**Section 1: Cover Sheet**

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| **1.1 RFC Title** | Uplift of GBCS and SMETS to support Emergency Credit Changes | | |
| **1.2 RFC Reference ID** | SMIP\_CR\_085 | | |
| **1.3 Related RFC Reference IDs** | SMIP\_CR\_077 Version 1.0 (20 March 2019) | | |
| **1.4 RFC Initiator** | 1.4.1. SMIP party raising request | | BEIS |
|  | 1.4.2. Change Co-ordinator | | John Eager |
|  | 1.4.3 Contact Email Address | | john.eager@beis.gov.uk |
| **1.5 Products Impacted by RFC** | GBCS v3.2 Draft 1  SEC Schedule 9 - SMETS2 v4.1 | | |
| **1.6 Parties Impacted by RFC** | DCC, DCC partners, energy suppliers, equipment manufacturers, DNOs and other service users | | |
| **1.7 High Level Indicative Impact Assessment** | **Initial Assessment by RFC Requestor** | | |
| **1.7.1 Impact Level** | Medium | | |
| **1.7.2 Priority Level** | High | | |
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| **RFC Process Tracker** | | | |
| **RFC Process Step** | **Date Step Started** | **Date Step Finished** | |
| **Step 1 – Initiation** | 03/05/2019 |  | |
| **Step 2 – Validation** | 10/05/2019 |  | |
| **Step 3 – Impact Assessment** | 15/05/2019 |  | |
| **Step 4 – Decision Making** |  |  | |
| **Step 5 – Implementation** | Plan to designate new documents in SEC 07/06/2019 (or, if necessary, within one month thereafter) |  | |

**Section 2: Detail of Proposed Change**

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| **2.1 RFC Summary** | Both GBCS v3.2 Draft 1 and SMETS2 v4.1 require changes to support industry’s preferred approach to processing Emergency Credit across SMETS2 Devices.  Following this consultation modified versions GBCS and SMETS will be baselined at TBDG and then SECAS will then update those documents to incorporate SEC Modifications 18, 23, 25 & 55 (the latter still subject to approval).  Subject to the outcome to this consultation, BEIS intends to designate SMETS2 v4.2 and GBCS v3.2 into the SEC on the 4th July 2019 (or, if necessary, within one month thereafter). As a consequence of the designation of SMETS2 v4.2 and GBCS v3.2, BEIS will designate a new TSAT on the 4th July to reflect the IVP and MVP start dates for SMETS2 v4.2 and GBCS v3.2 of the 7th November 2019. |
| **2.2 Essential Background** | BEIS consulted on GBCS v3.2 (Draft 1) in February 2019[[1]](#footnote-2) and that version was subsequently ‘Baselined’[[2]](#footnote-3) with TBDG on 17 April.  During the autumn of 2018 industry representatives at a BEIS / Technical Specification Issues Resolution Subgroup (TSIRS) workshop identified potential anomalies with the SMETS2 prepayment and emergency credit processing requirements. Subsequently, after several further workshops and discussions, the summary of key issues needing to be addressed were:   * Consumers could live in emergency credit (which, as a minimum, means the ability to remain on supply through “micro” top-ups and not paying off non-Emergency Credit debt); and * Activating emergency credit might not always get a consumer back on supply (e.g. after a period of non-disablement).   Options to resolve these points were discussed in late 2018 and through a consensus of TSIRS members, industry identified and supported two proposed revisions to Smart Meter prepayment behaviour, namely:   1. that the Consumer will be able to use, before disablement due to insufficient credit, Emergency Credit equal to the Emergency Credit Threshold, regardless of when Emergency Credit is activated, so specifically regardless of any accrued amount already owing on the Meter Balance at the point of activation; and 2. when credit is applied, any accrued amount already owing on the Meter Balance will be paid back before Emergency Credit begins to be paid back.   This CR\_085 proposes a Consultation on the uplift of GBCS v3.2 Draft 1 and SMETS2 v4.1 with the inclusion of the Resolution Proposals (RPs): IRP545, IRP557, IRP559, IRP560, CRP585, IRP598 and CRP602 as listed at Annex 1. This will create a GBCS v3.2 Draft 2 and SMETS2 v4.2 Draft 1 which subject to this consultation, will be baselined on the 7th June and then designated on the 4th July 2019 (or, if necessary, within one month thereafter). These new documents address the changes required by industry for emergency credit processing.  BEIS will also designate a new version of the TSAT as listed in Annex D to indicate the new specification IVP and MVP start dates, and the withdrawal of GBCS v3.1 and SMETS2 v4.0 & v4.1.  Upon designation of SMETS2 v4.2 and GBCS v3.2, existing GBCS v3.1 and SMETS2 v4.0 & v4.1 documents will be re-designated without any contents to clearly indicate that those specifications are no longer relevant.  Note that the changes to Table 4 of the TSAT proposed by CR\_077 that shows the GBCS version compatibility with CPA versions combined into just one table section, as included in Annex D.  It is understood that SECAS will update the baselined versions with SEC Mods 18, 23, 25 & 55 (the latter subject to final approval) with the expectation that they will be designated into the SEC as one instance of the documents SMETS2 v4.2 and GBCS v3.2 on the 4th July 2019.  **We are consulting and stakeholders are invited to comment on:**   1. **the inclusion of the RPs listed in Annex A into the GBCS and SMETS2 as embedded at Annex B; and** 2. **the TSAT being updated such that SMETS2 v4.2 and GBCS v3.2 become active on the 7th November 2019; and** 3. **the timing of the designation of SMETS2 v4.2, GBCS v3.2 and the updated TSAT to take effect on the 4th July 2019 (or, if necessary, as soon as reasonably practicable within one month thereafter).**   **Subject to no adverse comments being received by 29 May 2019, we will baseline the proposed Drafts ex-committee by 7 June 2019, and designate them into the SEC on 4th July 2019.**  **Responses to this RFC are invited by 29 May 2019**  **Comments should be submitted to: smartmetering@beis.gov.uk** |
| **2.3 Options Summary** | 1. Do nothing and leave GBCS v3.2 and SMETS2 v4.1 as is (unacceptable to TBDG members due to need to implement the emergency credit related changes).  2. Uplift documents nearer to, or just before, the appropriate DCC Release (rejected due to the need to provide assurance and clarity of intent as soon as possible to both industry and DCC).  3. Baseline GBCS v3.2 Draft 2 to supersede GBCS v3.2 Draft 1, baseline SMETS2 v4.2 Draft 1 to supersede SMETS2 v4.1, pursuant to stakeholder consideration, in June 2019, and designate the uplifted documents on 4th July to provide clarity of content prior to the DCC Release on November 7th 2019. |
| **2.4 Recommended Option** | Option 3. Chosen as the most suitable option for inclusion of the required RPs and provide surety of content at the earliest opportunity. |
| **2.5 Summary Impact Assessment of Recommended Option** | The Resolution Proposals listed at Annex 1, have all been reviewed by relevant stakeholders during the resolution of each issue. The Issues Log (maintained in line with the BEIS Issues Management Process) provides a full audit trail for all changes set out in these documents in support of the RPs included. These are available to view by all stakeholders via the issues management process. GBCS v3.2 Draft 2 and SMETS2 v4.2 Draft 1 ‘Release Note’ documents are provided at Annex C, each explains the changes made section by section. |
| **2.6 Summary Impact Assessment of not adopting change** | Publishing baselined specifications in advance of the release live date provides necessary clarity of content to industry and DCC, without this industry are unlikely to be prepared with suitable tested equipment by the time it goes live.  As the uplifted documents provide clarity in support of the required emergency credit processing, not publishing will result in more Devices being installed in consumer premises that will not operate in accordance with preferred industry requirements. |
| **2.7 Other Recommended Next Steps (Optional)** | BEIS has reviewed these changes with stakeholders through the Issues Management Process, so further steps are not required. |

