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

Operations Report – March 2024

1. Purpose

The Operations Report is a monthly update on SECAS activities undertaken in support of the Smart Energy Code (SEC) during March 2024.

2. SECAS Service highlights from March 2024

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

- **Party Engagement** – We passed 800 followers on LinkedIn during March 2024, signalling our growing audience on social media and up by over 300 followers from this time last year, our SEC Newsletter remains popular with 216 readers for the March 2024 edition and industry was invited to respond to the annual SEC Customer Satisfaction Survey.
- **Security and Privacy** – SSC supported the Panel's response to the DESNZ Consultation for the CPA Future Scheme including inputs from Test Labs and Manufacturer via the SCIRS forum; and the Privacy Sub-Committee inaugural meeting took place on 21 March with engaged and lively discussion and positive feedback from members.
- **Tech Ops** – The team have prepared and submitted the Panel and SSC response to the DESNZ consultation on CPA certification, as well as engaging with DESNZ and Sub-Committee chairs to begin the process of handing over the Trust Centre Swap Out (TCSO) issues log to Sub-Committees. We have also attended the Ofgem / DESNZ code reform webinar and updated Panel thereafter.
- **Change Management** – we had 37 modifications open at the end of March; more information on modifications and releases can be found in the SEC Change Update Report.
- **Project & Governance** – we facilitated 16 Panel, Sub-Committee and Working Group meetings. We have also published the monthly Industry Events Calendar. This calendar contains meetings and consultations across the SEC, DCC, DESNZ and Ofgem.

3. Recommendation

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

Rebecca Sawyer; SECAS Team; 16 April 2024

Appendices

Appendix A – Post Commissioning Information Report (March 2024) (RED)

4. Market Entry, Exit and updates

4.1 SEC Parties

Of the existing SEC Parties within the SEC, there are:

- 18 Large Suppliers, of which there are 11 Voting Groups;
- 88 Small Suppliers, of which there are 84 Voting Groups and 49 Live Users;
- 22 Gas Network Parties, of which there are 14 Voting Groups;
- 31 Electricity Network Parties, of which there are 20 Voting Groups; and
- 159 Other SEC Parties, of which there are 135 Voting Groups.

4.2 Market Entry and Exit

The following presents the number of Parties who entered and exited the market over the past 12 months and the Events of Defaults.

