We hosted the popular Annual SEC Panel Q&A webinar on 15 July 2022 which was highly successful due to the positive feedback received from the 46 attendees. We also hosted a webinar for Suppliers where they heard the latest key Alt HAN updates on 19 July 2022. Logged in SEC Parties can access the presentation slides and video recordings of all past webinars [here](#).
- We will be hosting our highly popular Intro to the SEC webinar from **11am to 12:30pm on 4 October 2022**. SEC Parties can register [here](#). This webinar offers you the opportunity to build your knowledge of the SEC and get to grips with the basics from SECAS, SMDA and Alt HAN Co. If there are any topics you would like to see covered, please contact the [SECAS Helpdesk](#).
- The latest SEC Newsletter received 230 views. You can register to receive the monthly SEC Newsletter by using the registration form at the bottom-right of this [webpage](#). Previous newsletters can be viewed [here](#).
- The [SECAS Helpdesk](#) offers an email and telephone service to anyone requiring advice. Most contact is made by email, with volumes illustrated in Figure 5. We received 7 telephone queries over the past month.

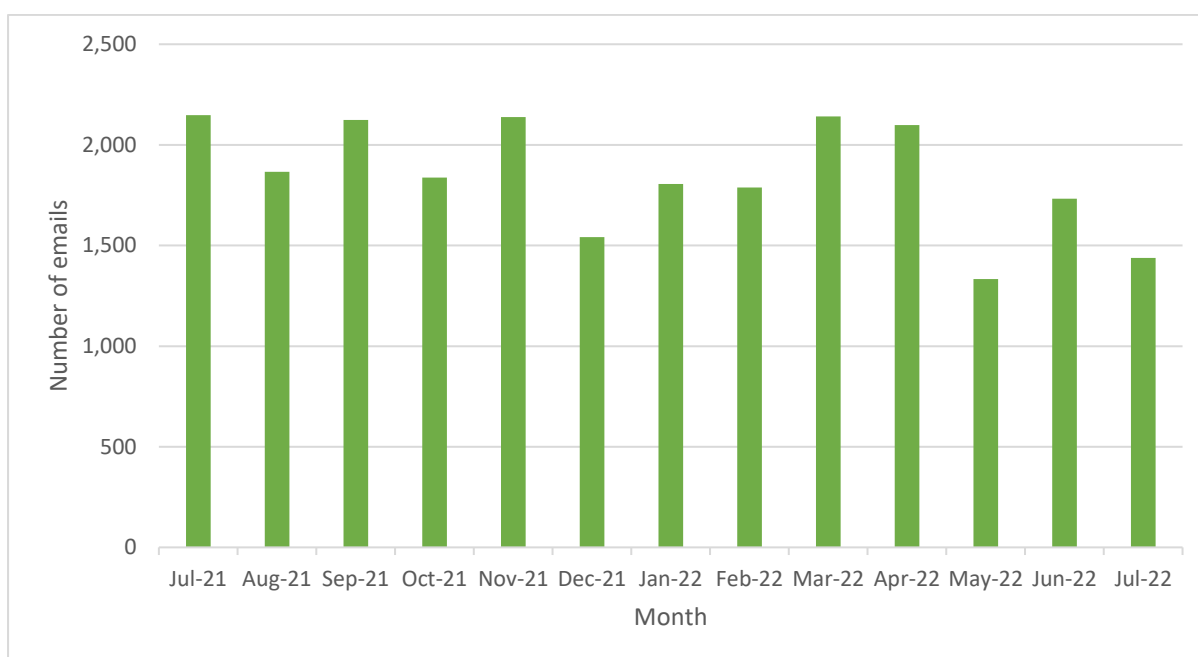


Figure 3: SECAS Helpdesk Emails over the past 12 months

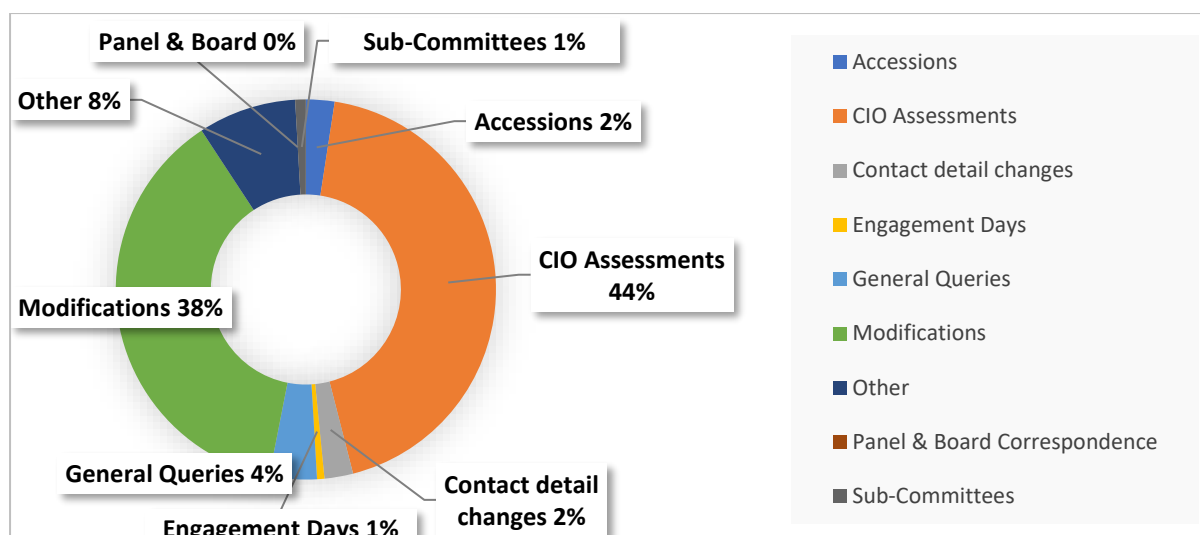


Figure 4: The number of SECAS Helpdesk emails received per topic in the previous month

- The SECAS website remains popular with users with over 23,300 page visits in July 2022. The top five viewed pages in the month were:
 - [Home Page](#)
 - [Modifications](#) – (Modifications Tracker)
 - [The Smart Energy Code](#) – (Codeworks, Consolidated SEC & SEC Document Log)
 - [My Account](#)
 - [Account Login](#)

5.6 Technical Operations Update

The Technical Operations team in SECAS support the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC), Testing Advisory Group (TAG) and Operations Group (OPSG). Key highlights from July 2022 are set out below:

