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SEC Panel Meeting 126

9:30 – 14:00, 26 March 2024

SECP_126_2603 – Meeting Headlines

Decision, Discussion and Information Items

1. Minutes and Actions Outstanding (For Information)

The Panel reviewed and approved the changes to minutes from the SEC Panel 125 meeting and **APPROVED** them as final. The Panel **NOTED** the Actions update and **AGREED** to close all actions marked as Propose to Close except SECP124/01, which was deferred and SECP115/05 which was transferred to the OPSG.

2. SECP_126_2603_02 – Future Connectivity Strategy (For Discussion) (GREEN)

The DCC presented the Panel with its preferred way forward to progress its Future Connectivity Strategy with further analysis of multiple connectivity technologies. The DCC provided a summary of the Business Needs which had been captured during engagement with DCC Users. The Panel **AGREED** that the Business Needs had been accurately reflected and supported the preferred way forward. The Panel **NOTED** there would be operational challenges associated with introducing new connectivity technologies in parallel with existing technologies. It was **REQUESTED** that the DCC consider this carefully during the next stage of analysis and engagement.

3. SECP_126_2603_03: Amendment to POA performance methodology (For Decision) (GREEN)

The DCC provided the Panel with the proposed amendment to the Power Outage Alerts (POA) Performance Methodology to remove data from “Clock Drift” impacted devices following a review. The DCC confirmed the levels proposed for removal are low and will ensure the data presented is accurate. The Panel **REQUESTED** the DCC share its redlined Power Outage & Power Restoration Delivery Management Document. The Panel **APPROVED** the proposed amendment and accepted “time clock drift” impacted alert data as a new exclusion in the performance calculation.

4. SECP_126_2603_04: Engagement with Panel on draft LSC for 4G CH&N (For Discussion) (GREEN)

DESNZ presented the Panel with details of the Live Service Criteria (LSC) for the 4G CH&N programme proposed by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ), and its proposed solution to introduce new Communications Hubs to the 4G network. The Panel **SUGGESTED** that the monthly DCC/Sub-Committee and Panel Chairs meeting discuss the alignment and engagement with industry to help mitigate risk. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

5. SECP_126_2603_05: Manufacturing Pack – Readiness Review approach (For Decision) (GREEN)

SECAS presented the Panel with the proposed Governance and timeline for determining the 2024 Organisation Certificate Authority (OCA) Production Manufacturing Pack is ready for issuance. The Panel **APPROVED** the proposed approach, Readiness Review milestones and the Live Service Criteria (LSC).

6. SECP_126_2603_06: GBCS 4.1 Programme – EDM CH firmware Initial Phase Go-Live (For Decision) (AMBER)

SECAS provided the Panel with the recommendation from OPSG and TAG on the readiness of the capabilities being introduced under the Smart Energy Code (SEC) by the Great Britain Companion Specification (GBCS) 4.1 Programme. The Panel **CONSIDERED** the assessments made by the TAG and OPSG; **AGREED** the content of Appendix B; **AGREED** the revised target CPL Entry date; and **AGREED** the statements of readiness provided by the DCC.

7. SECP_126_2603_07: GBCS 4.1 Programme – WNC CH firmware Pilot Exit and Endorsement for Mass Manufacture (For Decision) (AMBER)

SECAS provided the Panel with an update on GBCS 4.1 Programme – WNC CH firmware Pilot Exit and Endorsement for Mass Manufacture. The Panel **CONSIDERED** the assessments made by the TAG and the OPSG; **AGREED** the content of Appendix B; and **AGREED** the statements of readiness provided by the DCC.

8. SECP_126_2603_08: 2023 TABASC Architecture Effectiveness review (For Information) (CLEAR)

SECAS provided the Panel with the results from the 2023 Technical and Business Architecture Effectiveness Review Survey, and a high-level summary of the views from the TABASC on the proposed areas for further investigation. The Panel discussed the results and **NOTED** the update.

9. SECP_126_2603_09: Terms of Reference Reviews for TABSC, TAG and OPSG (For Decision) (CLEAR)

SECAS presented the updates to the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the TABASC, TAG and OPSG following their annual review and changes ratified by the Sub-Committees. The Panel discussed the need for a more wholesale review of the purpose of each Sub-Committee and **AGREED** this would be carried out by the new Head of Sub Committee Management role once appointed and would form part of the next stage of the Target Operating Model work. The Panel **NOTED** the update and **APPROVED** the publication of the Terms of Reference for the TABASC v2.4, the TAG v2.2, and OPSG v1.5.

10. SECP_126_2603_10: Modification Improvements Project Final Report (For Decision) (CLEAR)

SECAS provided the Panel with the Final Report for the Modification Improvements Project, which was implemented to improve the flow of modifications through the modification process. The Panel **PROVIDED FEEDBACK**, **APPROVED** the updated CSC and CB Terms of Reference, and **NOTED** the update. It was agreed that it would be important to consider how successful the project has been and the Panel agreed to monitor via the Change updates that they receive monthly.

11. SECP_126_2603_11 – SEC Change Update Report (For Information) (CLEAR)

SECAS provided the Panel with an update on the current open Modifications and the timeliness of the DCC Assessments, and noted the recent improvements made to the SEC Change Paper. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

12. SECP_126_2603_12: SEC Programme Assurance Policy updates (For Decision) (GREEN)

SECAS provided the Panel with the proposed draft changes in v 1.1 of the Programme Assurance Policy (PAP) including the removal of SEC Section T. The Panel **REVIEWED** and **APPROVED** v1.1 of the Programme Assurance Policy for publication and implementation.

