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Testing Advisory Group (TAG) Meeting

TAG_52_2702

27 February 2019, 10:15 – 16:00

Final Minutes

Name	Organisation
David Barber	Chair (SECAS)
Rebecca Jones	SECAS
Phillip Twiddy	SECAS
Martin Bell	EDF Energy
Martin Hanley	SSE
Andrew Cameron	Scottish Power
Will Leacock	British Gas
Elias Hanna	L&G (Part Meeting)
Ferenc Vanhoutte	Geotogether
Antony Thomas	Npower
Terry Underwood	Utiligroup
Adrian Wood	E.ON
Chris Rowell	DCC
Rupal Patel	DCC
Steve Stathakis	DCC
Tom Burke	DCC (Part Meeting)
Oliver Dancel	DCC (Part Meeting)
Anish Shukul	DCC (Part meeting)
James Henton	DCC (Part meeting)
Raj Chandrasekaran	DCC (Part meeting)
Peter Doyle	DCC (Part meeting)
Dominic Butt	DCC (Part meeting)
Chris Thompson	DCC (Part meeting)
Isobel Voyles	DCC (Part meeting)
Philip Bargery	DCC (Part meeting)

Hugh Morgan	DCC (Part meeting)
Jackie Wright	BEIS (Part meeting)
Graeme Milligan	BEIS (Part meeting)

1. Minutes and Actions Outstanding

All actions were marked as completed or on target for completion with a verbal update provided. A number of open actions were discussed under planned agenda items. The following updates were provided:

The minutes for meeting 51 were marked as final.

Action Reference	Update
<p>TAG42/06</p> <p>(2019 Release) DCC to provide a clear statement on what will be undertaken for regression testing should occur, including what it means from a SMETS1 devices User perspective.</p>	<p>An Update was provided under agenda item 7.</p> <p>Action OPEN</p>
<p>TAG43/07</p> <p>(SMETS1 Service) DCC to explain how limitations of performance testing can be managed and controls applied to address issues that are identified</p>	<p>An update was provided at meeting 49 although how the limitations would be managed were not addressed. Simulation and monitoring of bandwidth generated by both load injection and processing of messages did not seem an appropriate method to mitigate the lack of testing involving 'interfaces' on an integrated environment. As it still stands, this is being monitored during DSP testing; results for R2.0 showed only 2KB bandwidth for all messaging during Industrial & Commercial (I&C) tests (heaviest hitting scenario). DCC Operational Acceptance Testing (OAT) believe that these results may not have been shared with TAG Members for R2. SMETS1 will continue to monitor this area, potential solutions are available should this be a cause for concern during execution, i.e. fixed bandwidth injection etc. DCC OAT is looking for a viable solution to address the risk. The DCC will provide a further update at the TAG meeting in March, scheduled for 27 March 2019.</p> <p>Action OPEN</p>

Administered by

Action Reference	Update
<p>TAG46X/01</p> <p>(Release 2.0) DCC and / or SECAS to determine the formal process for agreeing scope of a release.</p>	<p>DCC is developing a proposal for a document architecture, that includes seeking early agreement to the scope of testing. This will be employed for Middle Operating Capability (MOC) and Final Operating Capability (FOC). A presentation on MOC coverage will be delivered to TAG Members at the March meeting scheduled for 27 March 2019.</p> <p>Action OPEN</p>
<p>TAG47/02</p> <p>SECAS to arrange TAG meeting to support above actions, when advised by DCC that the issues are resolved and entering TAB governance.</p>	<p>An update was provided at the TAG 49 meeting. #70771 update will be provided under Agenda Item 3 of the February 2019 meeting. This action is expected to be closed at the March 2019 TAG Meeting, scheduled for 27 March 2019.</p> <p>Action OPEN</p>
<p>TAG47/03</p> <p>(SMETS2+) DCC to consider whether formal acceptance of defects by manufacturers should be introduced (currently this is inferred if the manufacturer does not reject defects). Discuss outcome with TAG prior to completion of DIT phase 3.</p>	<p>The DCC noted that Meter Manufacturers will be part of the triage process and the DCC does have a process in place to support Device defect acceptance by the manufacturer.</p> <p>Action CLOSED</p>
<p>TAG49/01</p> <p>DCC to confirm what sub-GHz testing with PPMID takes place in DIT / SIT</p>	<p>Pre-Payment Meter Interface Device (PPMID) & In-Home Display (IHD) testing currently using 2.4GHz. DCC engaging to obtain PPMIDs that can be forced to operate at Sub-GHz. Device Integration Testing (DIT) with MM2 to use sub-GHz PPMID/IHD from mid-April, subject to availability. Close once confirmed.</p> <p>Action OPEN</p>
<p>TAG49/03</p> <p>DCC to produce SCTAD, TAG to review & identify risks, DCC to set out how these are mitigated</p>	<p>The DCC plan to provide updates to TAG Members at the March meeting, scheduled for 27 March 2019. The System Capacity Testing Approach Document (SCTAD) is planned to be issued for consultation in March.</p> <p>The DCC indicated that the SCTAD would be shared with TAG Members as soon as possible and in advance of the March TAG meeting, to aid any resulting TAG discussions.</p>

