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Action:	For Information
Acronyms and Defined Terms SEC Glossary	

SEC Change Update Report – November 2024

1. Purpose

This document provides an update on the progress of Smart Energy Code (SEC) Modifications and the recent and upcoming decisions of the Change Sub-Committee (CSC) under delegated authority from the Panel.

The Data Communications Company's (DCC's) performance report on Preliminary Assessments and Impact Assessments is included as Appendix A to this report. A SEC Releases update is included as Appendix B.

2. Recommendations

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

Rachel Black

SECAS Team

19 November 2024

Attachments:

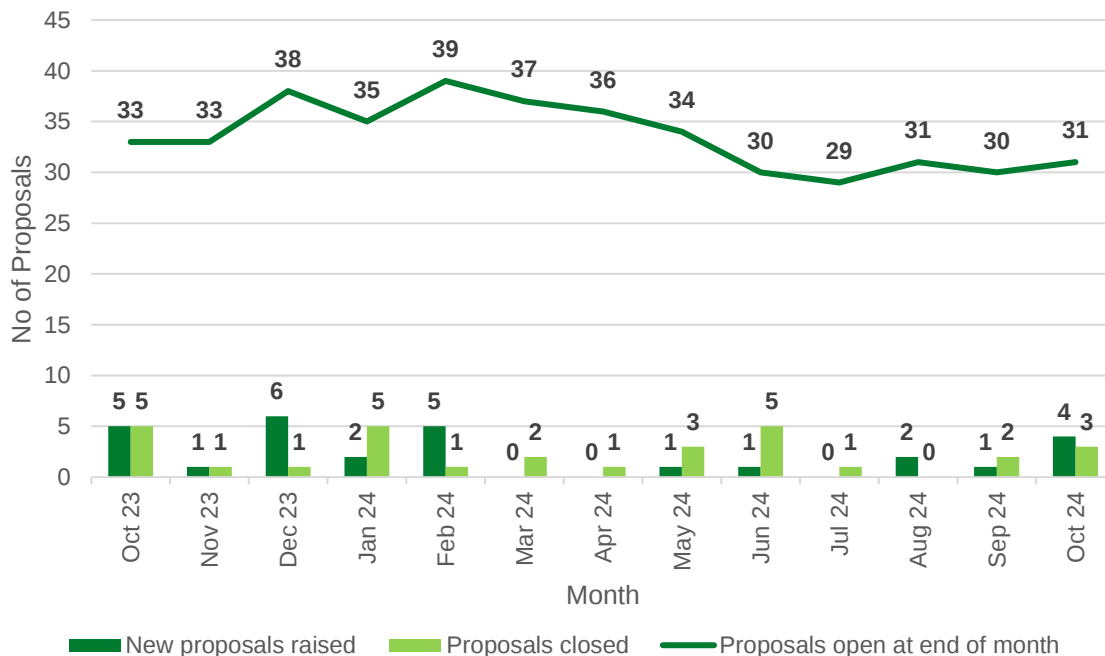
- **Appendix A:** DCC Assessments Performance Report (**CLEAR**)
- **Appendix B:** SEC Releases Update (**CLEAR**)

1. Overview

Number of proposals in each stage of the modification framework



Volume of proposals going through the modification framework



2. Modification updates and points to note

Modification	Priority	Update
MP169 'Managing SEC Obligations and the Consumers right to refuse a Smart Meter'	HIGH	The Proposed Solution and Alternative Solution have been confirmed, as well as the arrangements in a CoS/CoT. The Legal Text and REC changes are being developed before this modification is discussed with the CSC.
DP218 'Review of the SEC Charging Methodology'	HIGH	DCC will issue a consultation later this year relating to the models which were favoured by RFI respondents.

Modification	Priority	Update
		Once DCC confirm the date of the consultation, SECAS will hold a webinar for FAQ.
MP224 'SEC Performance Assurance Framework'	HIGH	Ofgem approved this modification, and it was implemented on 8 November. MP224 will be discussed with SEC Panel to finalise the Terms of Reference before the Performance Assurance Board is assembled.
MP252 'Amending the process for Communications Hub returns'	HIGH	The Working Group and Change Board supported an Impact Assessment request on Solution Option C. SECAS requested the Impact Assessment on 25 October 2024 and expects the IA to be returned before the end of the year.
MP262 'Extending the Installation End Date for CHTS v1.0 and GBCS v1.1'	HIGH	On Tuesday 20 August 2024 the CSC upheld the decision of the Change Board to reject this modification. The Proposer has referred this decision to the Authority for final determination in line with SEC Section D. Ofgem have informed SECAS that their decision will be published on 13 December 2024.
MP268 'Certificate rotation and expired Certificates'	HIGH	SECAS requested the Impact Assessment (IA) on 26 September 2024 and expects this to be returned by 27 November 2024. Once returned, the IA will be presented to the TABASC, SSC and Working Group before the Modification Report is finalised.
DP275 'Communications Hubs Fixed Charges'	VERY HIGH	The Refinement Consultation is now open until 21 November 2024. The consultation responses will be discussed with the Working Group on 4 December 2024.

