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## Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC)

### TABASC\_43\_2006, 20 June 2019

10:00 – 15:45 Gemserv, 8 Fenchurch Place, London EC3M 4AJ

## Final Minutes

### Attendees:

Category	TABASC Members
TABASC Chair	Julian Hughes
Large Suppliers	Stephen Lovell
	Rochelle Harrison <i>(part)</i>
	Ashley Pocock <i>(part)</i>
	James Nixon <i>(alternate for Grahame Weir)</i>
Small Suppliers	Chris King <i>(alternate for Terry Underwood)</i>
Other SEC Parties	Elias Hanna
	Tim Boyle
Electricity Networks	Alan Creighton

Representing	Other Participants
DCC	Simon Harrison
	Penny Brown <i>(part)</i>
	Mark Andrews <i>(part)</i>
	Mannu Rawat <i>(part)</i>
	Justin Bushby <i>(part)</i>
BEIS	David Aknin
	John Eager <i>(part)</i>
ELEXON	Jon Spence <i>(part)</i>
SECAS	Phillip Twiddy
	Kayla Reinhart
	Holly Burton
	Harry Jones <i>(part)</i>

	Jordan Crase ( <i>part</i> )
	Peter Simpson ( <i>part</i> )

Absent	
Small Suppliers	James Kirk
Gas Networks	Leigh Page

Apologies	
Large Suppliers	Emslie Law Grahame Weir
Small Suppliers	Terry Underwood

## 1. Multiple Suppliers per MPAN

ELEXON provided the TABASC with an update on Multiple Suppliers per MPAN highlighting that New Anglia Energy raised a Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC) Modification Proposal P379 in January 2019 in order to enable consumers to buy and sell electricity from/to multiple providers through meter splitting without requiring bilateral agreements between all Parties involved.

The Interim Assessment Report was presented to the BSC Panel on 13 June 2019 in which a six-month extension was then approved to the P379 Assessment Procedure. ELEXON set out the problem statement, noting that the existing arrangements could prevent potential new entrants with disruptive business models from entering the market i.e. giving traditional Suppliers privileged access to information and control over processes, as noted by Ofgem in October 2017.

A number of pilot schemes involving Suppliers and innovators were presented however, there was no expectation that these pilots would be taken forward. It was accepted that the BSC could be construed as a barrier, with the single Supplier principles written into the Supply Licence and several industry codes.

ELEXON explained how the proposals would support a range of innovations including Community Energy Schemes, Electric Vehicle Schemes, Peer-to-peer Trading, Device-as-service and Rapid Switching before explaining how the solution may work. There was general concern that to meet the requirements being discussed may require changes to the Smart Metering system which were not currently being considered.

The TABASC recommended further engagement between SECAS and ELEXON to discuss:

- Impact of (Time of Use) ToU tariffs on load;
- Switching randomisation; and

- Access to data and auxiliary metering data within Smart Metering Systems by other users.

The TABASC **NOTED** the update.

## 2. Minutes and Actions Outstanding

Action Reference	Update
TABASC39/01  BEIS to return to the TABASC meeting in April to present the outcome of the Electric Vehicle feasibility studies due to close in March.	An update was provided under the BEIS Update, Agenda Item 10. Action <b>CLOSED</b> .
TABASC40/02  DCC to provide an update on Ecosystems Management Framework (EMF) at the May 2019 TABASC meeting.	An update was provided at the May 2019 TABASC meeting. A further update was provided under Agenda Item 3. This has now been added as a standing agenda item therefore, the TABASC agreed to close this action. Action <b>CLOSED</b> .
TABASC41/02  The TABASC Chair to write to the Operations Group Chair to consider the need for the TABASC to review the DCC Major Incidents and assess whether architectural design could be a cause.	The TABASC Chair wrote to the Operations Group Chair, who is supportive of the TABASC involvement in assessing Major Incidents, where the cause is architectural. Details of any involvement will be further discussed between the Operations Group Chair, TABASC Chair and the DCC. Action <b>CLOSED</b> .
TABASC41/04  SECAS to request that Alt HAN address the two points raised by the TABASC when they return in June:  - Whether the project requested an Impact Assessment from DCC for adding an Alt HAN Device type to the inventory (rather than listing it as a CAD); and  - How issues can be diagnosed and impacted when Alt HAN Devices are present.	An update will be provided at the July 2019 TABASC meeting due to programme timescales. Action <b>OPEN</b> .