Action Reference	Update
	Action OPEN
<p>TAG49/04</p> <p>DCC to document what capacity testing takes place in UIT, when, and how this does not impact users.</p>	<p>Capacity testing will not have any effect on Users for Initial Operating Capability (IOC), Service Providers (SPs) are either standing up their own (non-integrated) test environments or use of User Integration Testing (UIT)-A prior to this environment being integrated with the rest of DCC. Environment planning for any MOC, FOC work needs to be carried out and the position will be confirmed.</p> <p>An update will be provided at the March TAG meeting together with the revised SCTAD.</p> <p>Action OPEN</p>
<p>TAG49/05</p> <p>DCC not planning to test DUIS1 alongside DUIS2 and DUIS3 - DCC to make clear in SCTAD and how omissions are mitigated.</p>	<p>This is forming part of detail being asked of Users via the DCC Capacity Management process. As it stands, we expect only DUIS1 & 3 to be used. This will be raised once we know the ratio with DSP as part of the review process of their Capacity Test Specification.</p> <p>An update will be provided at the March TAG meeting together with the revised SCTAD.</p> <p>Action OPEN</p>
<p>TAG49/06</p> <p>BIMI (Business Intelligence Management Information) not being capacity tested. DCC to justify – potentially in SCTAD</p>	<p>This is still underway. The DCC is seeking BIMi to provide an overview of system performance, but, as it currently stands, there is not an environment available to provide conclusive evidence.</p> <p>An update will be provided at the March TAG meeting together with the revised SCTAD.</p> <p>Action OPEN</p>
<p>TAG49/07</p> <p>DCC - explain continued use of UIT-B.</p>	<p>DCC confirmed the actions are limited to environment upgrades with no requirement for Testing Participants to exit the environment.</p> <p>Action CLOSED</p>
<p>TAG50/01</p> <p>(DCC) One week of Functional Regression Testing required for testing issues #70795 and #70796.</p>	<p>DCC provided an update and will provide final update once closed as part of Systems Integration Testing (SIT) Completion.</p> <p>Action CLOSED</p>
<p>TAG50/02</p> <p>(DCC) to set out further detail of R2.0 DBCH DIT SMETS2v3 testing</p>	<p>DCC provided a status update under item 3. Regular updates being provided and will be provided as part of completion.</p> <p>Action CLOSED</p>

Action Reference	Update
<p>TAG50/03</p> <p>DCC to contact manufacturers, if necessary, for 868MHz PPMIDs.</p>	<p>See TAG49/01.</p> <p>Action CLOSED</p>
<p>TAG50/05</p> <p>SECAS to seek clarification of the risk from the TAG Member and provide this to DCC to clarify how this is mitigated.</p>	<p>Risk clarified with TAG Member, and is set out below:</p> <p><i>Both SIT and Eligibility Testing (ET) are not planned to use migrated data but will have data artificially created. So there is a risk that testing is not performed on 'live' like data.</i></p> <p>Verbal update provided at the TAG52 meeting, with it being noted that the Devices used have been set up as if they are migrated Devices, even though real live data is not being used. The DCC noted that Migration Solution Testing Service would cover testing with Devices using live data.</p> <p>Action CLOSED</p>
<p>TAG50/06</p> <p>DCC to confirm plan for using DMCT to supplement SIT to cover the update of firmware</p>	<p>Device Model Combination Testing (DMCT) will take place in May 2019, the scope is still being developed. In principle much of the testing will be automated but cannot automate all activities. UIT-B will be used for DMCT. Approach to testing is not Business Scenarios based, however grouping of testing will be a close approximation. The DMCT scope to be shared with TAG at a future meeting, Regulatory requirements are to be covered by the SEC Variation Testing Approach Document (SVTAD). Further updates are provided under Agenda Item 6.</p> <p>Action OPEN</p>
<p>TAG51/01</p> <p>(SMETS1) DCC to consider whether formal acceptance of defects by manufacturers should be introduced for SMETS1 Devices.</p>	<p>As per the approach for SMETS2+ Devices, the DCC noted that Meter Manufacturers will be part of the triage process and the DCC does have a process in place to support Device defect acceptance by the manufacturer.</p> <p>Action CLOSED</p>
<p>TAG51/03</p> <p>(SMETS1) DCC to identify the difference between DCC run tests and expected user testing to ensure that any differences are captured, and any associated risk can be mitigated.</p>	<p>An update is provided under agenda item 9.</p> <p>Action CLOSED</p>