- SECAS undertook analysis of the impact of Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC) Modification [P430 'Extension of P375 to include Suppliers'](#) being withdrawn. The changes proposed under P430 were limited to how energy suppliers will qualify to act as Virtual Lead Parties under BSC [P375 'Settlement of Secondary BM Units using metering behind the site Boundary Point'](#), rather than how they will operate under P375. The result of our assessment is that the additional use cases the TABASC asked us to investigate remain valid and the project should continue. Discussions between SECAS and Elexon have highlighted that the Balancing Market and the retail energy market are regarded by Ofgem as two separate markets with different entry criteria and operating requirements.
- SECAS has also been preparing a Panel position on the proposals set out in the BEIS consultation on [Delivering a smart and secure electricity system: the interoperability and cyber security of energy smart appliances and remote load control](#). The consultation sets out several separate proposals around technical and operational standards and seeks to consult on these, along with how they may be governed and implemented. Although the consultation relates to activities in the retail energy market, the technical nature of some of the proposals may be well suited to governance in a similar style to the way the SEC governs smart metering. A draft response will be presented to the Panel during its 107 meeting.
- We also compiled a list of risks and issues relating to the Testing Advisory Group's (TAG's) terms of reference. Each risk is intended to be mitigated by the activities that the TAG carries out in conjunction with the DCC. The TAG approved the risks and issues as drafted.