<p>TABASC41/05</p> <p>SECAS to request ELEXON to present an update to the TABASC on their work to enable multiple Suppliers to be registered to one MPAN.</p>	<p>An update was provided under Agenda Item 1. Action <b>CLOSED</b>.</p>
<p>TABASC42/02</p> <p>SECAS to re-draft the letter regarding Market-wide Half Hourly Settlement to the SEC Panel to include the TABASC input.</p>	<p>SECAS confirmed that the Market-wide Half Hourly Settlement discussions were taken offline prior to issuing the letter to the SEC Panel. As a result, the SEC Panel Chair confirmed the generic point had not been addressed on the wider issues that impact the SEC. SECAS agreed to liaise with the SEC Panel Chair further to address the issues raised. Action <b>OPEN</b>.</p>
<p>TABASC42/03</p> <p>The DCC to provide an answer to the TABASC query regarding what will happen with incidents raised where Suppliers are being told to install T3 Aerials at the June 2019 TABASC meeting.</p>	<p>An update was provided under Agenda Item 5. Action <b>OPEN</b>.</p>
<p>TABASC42/06</p> <p>The DCC to provide an update on the delivery of Production Proving Function (PPF) at the June 2019 TABASC meeting.</p>	<p>An update was provided under Agenda Item 7. Action <b>CLOSED</b>.</p>
<p>TABASC42/09</p> <p>SECAS to draft the next IRP modification to be discussed at the June 2019 TABASC meeting.</p>	<p>An update was provided under Agenda Item 13. Action <b>CLOSED</b>.</p>
<p>TABASC42/10</p> <p>SECAS to capture information regarding where alert issues are being addressed to help identify if any additional activity is required.</p>	<p>A verbal update which clarified the investigation was still ongoing in order to identify volumes. Several ongoing activities are taking place to address the alert issues, including the Operations Group Data Quality work, TSIRS and BEIS-led workshop. The approach to address the issues gathered across all activities is being looked into further. Action <b>OPEN</b>.</p>

<p>TABASC42/12</p> <p>The TABASC to provide feedback on the third iteration of the Effectiveness Review Survey at the June 2019 meeting.</p>	<p>No feedback was received.</p> <p>An agenda item to discuss the updated format and the communication approach will be provided at the July 2019 TABASC Meeting.</p> <p>Due to no comment/feedback being received, SECAS agreed to re-circulate the Survey to TABASC Members in order to shape discussion at the July 2019 TABASC Meeting.</p> <p>Action <b>OPEN</b>.</p>
<p>TABASC43/01: SECAS to re-circulate the third iteration of the Effectiveness Review Survey to TABASC Members for comment in order to help shape discussion at the July 2019 TABASC Meeting.</p>	<p>Circulated on 21 June requesting feedback in advance of TABASC on 18 July.</p> <p>Action <b>CLOSED</b>.</p>

### 3. DCC Ecosystems Management Framework Update

The DCC provided the TABASC with an update on the orchestration aspects of the Ecosystems Management Framework (EMF), noting that it is being piloted to demonstrate value. The DCC highlighted the challenges faced by the ecosystem, whilst noting the benefit that the orchestration could bring by having a clear view of the forward schedule of change and planned maintenance.

The DCC noted that firmware management is not included in this EMF update and that the DCC will provide updates on firmware management separately.

The TABASC asked how the orchestration sat within the overall programme and the effects of user system or service changes. The DCC confirmed this was co-ordinated in the same way, with the EMF forward schedule of change including releases, user change and planned maintenance.

The TABASC noted the DCC were currently running an Excel-based proof of concept utilising inputs from a number of DCC customers and data from the ISP Forward Schedule of Change. The TABASC asked the DCC whether governance was in place should there be a risk of conflict. The DCC would expect the presence of the heatmap and discussion with the relevant Parties would resolve most conflict but would escalate through existing routes, such as the Operations Group and SEC Panel if necessary. It was requested for the DCC to provide a further understanding of the factors that affect the ratings within heat map.

The DCC confirmed three customers are supporting the pilot but it is only just starting so has little data at this moment in time. The DCC **AGREED** to provide an update at the August 2019 TABASC meeting to provide update on the data received from the pilot, and to discuss feedback.

**ACTION TABASC43/02:** The DCC to provide an understanding of the factors that affect the ratings within the heat map.

**ACTION TABASC43/03:** The DCC to provide an update the August 2019 TABASC Meeting on the EMF Orchestration pilot.

The TABASC **NOTED** the update.

#### 4. DCC LTE Communications Hub Update

This item was marked as **RED** and will therefore be recorded in the Confidential Minutes.

#### 5. DCC T3 Aerials Update

The DCC provided the TABASC with an update on the T3 aerials issue whilst addressing a previous action to provide an answer regarding what will happen with incidents raised where Suppliers are being told to install T3 aerials whilst Suppliers have found that a T2 aerial has worked satisfactorily. It was noted detailed coverage measurement data has been extensively collected to enable an accurate recommendation to be made on the correct combination of Comms Hub variant at any given premise.