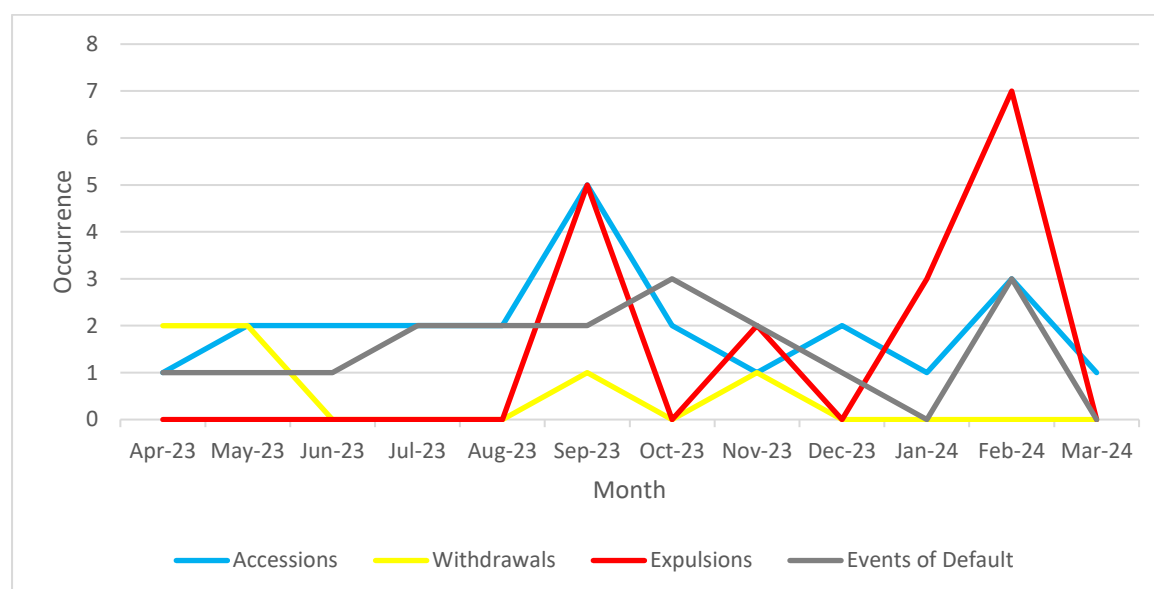


Figure 2: Accessions, withdrawals, expulsions and Events of Default in the past 12 months

In March 2024, one new Party acceded to the SEC.

Status	Party Name	Party Category
Acceded	Tesla Energy Ventures Ltd.	Other SEC Party

Table 1: Parties that entered the SEC in the previous month

4.3 User Entry Process (UEP) completion

No new SEC Parties completed the UEP in March 2024. All current Parties that have completed the UEP can be viewed in the [SEC Parties List](#).

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 Parties have completed **User Entry Process Testing (UEPT)**; and

- No new SEC Parties have completed **SMETS1 Eligibility Testing**.

Monthly SECAS Highlights

Security Statistics		Modification Statistics		Project & Governance	
100% Assessment compliance	5 SECAS Initial validations	0 New modifications raised	37 Modifications undergoing assessment	100% Meeting notice 5WD in advance	96% Papers issued 5WD in advance
12 Assurance or Compliance Status' set	7 Assessments underway	2 Modifications decided upon	0 Modifications implemented	90% Minutes issued 5WD after meeting	16 Meetings held
Party Engagement		Technical Operations			
10 LinkedIn posts	216 Active SEC newsletter readers	5 New CPL Versions	8 New CPL Entries		
1 Accession	3 Engagement Calls delivered	2 New PPCL / EPCL Versions	0 CPL Removals		

March 2024 Snapshot

5.1 Security and Privacy Update

- We hosted two [Security Sub-Committee](#) (SSC) meetings in March including the quarterly face to face meeting, the monthly ([SMKI PMA](#)) and the [SSC CPA Issue Resolution Sub-Group](#) (SCIRS) meeting.
- We also hosted our inaugural [Privacy Sub-Committee](#) (PSC) meeting on 21 March.
- We facilitated a number of introductory calls for the new PSC members keen to meet with the Chair and SECAS ahead of the inaugural meeting.
- We facilitated bi-monthly project calls with the Security consultants and the SSC project sub-group for the 10th Iteration End to End Security Risk Assessment project. Following approval of the project approach and plan at SSC in March, an update has also been provided at the SCIRS meeting on 15 April, seeking input on any new risks in relation to emerging or changing threats impacting the manufacturing community.
- We notified SEC Parties of the scheduled removal of several L+G and EDML firmware versions, in accordance with SEC Appendix Z section 6.4. These devices were originally scheduled for removal on 29 March 2024, but the date was amended to 15 April 2024 to reflect both the Easter holidays and some scheduling requests in relation to Pre-Payment Devices.
- We facilitated a final project wash up call and closed the Quantum project with Queen's University Belfast on 20 March 2024.

5.2 Change Management Update

- At the end of March, we had 37 open proposals going through the modification framework. There were no new proposals raised in March. 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.
- Our latest Modcast is now available on our website, which you can download [here](#). In this episode of our modcast, we bring you a roundup of the past month in SEC Change. We also delve into more detail about our new SEC Issues Group. We discuss what it is, when it will be held, what this means for you, and how to submit an issue.

5.3 Project & Governance Update

In March, we facilitated 16 Panel, Sub-Committee and Working Group meetings.

