

This document is classified as **White** in accordance with the Panel Information Policy. Information can be shared with the public and any Members may publish the information, subject to copyright.

SEC Change Board Meeting 27x_2702

27 February 2019 10:00 – 11:00

8 Fenchurch Place, London, EC3M 4AJ

Final Minutes

Attendees:

Category	Change Board Members
Change Board Chair	David Kemp
Large Suppliers	Amie Charalambous (<i>Teleconference</i>)
	Simon Trivella (<i>Teleconference</i>) (alternate for Graham Wood)
	Samantha Cannons (<i>Teleconference</i>)
	Paul Saker (<i>Teleconference</i>)
	David Rodger (<i>Teleconference</i>)
Small Suppliers	Kieran Williams (<i>Teleconference</i>)
Networks	Jeremy Meara (<i>Teleconference</i>)
	Paul Fitzgerald (<i>Teleconference</i>)
Other SEC Parties	Mike Woodhall (<i>Teleconference</i>)
	Elias Hanna (<i>Teleconference</i>)
	Gerdjan Busker (<i>Teleconference</i>)
Representing	Other Participants
DCC	Rob Richards (<i>Teleconference</i>)
Ofgem	Michael Walls (<i>Teleconference</i>)
SECAS	Alison Beard (<i>Teleconference</i>)
	Cordelia Grey
	Louise Evans
	Veronica Asantewaa

1. SECCB_27x_2702_01 – SECMP0025

[SECMP0025 'Electricity Network Party Access to Load Switching Information'](#) seeks to enable Electricity Network Parties to have access to information from the Smart Metering System relating to load switching carried out by Smart Meters or Smart Meter connected Devices. It also proposes that the Smart Metering System informs Electricity Network Parties when changes are made to existing load switching regimes.

One Other SEC Party member raised a concern that they had been unaware the modification would impact manufacturers, and that the short Modification Report Consultation window had not provided enough time to submit their views. Additionally, they wished to understand how the modification would affect meters and stated the approval process had felt rushed. The Chair confirmed that should the Change Board agree further work was required then they had the option to send SECMP0025 back to the Panel. One Large Supplier member noted that they had sat on the Working Group and was comfortable that the solution presented would not change should it be sent back, and therefore felt it would not be a worthwhile endeavour and would have no perceivable benefit.

One Network Party member highlighted that SECMP0025 had been originally raised in 2016 and had since undergone a lengthy Refinement Process, a Working Group Consultation and two Modification Report Consultations, in which any concerns or queries should have been raised so they could be adequately addressed.

One Large Supplier member raised concerns on the costs involved with implementing the modification and the impacts to Suppliers' internal systems. There was also uncertainty surrounding the overall November 2019 SEC Release costs and the modifications that were expected to be included in that. Large Supplier members also questioned whether there was any significant benefit in the modification being implemented in November 2019 when it could be implemented later for the same desired effect, potentially as part of a wider change. Network Parties confirmed the modification would provide visibility to them of load switching arrangements that was not currently available, and that the intent of the modification was justified within the report accompanied with a clear business case. They also highlighted the switch-off of the Radio 4 teleswitching signal due for March 2020, but which may be extended a year, and that Network Parties needed time to prepare alternative arrangements.

The DCC confirmed they were able to implement SECMP0025 in the November 2019 SEC Release, provided approval was received from the Authority before the end of March 2019. SECAS confirmed that should approval be received after 31 March 2019 then SECMP0025 would fall back to the June 2020 Release. The Change Board encouraged the Authority to make a decision as soon as possible, to ensure clarity on the way forward.

One Large Supplier member noted that Suppliers would not benefit from the change but would still be paying for its implementation but understood there was a benefit for Network Parties. One Other SEC Party member felt that further work should be carried out on the solution through further refinement. There was also a concern raised over the absence of any Post-Integration Testing (PIT) costs provided, although it was noted that any post-PIT costs will be absorbed by the DCC if SECMP0025 was implemented in the November 2019 Release. The Large Supplier member also queried how these costs were going to be absorbed by the Enrolment and Adoption project, which has now been pushed back and no longer anticipated to go live in November.

One Network Party member requested SECMP0025 proceed to vote rather than delaying the progress any further, as the change would benefit Network Parties in their capability of managing potential overloading of systems. This in turn would provide the opportunity to consider alternatives to expensive network reinforcement schemes. The DCC reiterated they were ready to deliver the necessary changes for November 2019.

The Chair also highlighted that if SECMP0025 was sent back to SEC Panel for review, the modification will no longer be a candidate for the November 2019 SEC Release. The Change Board agreed to proceed to vote as they did not believe there would be a benefit in sending the modification back to the Panel or the Working Group.

Change Board Vote on SECMP0025:

The voting outcome is shown below:

Party Category	Approve	Reject	Abstain	Conclusion
Large Suppliers	2	3	0	REJECT
Small Suppliers	1	0	0	APPROVE
Network Parties	2	0	0	APPROVE
Other SEC Parties	1	2	0	REJECT

The members who were supportive of the modification stated this was on the basis that it would better facilitate SEC Objective (e)¹ by providing Network Operators with information that should allow them to better understand the use of their networks and should help toward avoiding costly reinforcement where that action is not necessary.

The Other SEC Party members who voted to reject the modification did so on the basis that there was insufficient evidence to demonstrate that the modification will better facilitate SEC Objective (e) or that this was the right enduring solution.

Some Large Supplier members raised concern with the post-PIT costs that the DCC provided in the Modification Report as it is unclear if additional cost will be incurred. They were also concerned about implementing this change in the November 2019 SEC Release, and were unsure the benefits would outweigh the costs.

The Change Board voted to recommend that the Authority **REJECTS** SECMP0025² on the basis that the modification is not suitably defined and there is insufficient evidence the Modification would better facilitate the general SEC Objectives.

The Change Board:

- **AGREED** that SECMP0025 should proceed to vote;
- **RECOMMENDED** to the Authority that SECMP0025 should be **REJECTED**; and **PROVIDED** rationale for this recommendation against the General SEC Objectives.

¹ Facilitate innovation in the design and operation of energy networks to contribute to the delivery of a secure and sustainable supply of energy.

² Where the Change Board vote is split, this is deemed a verdict to reject the proposal.

SECMP0025 has been progressed as an Authority Determined Modification and so will be submitted to the Authority, in order for it to undertake the necessary Authority determination activities.

If approved on or before 31 March 2019, SECMP0025 will be implemented on **7 November 2019** as part of the November 2019 SEC Release.

2. Any Other Business

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