The DCC further highlighted that five options had been prioritised for further investigation although one of the options to extend the use of mesh, through subsequent investigation has found that only a low proportion of T3 aerials could be avoided as many T3s lie distant from mesh.

The DCC agreed to return to the TABASC in July to provide an update on the options under investigation and to discuss the benefits.

The TABASC **NOTED** the update.

**ACTION TABASC43/04:** DCC to provide an update in July on the options under investigation and to discuss the benefits.

#### 6. DSP Re-procurement

This item was marked as **RED** and will therefore be recorded in the Confidential Minutes.

#### 7. DCC Production Proving Function Update

The DCC provided the TABASC with an update on Production Proving Function highlighting that the business case and delivery plan are subject to relatively detailed discussions with BEIS. It was confirmed that Production Proving Function is planned for implementation in Q4 and will be delivered within the budget set out in the original consultation.

As part of the update, the DCC noted that the new test lab is now operational, and devices have been installed.

The TABASC **NOTED** the update.

## 8. DCC Update

The DCC advised that approximately 1.2 million meters have now been commissioned on the DCC System.

The DCC provided an update on the EMF Device Assurance options. The three options being considered are:

- Do nothing (current state), where Suppliers are responsible for risks relating to new Devices or Device firmware being deployed;
- Diagnose and advise, where the DCC would not block any firmware update but would be protected from Operational performance measures impacted by a Supplier deploying firmware thought to be unfit; and
- Protect, where the DCC would prevent firmware updates until fully assured.

One TABASC Member noted that Suppliers are highly unlikely to deploy a firmware update to a significant volume of Devices without first carrying out extensive testing as Suppliers have historically taken a very cautious approach to testing, trialling, ramping up and then full-scale deployment.

The TABASC Chair questioned whether DCC had carried out a risk assessment to quantify risks to the DCC service for other Users. The DCC responded that they are conducting a risk assessment and that it would be appropriate to return to the TABASC once complete.

The DCC also noted that an Elective Service has been requested by one customer. The DCC is considering how they can be delivered within the regulatory framework, considering the normal requirements for regression testing, whether a new version of DUIS may be required, whether it should be delivered as part of a release but only available to the requesting party, etc. The DCC may seek guidance from the Testing Advisory Group (TAG) on the testing approach for Elective Services and should return to TABASC once implementation proposals are developed.

The TABASC **NOTED** the update and **AGREED** for a risk assessment to be presented at the July 2019 TABASC Meeting.

## 9. Sub-Committee Update

### Security Sub-Committee (SSC)



The TABASC Chair noted that the SSC has commissioned work to understand and mitigate security risks from rogue internet-connected Devices. The SSC will review the findings and may request TABASC input to any changes required to the design to mitigate risks.

#### **Smart Meter Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority (SMKI PMA)**

The TABASC Chair advised that there were no notable updates for SMKI PMA.

#### **Operations Group**

SECAS informed the TABASC of the Operations Group activities, particularly regarding the frequency of major incidents and trying to understand why failures are occurring frequently with particular components, with concerns raised that the DCC Systems appear to be struggling with only 2% of final number of Devices commissioned. The DCC is currently undertaking an investigation with outputs due August 2019.

The TABASC **NOTED** the Sub-Committee update.

### **10. BEIS Update**

BEIS provided the TABASC with an update on the publication of upcoming consultations.

#### **Update on load control demonstration project**

BEIS provided the TABASC with an update on the Electric Vehicle charge control trial highlighting that the objective is to demonstrate the existing load control functionality of Smart Metering infrastructure through design and manufacture of a Smart Metering load control device, and trial of this in a real-world setting.

The first project procurement phase took place between January and March 2019 in which BEIS funded five feasibility studies to scope the design and trial of a Smart Meter load. The second phase of the project includes design, build, test, (Certified Product Assurance) CPA and the trialling of 100 load control devices. These projects will be undertaken by EDM I and EDF Research and Development and each plan to do so in the context of Electric Vehicle charging. These projects started in April 2019 and will conclude in March 2021.

The TABASC **NOTED** the BEIS update.

### **11. SMETS1 Service Release BAD & TAD Project Update – May 2019**

The SMETS1 Services Release Business Architecture Document (BAD) & Technical Architecture Document (TAD) Project Update for May 2019 was provided to the TABASC, which highlighted that the BAD and TAD project is progressing to budget, with the updated documents to be published this week.



The TABASC **NOTED** the update.

