

Meeting TSC_04_1703, 17th March 2016

10:00 – 13:00, 8 Fenchurch Place, London, EC3M 4AJ

Technical Sub-Committee (TSC) Final Minutes

Attendees:

Category	TSC Members
TSC Chair	Julian Hughes
Large Suppliers	Rochelle Harrison
	Tim Newton
	Ashley Pocock
	Grahame Weir
	Stephanie Shepherd
	Colin Rowland
Electricity Networks	Alan Creighton (via teleconference)
Gas Networks	Leigh Page
Other SEC Parties	Andrew Campbell
	Tim Boyle

Representing	Other Participants
DECC (Secretary of State)	Seamus Gallagher
	Mike Bennett
DCC	Matt Roderick
DCC	Sylvia Ovie (part.)
DCC	Sharon Porter (part.)
SECAS (Meeting Secretary)	Joana Esgalhado
SECAS	Alys Garrett
SECAS	Kevin Atkin

Apologies:

Representing	Other Participants
Ofgem	Nigel Nash

1. Minutes and Actions Outstanding

There were no comments or suggested amendments to the draft minutes from the February 2016 TSC meeting and the TSC agreed the minutes as written. All actions were marked as completed or on target for completion.

2. Technical Architecture Document Formal Acceptance

The TSC were presented with the baselined version of the Technical Architecture Document (TAD) to be formally accepted as a product for the TSC to develop and maintain, as per their Terms of Reference.

The paper provided by SECAS referred to the TAD as an artefact to be included under the TSC's remit, however a TSC member suggested the Document should be accepted as a deliverable rather than as an artefact. The group agreed, however, to formally accept the TAD as a product to be maintained and further developed by the TSC as required.

When questioned whether they would wish to establish a review cycle for the TAD, the TSC agreed this should be considered at a later date.

The TSC:

- **NOTED** the contents of the paper; and
- **AGREED** to formally accept the TAD to be maintained and further developed by the TSC.

3. Technical and Business Expert Community Nominations

The TSC were provided with an update on the nominations for the Technical and Business Expert Community (TBEC) which remains open on an ongoing basis. The group discussed the relevance of the TBEC nominations received so far and noted that even though the request for nominations had been sent to a breadth of the industry, including manufacturers, there may be the need to further seek out experts if work packages so require.

The DCC informed the group that DCC resources could be available to the TBEC on an on-demand basis. The group discussed that the impact of resources and effort required in the lead up to DCC Live may affect the number of nominations received for the TBEC.

The group discussed the relationship between the TBEC and the support to the Modification Working Groups which are currently being established and requested clarity on how the Modification Working Groups may make use of the TBEC. The TSC Chair clarified that Modification Workings Groups are decision making bodies that can draw on the TSC for technical expertise; and that the TSC, if necessary, may use technical expertise from the TBEC and SECAS technical experts.

Regarding modifications, DECC noted they will be monitoring the position leading up to Go-live and ensuring that focus remains on the delivery of DCC Live.

The TSC **DISCUSSED** the contents of the paper.

ACTION TSC04/01: SECAS to provide a clarification on the manner the TBEC may be used by the TSC and Modification Working Groups.

4. Modification Proposals Report

SECAS provided the TSC with the first monthly Modification Status Report, as approved by the Panel at their March meeting, which provides a high level overview of the Modification Proposals going through the SEC Section D Modification Process.

The group were informed that the Modification Proposals were grouped together in four different Working Groups for efficiency purposes and that the technical impacts of each Modification Proposal will be assessed at a later date. TSC members queried whether the proposed grouping was effective, noting that Parties will only be interested in allocating resources to Modification Proposals that directly concern them. The TSC noted that the current grouping may lead to nominations for Working Groups not being received from the most suitable candidates.

SECAS clarified that Working Group members could attend the Working Group for specific Modification Proposal discussions and agreed to feedback TSC's comments on the Modification Proposals grouping to the Panel.

The TSC **NOTED** the contents of the paper.

ACTION TSC04/02: SECAS to feedback TSC's input on the Modification Proposals grouping to the Panel.

5. TSC Activity Planner

SECAS provided the TSC with an updated activity planner outlining the activities anticipated until December 2016.

Due to time constraints, the planner was just provided for information and consideration before the next TSC meeting.

The TSC **NOTED** the contents of the paper.

6. TSC Activities and Tools Scoping

SECAS presented the TSC with a discussion item on their duties (and upcoming duties based on DECC's Consultation¹ which is due to expand the TSC's remit to include the maintenance and development of the Business Architecture Document and oversight of the HAN requirements) to review the effectiveness of the End-to-End Technical Architecture, the Business Architecture and the HAN Requirements.

The requirements will set out that the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC) is to review (where directed by the Panel):

- the End-to-End Technical Architecture (including so as to evaluate whether the Technical Code Specifications continue to meet the SEC Objectives), and report to the Panel on the outcome of such review (such report to include any recommendations from TABASC);

¹ Consultation on aspects of the implementation of Home Area Network solutions (868MHz legal drafting and approach to pairing devices locally) and on the operation and remit of the Technical Sub-Committee

- the Business Architecture (including their assessment against the SEC Objectives), and report to the Panel on the outcome of such review (such report to include any recommendations from TABASC); and
- the HAN Requirements (including their assessment against the SEC Objectives), in consultation with Parties and Competent Authorities (but without engaging directly with Energy Consumers), and report to the Authority and the Panel on the outcome of such review.

