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DP084 'Other User Panel Seating Amendment' Problem statement – version 0.1

About this document

This document provides a summary of this Draft Proposal, including the issue or problem identified, the impacts this is having, and the context of this issue within the Smart Energy Code (SEC).

Proposer

This Draft Proposal has been raised by Maria McLean from Energy Saving Trust (EST).





What is the issue or problem identified?

There is a need to distinguish between Other Users and Other SEC Parties as the two have differences in the SEC. Other Users are described as Users not currently acting in any of the other User Roles, even if they are a Supplier or Network Operator. By contrast, an Other SEC Party is defined as a Party that isn't a Supplier, Network Operator or DCC. Currently, the SEC Panel have two seats to be occupied by Other SEC Parties, but because Other SEC Parties aren't always Other Users this may lead to Other Users being underrepresented. A SEC Panel questionnaire was issued in April 2019 and the outcomes discussed at SEC Panel in June 2019 to gauge opinion. It was suggested that an Other User seat should be added to the Panel to ensure the Other Users are proportionately and fairly represented. Therefore, under this proposal the two Other SEC Party seats will be split so there will be one Other SEC Party seat and one Other User seat on Panel.

The Panel is currently comprised of a mix of elected and appointed representatives. Of the eight elected seats on Panel, they are allocated as such in SEC Section C3.1 (a) - (e):

- Two persons elected by Large Suppliers;
- Two persons elected by Small Suppliers;
- One person elected by Electricity Network Parties;
- One person elected by Gas Network Parties; and
- Two persons elected by Other SEC Parties.

In order to ensure Other Users are fairly represented Other Users require one of the Other SEC Party seats.

How does this issue relate to the SEC?

At the moment, SEC Section C 'Governance' currently specifies in C3.1 (e) that "two persons elected by Other SEC Parties" is the seat structure. Therefore, any Modification Proposal that splits these seats to one Other User and on Other SEC Party needs to amend this section.

Additionally, the terms of "Other User" will have to be added throughout other governance areas in the SEC. This is so that a discrepancy can be given between Other Users and Other SEC Parties when considering they will be different seats.





What is the impact this is having?

If nothing is done, then it will result in potentially allowing Other Users to be underrepresented in Panel meetings. With Other SEC Parties able to occupy both seats currently without being Other Users, this presents a flaw in the current Panel seating arrangements.

Alternatively, if the Panel were to change the seating arrangement but the SEC left unchanged, the SEC would not be accurately reporting the structure of the Panel's seating. SEC Section C 'Governance' needs to be aligned with the current Panel structure, so any change to this structure requires a Modification Proposal to help facilitate this change.





What are the views of the industry?

Views of the DCC

The views of the DCC will be gathered during the Development Stage.

Views of SEC Parties

The views of Parties will be gathered during the Development Stage.

Views of Panel Sub-Committees

The views of Panel Sub-Committees will be gathered during the Development Stage.

Views of the Change Sub-Committee

The views of the Change Sub-Committee will be gathered during the Development Stage.