Action Reference	Update
TAG51/04 (SMETS1) DCC to update Test Documentation tracking table with progress with the Testing Issue Resolution Process and User Guidance progress.	An update is provided under agenda item 9. Action CLOSED
TAG51/05 (SMETS1) DCC to provide document explaining lifecycle of every category of issue arising from testing, including capturing and closing in HP ALM, handing over to DIRF and resolution of issue.	An update is provided under agenda item 9. Action CLOSED
TAG51/06 (SMETS1) DCC to confirm the format and how the narrative content of test approach documents has been captured within the SMETS1 testing User Guidance.	The DCC is checking this to ensure that all references to the User Guide are addressed. An update is provided under Agenda Item 6. Action OPEN
TAG51/09 BEIS to share proposed questions to support the NAO testing review work for circulation to TAG Members for Feedback	The TAG Chair advised that it had been noted at TBDG on 20 th March the questions were to be shared during week commencing 25 th March. TAG Members added that the Questionnaire had been shared with Suppliers to provide feedback on. Action CLOSED

2. Quarterly Work Package

SECAS presented the TAG with the Quarterly Work Package which provided an overview of the activities and associated resource requirements for the SECAS core team and project resource for the period 1 April 2019 to 30 June 2019. The estimates provided were a prudent provision based on the current status of activities and information available, and therefore subject to change dependant on activity levels.

It was noted this was the first time that a quarterly work package was being brought to the TAG, and that the information contained in it would form a wider quarterly work package paper that would be taken to the March SECCo Board meeting. SECAS invited any comments on the content, with a TAG Member noting that there was no mention of TAG reviewing the Migration Testing Approach Document (MTAD) within the paper. SECAS agreed that this would be captured in the TAG aspect of the SECCo Board paper.

ACTION TAG52/01: SECAS to ensure that the MTAD is referenced in the table of TAG activities that makes up the April-June 2019 Work Package that is presented to the SECCo Board.

The TAG **RECOMMENDED** the Work Package for SECCo Board approval.

3. Release 2.0 Testing Update

The DCC provided an update on the progress with Arqiva Dual Band Communications Hub (DBCH) SIT status using sub-GH, noting that some of the testing was now complete, however the consequential impact on CH pallet deliveries was still to be confirmed.

The DCC then updated on progress with Release 2.0 DBCH DIT with Meter Manufacture (MM)1 noting that the completion date was being re-planned due to the impact of defects identified, with indications that the timescales are expected to move to mid-April for completion. Clarity was sought on the versions of firmware being tested as the information provided to TAG was not aligned with the information previously provided to the Testing Design and Execution Group (TDEG) earlier in February. The DCC clarified that the defect fixes being testing in the versions indicated would form part of the final release of firmware when made available to Testing Participants.

The DCC then provided an update on Release 2.0 DBCG DIT with MM2, noting that planning sessions had taken place, with discussion on GSME development for use in DIT to enable completion in June/July, with testing expected to commence around 1st June

The DCC then provided an update on DIT with MM2 plan on a page, which had been updated to reflect the changes of dates associated with the MM2 testing. The DCC agreed following feedback from TAG Members to update the plan to clear show the test versions of firmware that were being used and different points in the timeline.

To conclude, an update was requested on the progress with Fylingdales CHs, with it being noted by the DCC that they were expected to be ready for UIT in April. The DCC confirmed that appropriate notifications would be issued out to Testing Participants and interested parties suitably in advance.

4. Release 2.0 Incentive Regime – Milestones 2A and 2B

The DCC provided the TAG with a recap and update on the Release 2.0 Incentive Regime which consists of four milestones that incentivise DCC to deliver Release 2.0 and the DBCH programme. The DCC provided the Regime for feedback from TAG and other sub-committees to obtain a recommendation to the SEC Panel as to whether they feel the DCC met the timescales, and if so, when.

The DCC noted that prior to bringing the Regime to the TAG, the Independent Auditor for the Incentive Scheme had reviewed the evidence as provided by the DCC and was captured in the report provided to the TAG. The DCC noted that they agreed with the Auditor's view that they did not meet Milestone 2A. However, the date for Milestone 2B was disputed by the DCC; the DCC believed they met the Milestone on 19 July 2018, while the Independent Auditor concluded that the DCC did not hit the target until 3 August 2018.

