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SEC Panel Meeting 111

9:30 – 13:15, 16 January 2022

SECP_111_1612 – Meeting Headlines

Decision, Discussion and Information Items

1. Minutes and Actions Outstanding (For Information)

The Panel reviewed the minutes from SEC Panel 110 and **APPROVED** them as final. The Panel **NOTED** the Actions update and **AGREED** to close all actions marked as Propose to Close.

1a. Steering Group Project Update (For Decision) (AMBER)

The Panel Chair requested Panel approval to allot funds from the SECCo Projects Budget to the Steering Group project. The Panel **NOTED** the update and **RECOMMENDED** that the Board approves the release of £40k from the Projects Budget.

2. Ensuring Continuity of Service for Customers (For Decision) (GREEN)

The DCC outlined the continuity of service risk facing the network and sought support to move forward with the creation of business cases to mitigate this risk. The Panel **NOTED** the information included the risk assessment, and **SUPPORTED** the decision for DCC to progress the further development of the proposals associated with this activity.

3. Proposed Amendments to the Performance Measurement Methodology (For Decision) (GREEN)

The DCC provided the Panel with details of proposed amendments to the Performance Measurement Methodology (PMM), details of DCC consultation and responses, and additional comments provided by the SEC Operations Group (OPSG) at its meeting on 13 December. The Panel **APPROVED** the proposed amendments to the PMM.

4. WNC CH RTT Test Message Continued Temporary Suspension (For Information) (GREEN)

The DCC provided the Panel with an update regarding the continuation of a temporary change to the CSP C&S Round Trip Time (RTT) tests in relation to the PMM methodology. The Panel **NOTED** the content of the paper and DCC's decision to continue the temporary suspension of RTT test on the WNC CH to protect the smart service.

5. Comms Hubs & Networks – Dual Band Full Business Case (For Information) (GREEN)

The DCC provided the Panel with the Communications Hubs and Networks (CH&N) Full Business Case (FBC) following a “Conditional Non-objection” confirmation from BEIS, which allowed DCC to start the awarding of contracts on 22 September 2022. The Panel **NOTED** the information included in the CH&N – Dual Band FBC.

6. Communication Hubs and Networks Financing Arrangement Appraisal – Strategic Outline Case (For Decision) (GREEN)

The DCC provided visibility of the attached Communication Hubs and Networks (CH&N) Financing Arrangement Appraisal Strategic Outline Case (SOC), following confirmation from BEIS that DCC can progress to the next stage of procurement; specifically, to move to the Outline Business Case (OBC) stage. The Panel **NOTED** the information included in the CH&N Financing Arrangement Appraisal SOC and **AGREED** to progress to OBC and evaluation of SPV or On-Balance sheet options from a value for money comparison.

7. DCC Monitoring & Assurance Project Update (For Decision) (AMBER)

SECAS provided an update on progress of the DCC Monitoring & Assurance project, and requested Panel approval to increase the budget for the project. The Panel **NOTED** the update and **AGREED** to recommend to the Board the release of additional budget to complete the project.

8. SEC PAF Project – Recommendations Paper (For Decision) (GREEN)

SECAS provided the Panel with a recommendation on the next steps for the establishment of a Performance Assurance Framework (PAF) and Performance Assurance Board (PAB) under the SEC. The Panel **NOTED** the update and **AGREED** the next steps for the implementation of a SEC PAF.

9. DCC Licence Condition 13B re-plan consultation (For Information) (GREEN)

SECAS informed the Panel that the DCC has recently published a consultation on its revised delivery plan for the Communications Hubs and Network (CH&N) programme. The Panel **NOTED** the update and **PROVIDED** feedback to be shared with the DCC or BEIS. SECAS will provide a draft response for ex-committee decision.

10. DCC Price Control Consultation Regulatory Year 21/22 (For Discussion)

SECAS presented a draft Panel response to the DCC Price Control Consultation for the Regulatory Year (RY21/22). The Panel **APPROVED** the draft Panel response be submitted to Ofgem.

11. SMDA Sub-Committee Terms of Reference – Manufacturer Composition (For Decision) (GREEN)

The SMDA proposed amendments to the SMDA Sub-Committee (SMDASC) Terms of Reference (ToR) to change the composition of the Other SEC Party manufacturer category to separate the Electricity Smart Meter Equipment (ESME) and Display manufacturer representatives, and to increase the number of seats available to each manufacturer type. The Panel **NOTED** the context of this paper and **AGREED** changes to the SMDASC Terms of Reference.

12. SEC Panel Draft Budget 2023 - 2026 (For Decision) (AMBER)

SECAS provided the SEC Panel with an updated view of the Draft SEC Panel Budget 2023-26 following the last discussion at PFCG. The Panel **APPROVED** the Draft SEC Panel Budget 2023-2026 in Appendix A of this paper, such that it can be issued for consultation.

13. Panel Information Policy (For Decision) (GREEN)

The Panel Information Policy is a document that the Panel has established to maintain, classify, handle, and store Party Data in accordance with SEC Section M4.13 and M4.14. SECAS has reviewed the Panel Information Policy to remove undue complication and ensure it remains fit for purpose, and presented it to the Panel for approval. The Panel **NOTED** the revisions to the Panel Information Policy, **APPROVED** the publication of v5.0 of the Panel Information Policy, and **APPROVED** the publication of v1.0 of the associated Data Protection and Data Retention Policies.

14. Alt-HAN Update (For Information) (GREEN)

Alt-HAN provided an update on key milestones. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

15. DCC Finance Process Improvements (For Information) (AMBER)

Following the DCC Logistics paper last month (Logistics Magnum Root Cause Analysis and Remediation), DCC Finance provided further detail of a billing issue and improvements made for SEC Parties. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

16. 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 **AGREED** SECAS' recommendations.

17. 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. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

18. 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.

19. 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 **NOTED** the high priority items from the Transitional Governance groups and forums.

20. Review and Progression of the Issues Raised in new Draft Proposals (For Discussion)

At the Smart Energy Code Board (SECCo) Strategy Event in October 2022, the Board considered our approach to prioritising modifications. SECAS provided a paper to the Panel following up on some further points raised by members around the review and progression of new issues. The Panel **PROVIDED** views and feedback on the intended approaches set out in this paper.

21. SEC Change Update Report (For Discussion)

SECAS provided an update on the progress of SEC Modifications and Releases and the recent and upcoming decisions of the Change Sub-Committee (CSC) under delegated authority from the Panel. The Panel **NOTED** the report and **PROVIDED** views and feedback on the modifications raised in Section 2.

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

SECAS provided an update on recent activities of the SEC Panel Sub-Committees. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

23. 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 update.

24. Operations Report (For Information)

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

25. Any Other Business (AOB)

SECAS confirmed that Ofgem has given its approval of the new SEC Panel Chair.

SECAS informed the Panel that Ofgem has now published its Energy Code Reform Call for Input, and SECAS will be drafting a Panel response imminently.

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

Next Meeting Date: 24 January 2023