SEC Newsletter

Smart Energy Code

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Welcome

Welcome to the latest edition of the fortnightly newsletter from the Smart Energy Code.
We would love to hear from you - get in touch by emailing SEC@talan.com

SEC Panel and SECCo Board Headlines

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The latest meetings of SEC Panel and SECCo Board took place on 27 January 2026. The Headlines from SEC Panel 148 and SECCo Board 148 are now uploaded to the SEC Website.

The next Panel and Board meetings will be held on 24 February 2026.

Change Board and Change Sub-Committee Chair Update

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

Throughout 2025, the SEC Change Board and the Change Sub-Committee (CSC) played a key role in ensuring the SEC continued to evolve in line with industry, regulatory and operational needs. It balanced pace with scrutiny, and innovation with stability.

The Role of Change Board

The SEC Change Board sits at the heart of change governance, providing strategic oversight and robust challenge to ensure that modifications to the Code are necessary, proportionate, and in the best interests of both Parties and consumers. In 2025, it voted on 23 modifications, a clear reflection of the volume and complexity of change being managed across the SEC landscape.

A defining feature of the year was the Change Board’s management of Urgent, time critical modifications, many carrying significant regulatory, operational, or financial implications for industry.

Several Urgent modifications this year required fast, well-governed decisions from the Change Board. These included:

- **MP275** – Implemented under Urgency with close Ofgem engagement to ensure clarity on Communications Hubs and future charging.
- **MP285** – Addressed the impending sunsetting of the Radio Teleswitching Service (RTS). Approved and delivered ahead of the RTS shutdown, preventing disruption and uncertainty for industry and consumers.
- **MP292** – A time-sensitive DCC modification affecting contract signing. Approved under Self Governance following Ofgem's ruling. The unanimous vote to approve under Self Governance was therefore deemed valid, enabling timely delivery without compromising governance integrity.
- **MP304** – Addressed the issue for SMETS1, SRV 4.3 'Read Instantaneous Prepay Values' which currently can only be requested on an 'On-Demand' service basis or as a 'Future Dated' service. This showcased the Change Board's flexibility and pragmatism. Approved as another Urgent modification to deliver a significant cost avoidance for industry.
- **MP308** – focused on improving processes for Out-of-Region Communications Hubs (OOR CHs). Approved swiftly with expedited Ofgem approval.

Collectively, these decisions underline the Change Board's ability to combine regulatory rigor with responsiveness - ensuring that urgent change is not only fast, but also well-governed.

The Role of the Change Sub-Committee (CSC)

CSC plays a critical role in enabling efficient decision-making at the right level. Its remit is to assess whether modifications are suitable for streamlined approval routes, helping the SEC respond to change without unnecessary delay as well as ensuring a rigorous analysis of the cost benefits has taken place.

A key highlight for the CSC in 2025 was the increased use of Fast Track voting. Since December 2025, five modifications have been approved via the Fast Track route, demonstrating a growing confidence in using proportional governance where changes are deemed as having low impact, well understood, and uncontentious.

This shift has delivered tangible benefits:

- Faster implementation of straightforward changes
- Reduced governance overhead for Parties
- Greater focus on complex or high-impact modifications at Change Board level

By actively supporting the appropriate use of Fast Track, the CSC has helped ensure that the SEC change process remains agile, efficient, and fit for purpose.

Together, the SEC Change Board and CSC showed that strong governance enables faster, more effective change. Whether managing Urgent, regulator-driven modifications or streamlining approvals for simpler changes, both bodies have ensured timely outcomes, protected consumer interests, and maintained industry's confidence in the SEC change process. The successes of 2025 provide a strong foundation: one built on challenge, collaboration, and a shared commitment to making SEC change work when it matters most.