It was noted that although the TSC will be directed to undertake the duties by the Panel, the TSC will be able to advise the Panel on when the activities should be carried out.

As the reviews are required to consider the SEC Objectives it was proposed that effectiveness could be determined by measures such as: efficiency, interoperability, provision of information to consumers, transparency and non-discrimination. The group discussed the proposed measures of effectiveness, timescales for reviews and whether any preparatory work should take place prior to such reviews. The TSC discussed the need to prepare for longer term strategic developments to be able to understand any change in the requirements and the overarching architecture. The TSC agreed they should have an understanding of the industry changes that are likely to affect the requirements over the next 5- 10 years, so that they can ensure the requirements are up to date for events such as the DSP contract expiry.

A TSC member suggested work should be undertaken to develop a roadmap articulating all known industry changes that may affect Smart Metering – and TSC’s duties in particular - so that the TSC are able to put together a review timeline for the relevant documentation and architecture. SECAS agreed to prepare and circulate such roadmap before the next TSC meeting in April. The DCC noted that the DCC Business Plan points to a number of industry changes and agreed to provide support if required.

The TSC **DISCUSSED** the contents of the paper.

ACTION TSC04/02: SECAS to produce a roadmap of forthcoming industry changes/milestones that may affect the SMIP and TSC’s remit and circulate it prior to the April meeting.

7. Enterprise Architecture Demonstration

A representative of the DCC provided the TSC with an overview of the DCC’s Enterprise Architecture (EA) structure that is currently in development. The group was informed the DCC plan to make available online (through a cloud sharing model) a Repository of DCC’s EA for SEC Parties to be able to consult, subject to user type access. The EA is a discipline within the DCC that will set out the architectural elements of the DCC system underpinned by a detailed models, descriptions and catalogues of elements that make up DCC, both current and future.

Following the presentation, discussions were held on whether DCC’s EA model could support the TSC and whether it would provide enough detail to help the group’s understanding of service enhancements and impact assessing change.

The DCC informed the group that data is still being collated and that they should be able to provide an update on how this will evolve beyond go-live in the next quarter. However, the presented EA is internal to the DCC and that it does not aim to provide an industry-level framework; the DCC’s goal is

to make this asset available for parties to offer input and will seek to further develop it if the industry so suggests.

It was further clarified this asset does not currently reflect the DCC User Interface Specification (DUIS) or Great Britain Companion Specification (GBCS). TSC Members questioned whether the DCC EA could support the TSC without that level of detail.

DCC will impact changes arising from Modification Proposals using the model where possible.

The TSC **NOTED** the contents of this presentation.

ACTION TSC04/03: DCC to update the TSC on their plans for development of their Enterprise Architecture Repository beyond go-live, in the next quarter.

8. Demand Management Update

The TSC were given a presentation on the DCC's approach to Demand Management, which focussed on peak demand smoothing and on demand predictability.

The DCC informed the group they are working to ensure that demand, including peak, is as predictable as possible so there is no need for a capacity buffer far above expected needs.

The DCC informed the group they are currently procuring for a demand modelling partner to aid them with their demand forecasting. Bilaterals are being undertaken with industry stakeholders to understand demand profiles and there should be output from this exercise by July 2016.

The TSC were also informed that the DCC are considering publishing a 'best practice' guide with demand schedules for their services to work at their best.

The TSC **NOTED** the contents of this presentation.

9. DCC Update

The DCC provided the TSC with an update on the DCC's progress, namely on the conclusion of the Apex Recovery Key testing and on the availability of live certificates from 9th March 2016. It was highlighted that the DCC could take significant learnings from this period of testing that should be taken through into the Systems Integration Testing currently progressing.

The DCC also informed the TSC that the DUIS and the Message Mapping Catalogue (MMC) are to be re-consulted on at the end of month, however no major changes are anticipated.

The TSC **NOTED** the contents of the verbal update.

10. DECC Update

DECC noted that the slide pack from the TBCG meeting held on Wednesday 16th March would be circulated to TSC members shortly and that in particular slides 41 and 46 may be of specific interest with regard to the TSC's remit.

The TSC were provided with an overview of the forthcoming consultations and conclusions that may be of interest to the TSC, which included some work being undertaken on a wider Smarter Energy piece. DECC agreed that further information on this could be shared at a future TSC.

DECC noted that they were currently looking at the anticipated composition of Release 2 including changes driven by the Section 88 Energy Act and Modification Proposals raised by industry. It was confirmed that prioritisation process, if required, was being looked at.

The TSC **NOTED** the contents of the verbal update.

ACTION TSC04/04: DECC to provide an update on the work being undertaken on a wider Smarter Energy piece.

11. Sub-Committee Update

The TSC Chair provided the TSC with an update on the Security Sub-Committee and SMKI PMA's recent activities, highlighting areas of specific relevance to the TSC, including: the work undertaken by the SMKI PMA to support the decisions regarding SMKI Live Certificates; and a confidential item discussed by the SSC.

The TSC **NOTED** the contents of the verbal update.

12. Any Other Business

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