SEC Panel

- At the March 126 meeting the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) presented the Panel with details of the Live Service Criteria (LSC) for the 4G Comms Hubs and Networks programme (CH&N) and its proposed solution to introduce new CH 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 DCC provided the Panel with two updates including its preferred way forward to progress its Future Connectivity Strategy with further analysis of multiple connectivity technologies. The Panel agreed that the Business Needs had been accurately reflected.
- The DCC also provided the Panel with a request to approve the proposed amendment to the Power Outage Alerts (POA) Performance Methodology to remove data from "Clock Drift" impacted devices following a review. The Panel approved the proposed amendment and accepted "time clock drift" impacted alert data as a new exclusion in the performance calculation.
- The Panel provided feedback on the TABASC Architecture Effectiveness review, agreed with SECAS' recommendations on GBCS 4.1, Terms of Reference amendments, Modifications Improvements Project final report, SEC Programme Assurance Policy Updates, the Annual Customer Satisfaction Survey, the Panel response to the implementation of Energy Code Reform and agreed to recommend the scope of Other User Phase 2 project to the SECCO Board.

CTG

- The Communications Transition Group (CTG) held its fourteenth meeting on 8 April 2024. The DCC provided an update on the 4G CH&N programme and SMETS1 End of Life (EoL) activities. The Testing Advisory Group (TAG) Chair and DCC presented potential solutions to address User concerns related to accessing the User Integrated Testing-A Environment for Test Comms Hubs. Engage presented updates on the Overall Transition Plan and changes to the Risk and Issues Register. SECAS presented Final Findings of the Asset Life Project which the CTG agreed to close; updates on the DESNZ Consultation 'Further Engagement on Cost Recovery Arrangements and Legal Changes; updated CTG Terms of Reference to incorporate SMETS1 EoL within CTG's scope; a draft Request for Information for capturing cost data to support the SMETS1 EoL Strategic Outline Case. The CTG also agreed to close CTG Action 12/02 as the development of a DCC Nominated Contact List is considered to be broader than the CTG as it affects Sub-Committees and the SEC Panel.
- The Industry Events Calendar is published on the SECAS website on a monthly basis. The April version can be found on the bottom of the meetings calendar page on the website [here](#).

The monthly Programme Assurance Report to update the SEC Panel and SEC Parties on the status of the DCC Programmes will now be provided quarterly, the next issue will be provided in June.

5.4 Party Engagement Update

- The Smart Energy Code's LinkedIn page has seen significant growth over the past year where we passed 800 followers in March 2024, and is an increase of over 300 followers from March 2023.
- Notification for the Annual SEC Customer Satisfaction Survey was issued out to industry in March, with a response deadline to confirm consent to participate by 17 April 2024. The survey will be carried out by an independent marketing research agency.
- The latest SEC Newsletter received 216 views. You can register to receive the monthly SEC Newsletter by using the registration form at the bottom-right of this [webpage](#). All 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 3. We received no queries over the past month.