February 2026 SEC Release Update

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The February 2026 SEC Release will take place on 26 February 2026 and includes the following modifications:

Modification	Proposed Solution	Parties Impacted
MP303 'Aligning DCC Certificate processes with SMKI standards'	The Proposed Solution is to amend four SEC documents to accurately reflect existing DCC Device Certificate validation processes within the SEC.	DCC
MP310 'Trial Device Assurance Certificate'	The Proposed Solution is to clarify SEC Section F 'Smart Metering System Requirements' through text-only changes, while a temporary workaround using Letters of Authority for existing ZigBee Certificates has been agreed to prevent trial delays.	None
MP314 'Housekeeping changes for February 2026 SEC Release'	The Proposed Solution is to correct the minor errors and inconsistencies identified in the SEC Documents which will benefit SEC Parties.	None

Understanding the SECCo Business Plan & Budget 2026-29: webinar materials now available

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The recording and slides from the Understanding the SECCo Business plan and Budget 2026 – 2029 webinar, held on 20 January 2026, are now available. SECCo provided a walkthrough of the draft Business Plan and Budget for 2026–2029 and invited questions from SEC Parties.

SEC Parties are invited to submit their feedback on the draft Business Plan and Budget to consultations@seccoltd.com by 5pm on Monday, 17 February 2026.

DCC Programme Assurance Update

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

There have been stage changes to four programmes managed by the DCC during Q4 2025.

1) SMETS1 Dual Control Organisation (DCO) has moved to Stage 6 (go-live) from Stage 5 (transition) following the go-live in October 2025
2) The SMETS1 Initial Operating Capability (IOC) / Final Operating Capability (FOC) programme has now moved to Stage 7 (Realise).
3) The Future Service Management (FSM) Programme has moved to Stage 5 (transition) from Stage 4 (develop)
4) The FOC Application Network Security Operations (ANSO) programme has moved to Stage 4 (develop) from Stage 3 (refine) with the approval of the FOC ANSO Business Case.

Two DCC programmes have been removed from the quarterly update report for Q4 2025:

1) The SMETS2 Communications Service Provider (CSP) Contract Extension activity managed by the DCC is solely focused on contractual matters and, whilst a key piece of work for DCC, is no longer a formal programme
2) Future Connectivity North has formally concluded as a programme and has been removed from the quarterly update report, bringing the total number of programmes being tracked to 11.

Performance Assurance Board (PAB) Vacancy

This story is of interest to Other SEC Parties

One seat remains open on the PAB- the Other SEC Party seat.

The PAB plays a key role in overseeing the Performance Assurance Framework (PAF), ensuring SEC obligations are met and that risks and issues are managed effectively. Its mission is to:

- Build confidence that Parties are fulfilling their obligations under the Code;
- Ensure no Party is disadvantaged by others' non-compliance; and
- Identify and address performance risks and issues in a consistent and transparent way.

The PAB meets monthly, with members making important decisions on SEC Party performance and ensuring the delivery of the SEC Objectives.

With the PAF currently being mobilised and its future design still developing, this is a great opportunity for an Other SEC Party to contribute to how the industry is managed.

If you'd like to nominate yourself or a colleague, please email SEC@talan.com. For questions about the PAB or the vacant seat, email pab@seccoltd.com.

Security Architecture Document Review

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The Security Sub-Committee (SSC) has created a briefing note to provide awareness to SEC Parties of an updated smart metering Security Architecture Document. The SSC has a SEC obligation under SEC section G7.19 to maintain the Security Architecture, which is defined as "*a document that describes how the security controls in respect of smart metering relate to the architecture of the End-to-End Smart Metering System*."

The briefing note has been published on the SSC Guidance page under the Security and Privacy tab on the SEC website. You will need to be logged in to access the briefing note. If you have any questions, please contact the SEC Security team at ssc@talan.com.

Updated ENA EREC M31 Table Now Available

This story is of interest to Suppliers and Network Operators

The Energy Networks Association (ENA) EREC M31 Table is a document to support energy Suppliers in meeting their Post Commissioning obligations in SEC Appendix AC section 5. The table has been updated, and the latest version is available on the SEC website.

This document provides the necessary guidance for Suppliers, setting out the correct Electricity Network Operator credentials to be used during installation and commissioning of new meters to be enrolled into the DCC systems.