3. Points to note

November 2024 SEC Release live including MP224

Following CSC agreement, the SEC November 2024 Release went live on 7 November 2024. MP224 was Approved by the Authority on 7 November 2024 and was implemented on 8 November 2024.

Releases cost update

Following the SECAS investigation of the discrepancy between the expected and actual cost of Releases SECAS have worked with the DCC to reduce the post PIT testing costs. The DCC has confirmed that it has reduced the November 2024 Release by £600k.

MP275

[MP275 'Section K changes to support 4G Communications Hubs rollout'](#) was granted Urgent status by Ofgem on 21 October 2024. It became clear that there was some confusion around the differing information provided and the DCC held a meeting to clarify concerns on 5 November 2024. The

Refinement Consultation closes on 21 November and there will be a Working Group discussion on 4 December. There concerns remain surrounding the Outline Business Case (OBC).

Terms of Reference

Both CSC and Change Board Terms of Reference require an update. These will be discussed at the November CSC and Change Board meetings and if the changes are approved, they will be presented to Panel in December for final approval.

4. Change Sub-Committee decisions – November 2024

Modifications moving to Refinement Phase

DP277 'Virtual
Gateway
Connections'

5. Change Board decisions – October 2024

Change Board – Approved

MP253 'Traffic
Management for
Price Cap Update'

MP272 'SMKI
Document Set
Changes 2024'

Change Board – Sent back to Working Group

MP241
'Interoperability
Checker Update'

Withdrawn proposals

One Modification Proposal has been withdrawn since the last Panel meeting:

- [DP276 'Communications Hub returned not redeployed'](#) (1 November 2024)

6. Designations

SEC versions issued

SEC v93.0 was implemented as a result of a DESNZ Designation. This Designation introduced a new SEC Appendix, AV, named 'CPA Transition Approach Document' (CPATAD).

SEC v94.0 was implemented as a result of a follow up DESNZ Designation. These changes were to support the newly created SEC Appendix AV, and as a result amends were made to SEC Sections A, F, G, L and SEC Appendices D, Q & Z.

SEC v95.0 was implemented as a result of another DESNZ Designation. This Designation was issued by the Department in order to make amends to SEC Appendix AL 'SMETS1 Transition and Migration Approach Document'.

SEC v96.0 was implemented as a result of the November 2024 SEC Release and a DESNZ Designation. Amendments were made to the following SEC Documents:

- SEC Sections A, E, F, G, H, J, K
- SEC Schedule 7
- SEC Appendices C, D, E, J, K, M, N, S, T, V, W, X, Y, AB, AI, AK & AO.

SEC v97.0 was implemented as a result of the Authority approving the implementation of [MP224 'SEC Performance Assurance Framework'](#). Impacted documents were SEC Sections A & C, and the introduction of a new SEC Appendix AW 'Performance Assurance Framework'

SEC v98.0 was implemented as a result of an Ad hoc SEC Release for [MP242 'Change to Operational Metrics to Measure on Success'](#). Impacted documents were SEC Sections A & H.

SEC v99.0 was implemented as a result of a DESNZ Designation. These changes were required to support the upcoming 4G rollout. Impacted documents include SEC Sections A, F & H.

Designations

SECAS are currently expecting two Designations during December 2024, which are in relation to a CH&N Phase 2 & 4 regulatory changes consultation, and changes to SEC Appendices I & AU.

7. Cross-Code working

Code Administration Code of Practice (CACoP) Forum update

The CACoP Forum meets bimonthly, and the last meeting was on 8 October 2024.

The next Forum meeting will be on Friday 6 December 2024.

Cross Code Steering Group (CCSG) update

The CCSG met, 18 November 2024. No new changes were identified as potentially impacting the SEC from other codes. The Distribution Use of System Agreement (DCUSA) representative, confirmed that DCP419 <https://www.dcusa.co.uk/change/pre-notifications-of-planned-supply-de-energisations/> proposed change is expected to hold a further working group before the end of 2024. The DCUSA representative also confirmed that direction of travel is that the working group does not see a solution including or requiring interaction with the DCC. The current proposal being discussed are a new industry flow which would impact the Retail Energy Code, or a web portal solution alternative is currently being explored.