It was noted that the dispute was due to a system outage for five hours, which caused the UIT environment availability to drop below 95%. The DCC noted that the outage did not affect Testing Participants, as it only impacted the DCC Systems Integrator, and therefore contested that the target was met.

The information provided at the meeting was not sufficient to enable a TAG view to be given, as the details of the impact of the outage was not sufficient. The TAG requested to be provided with evidence of the impact of the outage before giving their view on the Release 2.0 Incentives Scheme Milestones 2A and 2B, noting that the information would need to be provided as soon as possible so that it was aligned with the information provided to the Operations Group on 5 March 2019, and to

enable a view to be confirmed ex-committee in advance of the SEC Panel paper day on 8 March 2019.

ACTION TAG52/02: (Release 2.0) DCC to clarify impact of the outage that may have affected the stability of the UIT environment and whether any Testing Participants were impacted to aid the TAG in confirming its view on the Release 2.0 Incentives Scheme Milestones 2A and 2B.

5. LC13 Plan Update

The DCC provided the TAG with a verbal update on the Licence Condition (LC)13 Plan covering the necessary upgrades that were needed for the UIT B environment. The update was requested following concerns around the conclusion of the LC13 plan, indicating that Testing Participants would need to move out of the UIT-B environment. The DCC went on to explain that it will pull together a plan for related upgrade activities, with the first activities being the low risk items, before moving on to medium risks and then uplifting the common components in the form of the DCO and DSP elements which would be high risk.

The TAG questioned that if DMCT and Pending Products Combinations Tests (PPCT) were removed from UIT-B for, where else would the DCC plan to test. The DCC advised that they would take this point away and come back to the TAG with an answer.

The DCC clarified that there is no instruction to leave UIT-B environment although the DCC have advised that the tasks which need to be undertaken may cause disruption. The DCC suggested a call, in advance of the 27 March TAG meeting, to discuss the upgrade plan. This would enable the TAG to feedback on the plan, and the likely impacts on Testing Participants to help any communications on potential disruptions. The TAG Chair requested that the DCC to confirm when the plan would be ready, so there was information to discuss, first before a call could be arranged.

ACTION TAG52/03: (SMETS1) DCC to indicate the date they will complete the preparation of the UIT-B environment upgrade plan and provide the plan for discussion at a SECAS arranged briefing call with TAG in advance of the 27 March TAG meeting.

6. SMETS1 Testing Update

The DCC provided the TAG with an update on SMETS1 testing. SECAS highlighted that the User Testing Services Approach Document (UTSAD), Enduring Testing Approach Document (ETAD) and Common Tests Scenarios Document (CTSD) were currently out for designation consultation with comments due by 1 March 2019 in advance of an expected designation date of 8 March 2019.

The TAG was advised that the MTAD and SCTAD had been updated and the intention was that both of these would be sent for consultation mid-March 2019.

TAG Members raised concerns around testing phases starting before the approach documents had been baselined or designated. The DCC noted that it was learning lessons from IOC, and that the timing of document delivery would improve for MOC and FOC.

In relation to the User Testing Guide, TAG discussed the subject of mapping the contents of 'narrative' approach documents to the User Testing Guide to ensure that useful information was not lost and whether this information would be provided for Testing Participant to provide confidence. It was noted that a physical mapping document would not be produced, but an assurance exercise would be undertaken to ensure the relevant narrative information had been included and confirmation of this would be shared.

The DCC then presented its proposed principles and approach for DMCT, noting that further details would be provided at the March meeting once it had been prepared and drafted.

7. Overview of Regression Testing

The DCC provided an overview of its approach to SMETS1 IOC regression testing and outlined when and where it was being undertaken and the scope of coverage.

The TAG requested sight of the metrics in support of the DCC view on regression testing, to ensure that IOC does not impact Release 2.0 system functionality when IOC goes live.

A number of concerns on the risk-based analysis were raised, which prompted requests for greater detail on the regression testing undertaken to be added into the IOC SIT completion report (covered under agenda item 9).

8. IOC SIT ST6 TAB Report

The DCC recognised that, due to the timing of the report being issued, TAG Members would not have had time to review the reports content. In recognition of this and to aid subsequent discussions at the additional TAG meeting scheduled for 6 March 2019, the DCC invited all TAG Members to join the DCC Test Assurance Board (TAB) meeting on 1 March 2019, where the report would be walked through. The TAB meeting would also provide an opportunity for questions to be raised.