This table has been prepared by the ENA to advise energy Suppliers of the current Network Operator SMKI Organisation Certificate to use. This is not a SEC owned or maintained document. The ENA is reliant on updates from all Distribution Network Operators including the Independent Distribution Network

Operators (IDNO) to maintain this table. Enquiries and any required amendments should therefore be directed to the ENA.

Latest Modcast

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

Listen to our latest Modcast now!

In this episode, we roundup the past month in SEC Change before delving into the detail of the February 2026 SEC Release. This covers topics included in the release, what the changes mean for you, and where to find further information and support. We also look at the Change Board elections and nominees, with the anticipated new candidates to take office from 25 February 2026.

If you want to know more about any of the above, please email SEC.Change@talan.com.

Industry News

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

Ofgem confirms new smart meter standards from February — and what this means for the SEC.

Ofgem has confirmed a new set of smart meter Guaranteed Standards of Performance (GSOPs), with stricter requirements on Suppliers and automatic compensation for customers when service falls short. The new standards will take effect from February 2026.

Under the decision announced on 30 January 2026, customers will automatically receive £40 where:

- they wait more than six weeks for a smart meter installation appointment,
- an installation appointment fails due to a fault within the supplier’s control, or
- they report a smart meter issue, and their supplier does not provide a resolution plan within five working days.

Ofgem has signalled that these new standards are part of a wider push to improve the end-to-end consumer smart meter experience and drive better performance. It also intends to progress further work on a fourth proposed standard covering compensation where smart meters are not operating in smart mode and remain unfixed after 90 days, with a view to implementing this later in 2026 (subject to resolving accountability, technical and regulatory issues).

SECCo welcomes the publication of these new standards and is pleased to have contributed to the development process, helping ensure the measures are reasonable, proportionate, and deliverable, while still strengthening outcomes for consumers.

Next steps for SECCo – through the Operations Group (OPSG) we will work with SEC Parties, DCC, and Ofgem as we continue our phased review of the SEC arrangements to ensure the Code framework continues to support effective delivery against the new GSOP framework, clarifies accountabilities across parties, and enables consistent implementation as the regulatory framework evolves.

You can read Ofgem's announcement here: https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/press-release/ofgem-roll-out-tougher-smart-meter-rules-february

Industry Consultations

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

Proposed Forward Work Programme for 2026 to 2027 | Ofgem

Ofgem is consulting on its draft Forward Work Programme for 2026-27, seeking feedback on its planned priorities and projects before finalising the annual energy sector work plan. You are invited to submit your feedback by **12 February 2026.**

Upcoming Events and SEC Meetings

Date	Event	Who can attend?
02 February, 13:30	TIRG Meeting 17	Members
04 February, 10:00	SEC Working Group Meeting	Members
05 February, 09:30	TABASC Meeting 122	Members
05 February, 10:00	Testing Advisory Group Meeting 134	Members
10 February, 09:30	Operations Group Meeting157	Members
11 February, 09:15	SMKI PMA Meeting 138	Members
11 February, 09:30	Performance Assurance Board Meeting 10	Members
11 February, 11:30	Security Sub-Committee Meeting 232	Members
16 February, 11:00	SCIRS Meeting 50	Members
17 February, 10:00	Change Sub-Committee Meeting 84	Members
17 February, 14:00	SMDA Sub-Committee 22	Members
19 February, 10:00	Privacy Sub-Committee Meeting 23	Members
20 February, 10:30	Other SEC Party Engagement Call	Open to Party Type
23 February, 12:30	Operations Group Meeting 158	Members
23 February, 10:30	Large Supplier Engagement Call	Open to Party Type
24 February, 09:30	SEC Panel meeting 149	Members
24 February, 14:00	SECCo Board Meeting 149	Members
25 February, 09:45	Testing Advisory Group 135	Members
25 February, 10:00	Change Board Meeting 111	Members
25 February, 10:00	Security Sub-Committee Meeting 233	Members
26 February, 15:00	Small Supplier Engagement Call	Open to Party Type

View all upcoming industry events in the Industry Events Calendar