**Section 3: Individual Impact Assessments by other SEC Parties (if required)**

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| **3.1 SMIP Party carrying out Impact Assessment** | See section 4 |
| **3.2 Summary Impact Assessment** | See section 4 |

**Section 4: Summary of Impact Assessments**

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| **4.1 List of SEC Parties who completed Impact Assessments** | TBC – pending consultation response |
| **4.2 Summary Impact Assessment** | TBC – pending consultation response |
| **4.3 Initial Recommendation (Optional)** |  |

**Section 5: Decision Making**

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| **5.1 Record of TBDG Review** | |
| **5.1.1 Further Analysis Required** |  |
| **5.1.2 Consensus Reached** | TBC |
| **5.1.3 Record of BEIS (Chairperson) decision** | TBDG - tbc – will be added following appropriate TBDG meeting |
| **5.1.4 Record of escalation choice made – route and date** |  |

**Section 6: Implementation**

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| **Implementation Actions** |  |

**ANNEX A – List of additional RPs**

| **Issue Number** | **Ref No** | **Title** | **Date Published /**  **Date Closed by TSIRS** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| IRP545 v0\_2 | TS0779 | PCS02 Command Issue Date - Time Field | 06/10/2017 /  09/11/2017 |
| IRP557 V0\_1 | TS0839 | Correct SMETS & CHTS references in GBCS 7.4 | 07/06/2018 /  14/06/2018 |
| IRP559 V0\_1 | TS0659 | Alert for 0x810E - Credit Added Locally is missing | 24/05/2018 /  14/06/2018 |
| IRP560 V0\_2 | TS0849 | Prepayment clarification | 17/08/2018 /  30/08/2018 |
| CRP585 V0\_1 | TS0965 | Alert Codes 81AA and 81AB | 26/04/2019 /  09/05/2019 |
| IRP598 V0\_1 | TS1089 | ICHIS applicable to Twin Element & Polyphase ESME | 26/04/2019 /  09/05/2019 |
| CRP602 V0\_1 | TS1100 | Addressing key SMETS2 Emergency Credit Issues | 26/04/2019 /  09/05/2019 |

**ANNEX B – GBCS v3.2 Draft 2 & SMETS2 v4.2 Draft 1**



**ANNEX C – Release Notes**



**ANNEX D – Technical Specification Applicability Tables**

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1. <https://smartenergycodecompany.co.uk/latest-news/beis-consultation-smip-change-request-cr-077-proposing-changes-to-the-gbcs-v3-1/> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. <https://smartenergycodecompany.co.uk/download/13328/> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)