- The team oversees the production and publication of several Products lists. The graph below sets out the number of SEC product list versions which SECAS has published over the past 12 months by type. This month the Deployed Products List (DPL) was the most produced list:

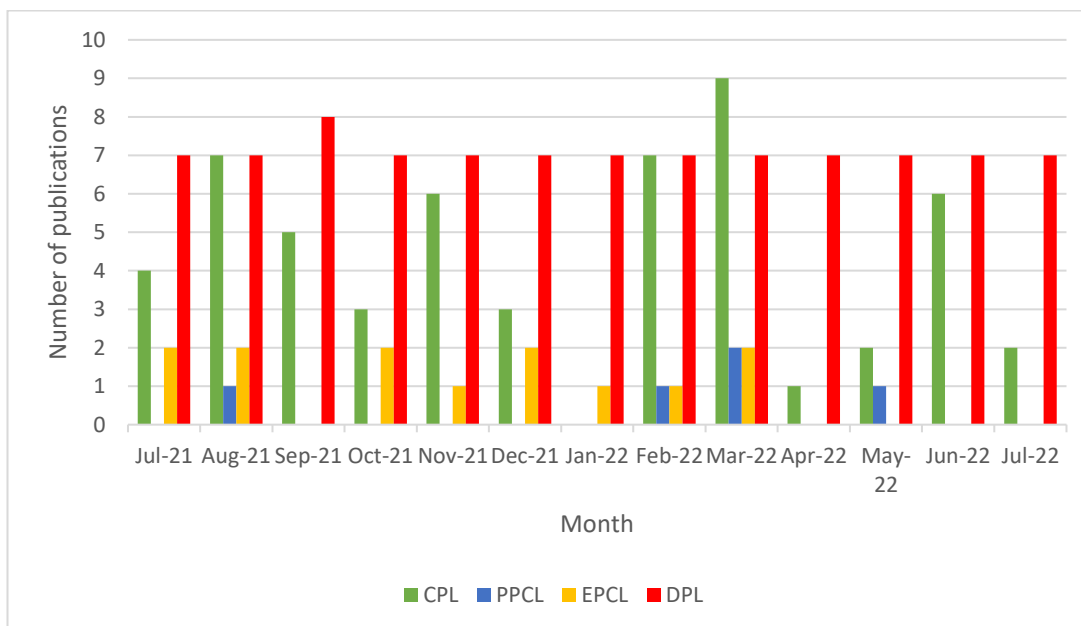


Figure 5: The number of lists that SECAS has produced each month, over the past 12 months

Useful links: [Central Products List](#), [Pending Products Combination List](#), [Eligible Products Combination List](#) and [Deployed Products List](#)

5.7 Smart Meter Device Assurance (SMDA) Update

- The [Device Assurance Register](#) (DAR) currently consists of 32 Devices,
- covering GSME, ESME and PPMID Devices with either partial or full assurance for credit and/or pre-payment.
- One GSME Single Band – SubGHz device was awarded Full Assurance with no issues against the November 2019 SEC Release Baseline on Thursday 8 July 2022.
- One ESME device was awarded Full Assurance with common issues against the November 2019 SEC Release Baseline on Thursday 8 July 2022.
- One ESME polyphase Device was awarded Full Assurance with common issues against the November 2019 SEC Release Baseline on 2 August 2022.
- Two quotations have been sent for Devices to be tested; one ESME Device and one ESME Polyphase Device.

SEC Meeting Details

The table below contains links to documents associated with [SEC meetings](#) held in **July 2022**:

Date	Meeting
6 July	SEC Monthly Working Group Meeting – July 2022
7 July	Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee Meeting Meeting 79
12 July	Operations Group Meeting 75
13 July	Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority Meeting 95
13 July	Security Sub-Committee Meeting 150
15 July	SEC Panel Meeting 106
15 July	Annual SEC Panel Q&A webinar

19 July	Change Sub-Committee Meeting 41
19 July	Alt HAN Co webinar: What Suppliers need to know
25 July	Operations Group Meeting 76
27 July	Testing Advisory Group Meeting 92
27 July	Security Sub-Committee Meeting 151
27 July	Change Board Meeting 68

Table 1: A summary of all SEC meetings held in the previous month