13. SECP_126_2603_13: OPSG Chair Update (For Information) (AMBER)

The OPSG Chair presented the Panel with updates on OPSG activity in the last quarter, and informed the Panel of the report reviews it undertakes to assure operational continuity. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

14. SECP_126_2603_14: OPSG Concerns with the CSPN (For Decision) (AMBER)

The OPSG Chair presented the Panel with concerns highlighted by Users and a proposal to send an escalated letter from SEC Panel to the DCC. The DCC requested additional supporting detail to be able to fully understand the issues that Users were seeing. It was agreed that the OPSG Chair would source this detail and write to the DCC.

15. SECP_126_2603_15 – Annual Customer Satisfaction Survey (For Decision) (GREEN)

SECAS presented the Panel with a request to proceed with the Annual Customer Service Satisfaction Survey (CSS). The Panel **AGREED** for additional questions to be included and **RECOMMENDED** to the Board the release of funds to carry out the survey. It was noted that the survey would be commencing in the coming weeks.

16. SECP_126_2603_16: Ofgem Update (For Information) (GREEN)

Ofgem provided an update on its recent publications, forthcoming consultations, and key milestones. Ofgem introduced its new Data Digitalisation representative who discussed the recent Open Letter on Data Best Practice, and informed the Panel that more engagement will be forthcoming. The Panel **NOTED** the update and consultations relevant to the Panel.

17. SECP_126_2603_17: Panel Response: Implementation of Energy Code Reform (For Decision) (CLEAR)

SECAS provided the Panel with the draft response to the Ofgem Consultation on the Implementation of Energy Code Reform. The Panel **NOTED** the contents of this consultation and **AGREED** to provide any further comments on the draft response by 12 April 2024, and for the response to be submitted to Ofgem subject to final agreement with the Panel Chair.

18. SECP_126_2603_18: Other User Project Brief – Phase 2 (For Decision) (RED)

SECAS presented the Panel with the proposed scope of work to be undertaken in the next phase of the Other User (OU) project, following a request that SECAS and DCC undertake an analysis and scenario planning of OU future demand. The Panel **RECOMMENDED** that SECAS engage further with the Other User communities and **DISCUSSED** how best to acquire insight from Parties. The Panel **AGREED** the scope of the Project and **RECOMMENDED** the project to the SECCo Board for allocation of funds.

19. SECP_126_2603_19: DESNZ update (For Information) (CLEAR)

The Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) provided an update on its recent publications, forthcoming consultations, and key milestones. The Panel **REQUESTED** that DESNZ clarify the scale of costs to Network Parties in relation to the 4G CH only exchange site visit arrangements publication, on 29 February. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

20. SECP_126_2603_20: DESNZ CPA Scheme Consultation Summary (For Decision) (AMBER)

SECAS presented the Panel with a draft response to the changes to the SEC proposed by DESNZ, relating to the Commercial Product Assurance (CPA) scheme. The Panel **AGREED** that SECCo should become the Scheme Owner (as the legal entity) and not the SSC, which is a Sub-Committee with no legal standing. The Panel **AGREED** that the draft Panel response be submitted to DESNZ subject to any Panel comments and final agreement with the Panel Chair.

21. SECP_126_2603_21: Current Events of Default (For Information) (RED)

The SEC Panel report of Events of Default, insolvent suppliers, and SEC Parties being expelled from or withdrawing from the SEC was presented for information only. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

22. SECP_126_2603_22 – Ofgem DESNZ Code Reform Consultation (For Information) (GREEN)

The SEC Panel paper providing a summary of the proposals Ofgem and DESNZ have issued in a joint consultation to set out the initial proposals for Code Manger standard licence conditions and code manager selection processes was presented for information only. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

23. SECP_126_2603_23 – DCC Price Control decision (For Information) (CLEAR)

The SEC Panel DCC Price Control paper to provide information on the content of the Ofgem Price Control decision for the year 2022/2023 was presented for information only. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

24. SECP_126_2603_24: Transitional Governance Report (For Information) (GREEN)

The SEC Panel Transitional Governance Report on recent events and developments across the Transitional Governance Committees was provided for information only. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

25. SECP_126_2603_25: SEC Panel Sub-Committee Report (For Information) (GREEN)

The SEC Panel Sub-Committee report was provided for information only. SECAS provided a verbal update on the inaugural Privacy Sub Committee meeting. The Panel **NOTED** the report and the update.

26. SECP_126_2603_26 - Operations Report (For Information) (CLEAR)

The Operations Report was provided for information only. The Panel **NOTED** the report.

27. Any Other Business (AOB) (GREEN)

The Panel discussed the recent BBC article on Issues with Smart Meters and the open letter from Lord Callanan on Smart Meters. The Panel **NOTED** that there is no central definition for a non-working Smart Meter and that there are a number of pieces of work looking at these issues. Ofgem **CONFIRMED** that it was responding to the open letter. The SEC Panel Chair advised that she and one of the SEC Panel had spoken to DESNZ about work that they had been doing in this area a few months ago and **AGREED** to reach out to the Department again to understand progress and if there was anything that the SEC could do to help.

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

Next Meeting Date: 23 April 2024