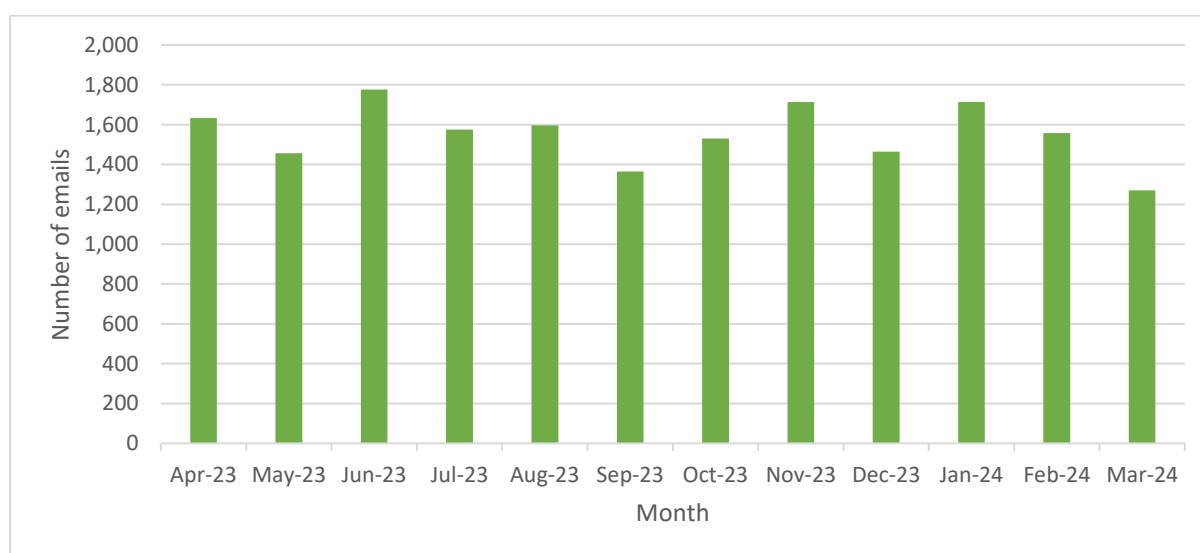


Figure 3: SECAS Helpdesk Emails over the past 12 months

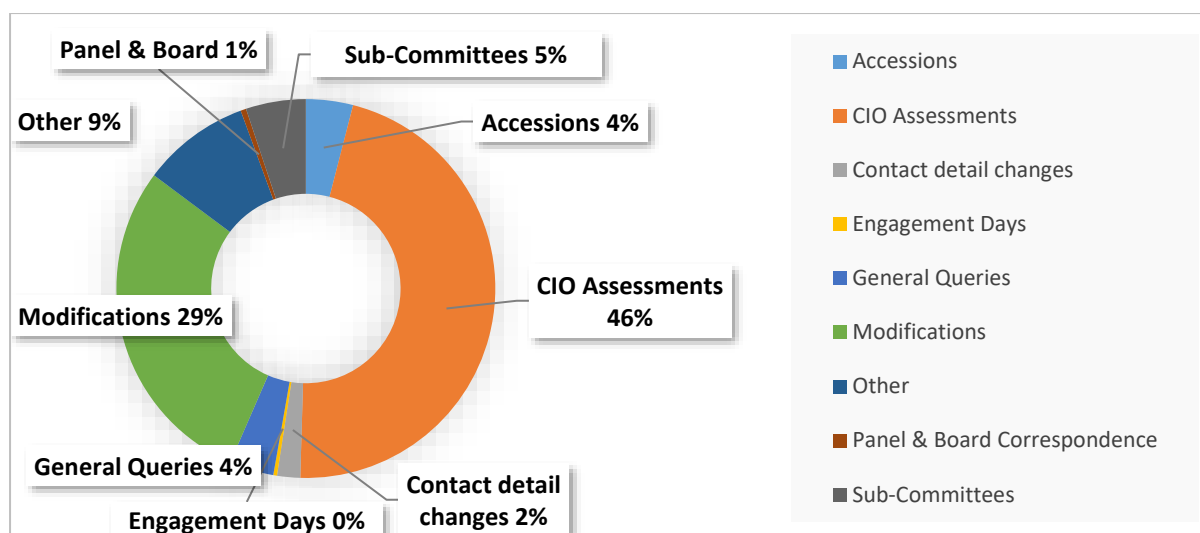


Figure 4: The number of SECAS Helpdesk emails received per topic in the previous month

- The SEC website received over 26,380 page visits in March 2024. The top five viewed pages in the month were:
 - [Modifications](#)
 - [Home Page](#)
 - [The Smart Energy Code](#) - (Codeworks, Consolidated SEC & SEC Document Log)
 - [Log In](#)
 - [Document Download Centre](#)

5.5 Technical Operations Update

The Technical Operations team in SECAS provides support to the Panel technical Sub-Committees. This month we have:

- Prepared and submitted the Panel and SSC response to the DESNZ consultation on CPA certification.
- Engaged with DESNZ and Sub-Committee chairs to begin the process of handing over the Trust Centre Swap Out (TCSO) issues log to Sub-Committees
- In conjunction with DESNZ developed a paper setting out the current views and ongoing work relating to non-communicating meters.
- attended the Ofgem / DESNZ code reform webinar (show and tell) - and updated Panel thereafter.

