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SEC Panel Meeting 131

9:30 – 14:00 27 August 2024

SECP_131_2708 – Meeting Headlines

Decision, Discussion and Information Items

1. Minutes and Actions Outstanding (For Information)

The Panel **APPROVED** the minutes from the SEC Panel 130 meeting as final. The Panel **NOTED** the Actions update and **AGREED** to close all actions marked as Propose to Close.

2. SECP_131_2708_02 – CSPN S&O: Request for Additional Planned Maintenance (For Decision) (**GREEN**)

The DCC sought Panel endorsement for an additional planned maintenance window of 10.5 hours in October, required for a systems uplift, and noted that the TABASC had agreed that there was a technical need for the additional maintenance window and the OPSG had agreed that the system uplift was needed. The Panel advised DCC that it would not “endorse” the maintenance window, as it was not in the outage plan and instead said that the window should be treated as an exception and **AGREED** for the need for an additional High Impact Window to occur. The Panel however **NOTED** that the use of SEC derogation should be investigated for future requests of this nature.

3. SECP_131_2708_03: EDM1 Pilot Exit – Readiness Review (For Decision) (**AMBER**)

SECAS sought Panel agreement that the GBCS 4.1 EDM1 Communication Hub (CH) firmware pilot had completed and their endorsement to commence mass manufacturing of the EDM1 CH. The Panel requested clarity on whether the programme would result in any SEC modification proposals and SECAS confirmed no changes were required. The Panel **AGREED** to the completion of the EDM1 Pilot phase and **ENDORSED** commencement of mass manufacturing of the EDM1 CHs using GBCS 4.1 firmware.

4. SECP_131_2708_04: Ofgem/Barkers DCC Contract Management Audit Report (For Decision) (**GREEN**)

Barkers presented the Panel with an overview of the key findings and recommendations from the 2023 audit into DCC Contract Management and the Panel **NOTED** the update. The Panel **REQUESTED** Barkers include additional background information in the report, **DISCUSSED** the contents of the proposed SEC response to Ofgem, as presented by SECAS, and **APPROVED** the draft SEC response subject to requested changes and any further comments to be provided by the Panel Chair.

5. SECP_131_2708_05: PKI-E Transition Approach (For Decision) (**GREEN**)

The DCC presented the proposed High Level Transition Approach for the Public Key Infrastructure Enduring solution (PKI-E) and advised the impact was low and no security objections had been raised

by the Security Sub-Committee (SSC) or Smart Meter Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority (SMKI PMA). The Panel **APPROVED** the DCC's PKI-E Transition Plan.

6. SECP_131_2708_06: Elective Communications Service (ECS) Permitted Communication Service Request – UTRN Generation MOC Secure Cohort (For Decision) (**AMBER-STRICT**)

The Panel **APPROVED** a SEC Party's ECS Permitted Service Request for the UTRN Generation Middle Operating Capability (MOC) Secure Cohort and **NOTED** the next steps for presenting the Service Request to the identified SEC Sub-Committees, **NOTED** there were no foreseen adverse impacts on competition in the Supply of Energy or the requirement for an industry consultation. The Panel **ACKNOWLEDGED** the request would be the first use of the ECS process and **NOTED** the Chair would determine how SECAS and the SEC Panel could provide support during implementation. Panel also requested that work be carried out to understand the process that this proposal had gone through and consider if there was anything that needed to be formalised as guidance or be contained within the SEC, given this is the first request of its kind.

7. SECP_131_2708_07: 4G Financing OBC - Support (For Decision) (**RED**)

The DCC presented an overview of the 4G Financing Outline Business Case (OBC) and requested Panel support DCC's preferred option as the best value for money. The Panel raised concerns about the OBC process, including the impact of the preferred option on consumers and suppliers, the level of information provided, and how SEC Parties' concerns had been addressed. The Panel **DEFERRED** further consideration of the OBC and **AGREED** for a decision to be made ex-committee, once further information was received from the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero.

8. SECP_131_2708_08: DCC Annual Service Report (For Information) (**GREEN**)

The DCC presented the Annual Service Report, which is undertaken annually as part of DCC's Licencing conditions and reports on performance measures against contractual obligations. The Panel **DISCUSSED** the accuracy of the reporting metrics and noted the report did not capture current industry concerns. The DCC advised the report provided a look back against Metrics between March 2023 and April 2024 and **AGREED** to review how metrics are established and the cost of deliverables, in addition to sharing the next annual report with the SEC Panel for comment prior to publication. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

9. SECP_131_2708_09: Future Connectivity Strategy (For Information) (**RED**)

The DCC presented an engagement plan on future work to be undertaken related to the Future Connectivity Strategy and noted the Future Connectivity North Outline Business Case (OBC) would be presented to the Panel in September 2024 to seek support of DCC's preferred option, after consultation with the relevant SEC Sub-Committees. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