The TAG welcomed the invite, noting that a number of TAG Members, who are also TAB Members, would be on the call.

9. IOC SIT Completion Report

The DCC provided the TAG with the IOC SIT completion report highlighting the key points for discussion. Again, the DCC noted that due to the timing of when the latest draft of the completion report being issued, TAG Members would not have had time to review. Instead the DCC walked through the updated structure, noting where information was contained and the current DCC view on whether the associated SIT exit criteria had been met.

TAG Members welcomed the approach of capturing prior feedback in the report, noting that it had simplified the review process, specifically checking whether, and where, the feedback had been resolved. The DCC noted that a majority of the prior feedback had been actioned and consequently coloured 'grey' in the report. A few areas of outstanding content were still 'orange' as confirmation of resolution was still required.

The TAG welcomed the work of the DCC in addressing the comments but noted that a number of updates to be actioned in the report, specifically greater detail on the level and extent of regression testing undertaken. This extended to details on any risk assessments undertaken to evidence if and why any areas were not tested.

ACTION TAG52/04: DCC to expand the regression testing section of the IOC SIT completion report, to provide details on: scope, coverage, risk assessment on areas not tested in advance of SIT Completion TAG meeting on 6 March 2019

In addition, the TAG requested the DCC to provide additional details on a number of open testing defects, for inclusion in the final iteration of the completion report. The DCC agreed to action.

ACTION TAG52/05: DCC to provide extra details on open defects, outlined within the IOC SIT Completion Report

10. SMETS1 Go Live path to production

The DCC noted that the outline for the upgrade approach is to ensure that components are built, and the software is deployed in advance for all three environments. The update will be different to that of SMETS2 releases: the process will last for a week and the connection to new components will take place on the first weekend. It was noted that there will be no changes for Users, and SMETS1 capability will be turned on but unavailable to Users through access control. On the second weekend this will go live by allowing access to Users. The DCC advised that more information would be provided to TAG members at the 27 March 2019 meeting.

11. Hardware Security Module Testing approach between SIT and UTS

The DCC presented the Hardware Security Module (HSM) testing approach between SIT and User Testing Services (UTS). It was noted that the purpose for issuing this is to advise that HSMs have not been used in SIT; the exact same functionality has been used, but key storage has been completed in software rather than hardware modules. Pre UTS testing has thus far been completed using the same software HSMs; hard HSMs are about to be commissioned, with Instant Energy planning to commission theirs on 27 February 2019, and DCO commissioning theirs on 4 March 2019.

12. SMETS1 Live Services Criteria briefing

The DCC provided an overview of its initial planning for capturing and providing evidence that it has met the SMETS1 IOC Live Services Criteria. The DCC noted that this was still in draft, as formal confirmation of the content of the LSC for SMETS1 IOC was still to be provided by BEIS.

The DCC and TAG focused on the Live Services Criteria 3, 4 and 5, as these relate to testing and required input from the TAG.

In relation to criterion 3, it was noted that the reference to the SCTAD was an issue, as it was still to be issued for consultation. There was also a question around coverage of capacity that sat out side of SMETS1 System Capacity, such as in relation to DCC reporting.

For criterion 4, it was observed that all regression testing evidence should be provided. In relation to this criterion, the DCC observed that if an issue arose between the governance for going live completing and the go-live date that would affect system stability the DCC would not go live with IOC.

For criterion 5, it was requested that the sub-criteria be updated to capture the need for the required number of Suppliers to complete testing before IOC goes live.

It was noted that the operational related criteria would be shared with the Operations Group, and that the one security related criterion would be raised with the SSC.

The DCC concluded by noting a further update would be brought to the March meeting, for formal comment, in advance of being taken to the April Panel meeting.

ACTION TAG52/06: DCC to action feedback provided on the testing related SMETS1 IOC LSC.

13. Any Other Business (A.O.B)

A TAG Member questioned when the DCC would report on its readiness for the opening of UTS for SMETS1 IOC, and how it planned to confirm that the UTS entry criteria had been met. The Member also questioned the DCC processes for accessing the environment and what the DCC would be undertaking during the 'early' UTS window between 4 and 15 March 2019.

ACTION TAG52/07: (SMETS1) DCC to provide details of its readiness for the opening of SMETS1 IOC UTS, providing detail on how the entry criteria has been met and the process of accessing and what will be taking place during the early UTS period.

The TAG noted it was the Chair's final meeting; the Chair noted that his time chairing had been interesting and challenging, and wished the Members the best for the future.

No other items of AOB were raised and the Chair closed the meeting.