5.6 DCC SEC Panel Reports Summary

The Operations Group (OPSG) conduct a monthly review of the DCC SEC Panel Reports that have been delegated by SEC for the OPSG to approve or reject the commentary and raise any further issues that should be highlighted to the Panel. The Security Sub-Committee also reviews the Post-Commissioning Report.

Post-Commissioning Report

The DCC will present the latest Post-Commissioning Report for March 2024 to the SSC on 24 April.

This report has a **RED** classification and distribution is limited to the SEC Panel only provided as Appendix A – Post Commissioning Information Report (March 2024) (**RED**).

Performance Measurement Report (PMR) December 2023

- One Code Performance Measure (CPM) was reported below Target Service Level: CPM3A CSP C&S (Power Outage Alerts) continued to be below the Minimum Service Level at 92.43%

for the tenth month in a row. The DCC state its Service Management Team are still working with the DSP and both CSP teams on several initiatives to identify what is impacting the reported performance and deliver improvement.

- Similarly, Performance indicator 1 (Outage and Restoration Alerts) failed to achieve Minimum Service level in December for all SMETS2 regions for a tenth month in a row with CSP N at 88.42% and CSP C&S at 81.78%. Performance in these areas is being investigated by DCC and User expert groups.
- The report notes that there were two Category 1 Incidents closed in January 2024. No Key Incidents were excluded from the January 2024 performance report.
- The Service Levels achieved for CPM1, CPM2, CPM3, CPM3A CSPN, CPM4, CPM5 (All Categories), CPM5A, CPM6 (All Interfaces), CPM7 and CPM8 are all above the Target Service Level for January 2024.

5.7 Smart Meter Device Assurance (SMDA) Update

There are currently 45 Devices on the Device Assurance Register (DAR) split out by Device type as:

- 30 ESMEs
- Six PPMIDs
- Nine GSMEs

A Polyphase ESME Device was awarded Full Assurance on the November 2019 SEC Release baseline on 22 February 2024.

A Twin Element ESME Device is currently being tested for Full Assurance and should be completed by end of April 2024.

One GSME device has been submitted for testing expected to be completed by end of April 2024.

The SMDA Test House has now completed testing of all current GBCS 4.1 Comms Hubs, with no issues found. These Comms Hubs will now begin the process of being added to the SMDA Testing Baseline.

The Scheme Operator (SO) and SECAS provided a summary of the consultation response on the SMDA Review at the SMDA Sub-Committee (SMDASC) on the 9 April 2024. The SMDASC considered the feedback against the high-level requirements for the Scheme. The SMDASC were also informed of the outcome to the consultation on whether Double Band Device testing should be included within the scope for SMDA, to which respondents agreed.

5.8 SEC Meeting Details

The table below contains links to the [SEC meetings](#) (and their associated documents) held in **March 2024**:

Date	Meeting
4 Mar	SECCo Board 125x meeting
6 Mar	SEC Monthly Working Group Meeting - March 2024
7 Mar	TABASC Meeting 99
11 Mar	Communications Transition Group 13
12 Mar	Operations Group Meeting 113
13 Mar	SECPMA Meeting 115
13 Mar	SSC Meeting 188
19 Mar	Change Sub-Committee Meeting 61
21 Mar	TABASC Meeting 99X

Date	Meeting
21 Mar	PSC Meeting 001
22 Mar	Other SEC Party Monthly Engagement Call – March 2024
25 Mar	Large Supplier Monthly Engagement Call – March 2024
25 Mar	Operations Group Meeting 114
26 Mar	SEC Panel Meeting 126
26 Mar	SECCo Board meeting 126
27 Mar	SSC Meeting 189
27 Mar	TAG 112
27 Mar	Change Board Meeting 88

Table 2: A summary of all SEC meetings held in the previous month