10. SECP_131_2708_10: DESNZ update on Transitional Governance High Level Plan (For Information) (**AMBER**)

The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) presented a high-level plan for the transition of enduring governance to the SEC, including an overview of the exit criteria that need to be satisfied by DESNZ, Ofgem and Industry prior to functions or activities being formally transferred. DESNZ welcomed future SEC input into the transition plan and noted that the plan would need to be undertaken collaboratively between the SEC, Ofgem and DESNZ, and any assumptions verified with Industry. DESNZ noted that workshops on the transition would commence in September 2024. The Panel **NOTED** the update and **AGREED** to close corresponding action SECP125/06 and asked the the

DESNZ presenter if they would consider the classification of this item to allow slides to be shared with SEC Parties.

11. SECP_131_2708_11: Ofgem Update (For Information) (GREEN)

Ofgem provided an update to inform the Panel of its recent publications, forthcoming consultations, and key milestones. The Panel **NOTED** the update and consultations relevant to the Panel.

12. SECP_131_2708_12: Panel Terms of Reference (For Decision) (GREEN)

SECAS presented the draft SEC Panel Terms of Reference (ToR) for consideration and approval, in addition to a proposed approach on the treatment of Observers. The Panel **DISCUSSED** the draft ToR and identified gaps in the ToR related to management of DCC performance, technical regulations, and risk management. The Panel **DID NOT APPROVE** the draft ToR and **REQUESTED** SECAS undertake further work on the ToR and approach to Observers to incorporate the views provided by the Panel.

13. SECP_131_2708_13: Supplier Issues Bi-Monthly Update (For Information) (GREEN)

SECAS presented the Supplier Issues Bi-Monthly update, including the actions to mitigate seven supplier identified issues. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

14. SECP_131_2708_14: Quarterly Risk Update (For Decision) (RED)

SECAS presented the Quarterly Risk Update, and the Panel **APPROVED** the addition of one new SEC Panel Risk and the amendments made to the existing SEC Panel Risks and Issues, **REQUESTED** the inclusion of a new Risk related to non-communicating Smart Meters and **NOTED** updates made to the previously escalated Sub-Committee Risks.

15. SECP_131_2708_15: AI Risks and Opportunities Approach (For DECISION) (AMBER)

SECAS presented an update on the AI Project and requested Panel input into the treatment of SEC Party feedback on the project scope. The Chair **REQUESTED** the feedback in question and the AI Project Report be shared with the Chair prior to the report being shared with Sub-Committees.

16. SECP_131_2708_16: SEC Change update report (For Information) (CLEAR)

SECAS provided the Panel with the recent high-level updates from SEC Change meetings and provided updates on key Modifications. SECAS noted the DCC Request for Information on the 'Review of SEC Charging Methodology' had closed, with a summary of findings to be published by the DCC in September 2024. The Panel **NOTED** the update and **AGREED** to close action SECP130/03.

17. SECP_131_2708_17: CIO Quarterly Performance Reporting) (GREEN)

SECAS presented the Panel with the CIO Quarterly Performance Reporting for information only. The Panel **NOTED** the contents of the Report.

18. SECP_131_2708_18: Transitional Governance Report (For Information) (GREEN)

SECAS presented a report on the Transitional Governance meetings, recent events and developments across the Transitional Governance Committees. This Paper was provided for information only. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

19. SECP_131_2708_19: DESNZ update (For Information) (GREEN)

The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) provided an update for information only on its recent publications, forthcoming consultations, and key milestones. The Panel **NOTED** the update and consultations relevant to the Panel.

20. SECP_131_2708_20: DCC Consultations and Operational Update (For Information) (AMBER)

SECAS presented the Panel with the DCC Consultations and Operational Update for information only. The Panel **NOTED** the update.

21. SECP_131_2708_21: DCC Annual Compliance Report (For Information) (CLEAR)

SECAS presented the Panel with the DCC Annual Compliance Report for information only. The Panel **NOTED** the contents of the report.

22. SECP_131_2708_22: SEC Panel Sub-Committee Report (For Information) (GREEN)

The SEC Panel Sub-Committee report was provided for information only. The Panel **NOTED** the report.

23. SECP_131_2708_23: SECAS Operations Dashboard (For Information) (CLEAR)

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

24. Any Other Business (AOB) (GREEN)

The Panel **NOTED** concerns expressed by a Large Supplier on the risk mitigations of the 3G switch-off and proposed to reach out to the OPSG and CTG Chairs to address this. The Panel also **NOTED** limited engagement from Ofgem on the recent Consumer Consent Consultation release, and the Chair noted SECCo's increasing engagement with Ofgem and that she would pick up this particular point with the Head of Code and Regulatory Strategy.

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

Next Meeting Date: 24 September 2024