## 12. New Draft Proposals and Modification Proposals

SECAS provided the TABASC with the new Draft Proposals and Modification Proposals raised in the past month, seeking comments from the TABASC on these proposals and agreement on which proposals the TABASC would want to provide further input on as they progress.

SECAS provided the TABASC with the below two new Modification Proposals where the TABASC agreed that its involvement is not needed directly but would like its original comments from the draft proposal review addressed before referring back to Change Board Sub-Committee:

- [MP075 'third party metering service providers'](#)
- [MP076 'pursuing non-payment in events of default'](#)

The TABASC noted interest in the below Draft Proposal, noting that the analysis should be undertaken to understand whether business processes are impacted. The TABASC questioned whether the issues raised in the Draft Proposal should be considered defects given the existing capability does not seem to be being used effectively.

- [DP077 'DCC Service Flagging'](#)

The TABASC **PROVIDED** its views and comments on the proposals.

**ACTION TABASC43/05:** SECAS to provide written responses to the TABASC in relation to comments previously raised in relation to DP075 and DP076 before referring back to Change Sub-Committee.

## 13. New Issue Resolution Proposal (IRP) Draft Proposal

SECAS provided the TABASC with the planned new draft proposal that is being prepared to batch up and progress the remaining IRPs handed over to SECAS for implementation. The TABASC noted the key impacts of candidate IRPs which set out an initial analysis of the impacts of each IRP and considered whether all listed IRPs could be implemented. It was confirmed that if the Modification is approved by November 2019, this will leave a 12-month lead time for DCC System impacting IRPs, enabling them to be implemented in the November 2020 Release.

The TABASC debated whether it would be sensible to consider two modifications, potentially one DCC-impacting and another that does not impact DCC. In light that BEIS is likely to implement a designation in June 2020 that will impact the Technical Specifications, it was considered sensible to raise the non-DCC System impacting Modification around October 2019.

BEIS noted that they expect to hand over a number of other IRPs to SECAS for implementation over the next few weeks, anticipating that they will have relatively short implementation timeframes and could be considered within this release.

The TABASC **AGREED** the initial list of IRPs for this proposed modification subject to separating out the list based on whether it is DCC System impacting or not. TABASC noted that a sponsor will be needed to raise the modifications and in the first instance asked members to considering sponsoring the proposals.

**ACTION TABASC43/06:** The TABASC to provide nominations willing to sponsor the DCC System impacting IRP Modification Proposal to the SEC Change Team ([sec.change@gemserv.com](mailto:sec.change@gemserv.com)) as soon as possible.

## 14. CPL Application Options Appraisal

SECAS provided the TABASC with the Central Product List (CPL) application options appraisal assessing the current CPL technical implementation. The broad objectives are to make the CPL processes more robust and to reduce administrative burden. The TABASC noted the appraisal approach, which initially considered the existing CPL Excel spreadsheet processes and noted the five possible solutions;

- 1) Do nothing;
- 2) Enhance Current CPL Product;
- 3) Commercial Off the Shelf Product Development;
- 4) Partial bespoke Development; and
- 5) Full bespoke Development.

The TABASC was presented with a cost and benefits analysis, highlighting detailed costs for each option noting that the 'SECAS Resource' column for 'Ongoing (per annum) costs only details costs for the continued processing of SMETS2 Device submissions, although considering SMETS1 submissions reinforces the recommendation.

The TABASC **AGREED** to recommend to the SEC Panel the, 'Enhance Current CPL Product option'.

## 15. TABASC Risk Register

Due to time constraints, this Agenda Item was deferred to the July 2019 TABASC Meeting.

## 16. TABASC Activity Planner

Due to time constraints, this Agenda Item was deferred to the July 2019 TABASC Meeting.

## **17. Any Other Business (A.O.B)**

One item of additional business was raised by BEIS requesting to bring a proposal for TABASC to fund a Home Area Network (HAN) performance trial based on HAN Survey Tools, which was suggested by Suppliers in the Technical and Business Design Group Home Area Network Wide Area Network (TBDG HAN WAN) Subgroup. It was agreed that a formal proposal should be provided to the TABASC in July with further detail including objective, business case, approach, timescales and deliverables.

There were no additional items of business raised and the TABASC Chair closed the meeting.

## **18. Transitional Governance Update – June 2019**

The Transitional Governance Update is a compendium of activities occurring in the Smart Metering Implementation Programme (SMIP). The paper provides a high-level overview of any relevant publications, responses and consultations issued by BEIS, the DCC, and Ofgem, in relation to smart metering, whilst highlighting areas which may be of interest to the SEC Panel and/or SEC Parties.

## **19. Change Status Report – June 2019**

The monthly Change Status Report provides information on the progress of SEC Modifications and Releases, covering the June 2019 SEC Panel recommendations and decisions.