



20 September 2019

The Authority (Ofgem), the SEC Panel,
SEC Parties and other interested parties

**SMART METERING: CONSULTATION ON CHANGES TO THE SMART ENERGY
CODE TS APPLICABILITY TABLES WITH RESPECT TO END DATES INCL FOR
COMMUNICATIONS HUB TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS V1.0 AND v1.1**

Dear Colleague,

1. This letter constitutes a consultation on Installation Validity Period (IVP) and Maintenance Validity Period (MVP) End-Dates¹ and the GBCS v2.0 Applicability Period End Date with respect to Communications Hub Technical Specifications (CHTS) v1.0 and v1.1.
2. The setting of these dates involves changes to the Schedule 11 of the Smart Energy Code (SEC): the TS Applicability Tables (TSAT). These proposed changes are contained in the **Annex** to this letter. We are also consulting on the timing for re-designation of this amended TSAT in the SEC.
3. Currently in the TSAT, the IVP and MVP End Dates for CHTS v1.0 are set to 27 October 2019, which is now prior to the general availability of the CHTS v1.1 and CHTS v1.3 compliant devices (as listed below). The IVP and MVP end-dates for CHTS v1.1 are currently 'Not determined'.
4. The TSAT End Dates proposed in this consultation use as an input the recent provision by DCC of dates to the Implementation Managers' Forum (IMF), and resulting consultation of members², for DCC's provision of CHTS v1.1 and CHTS v1.3³ compatible Communications Hubs. For reference, GBCS v2.1 is associated with CHTS 1.1, and GBCS v3.2 is associated with CHTS 1.3. These dates were discussed at an IMF teleconference on 10 September 2019 for inclusion in Joint Industry Plan (JIP) version 6.4. Final approval of the JIP changes is expected in due course but are assumed to be adopted for the purposes of this consultation.

¹ For an explanation of IVP see SEC A3.13 and for MVP see SEC A3.17

² Through *CR_088 – Addition of GBCS 3.2 Single Band and Dual Band Comms Hub milestones (Including an update of GBCS 2.1 Single Band in the North)* of 13 August 2019.

³ CHTS v1.3 is the version applicable to GBCS v3.2. Note that CHTS v1.2 was not activated

5. The DCC Communications Hub supply dates most relevant to this consultation are those that present the latest availability of devices compliant with a particular version of the specifications:
- a) GBCS v2.1 Compliant CH firmware in supply chain incl. DB (C&S) = 31 March 2020
 - b) GBCS v2.1 Compliant CH firmware in supply chain incl. DB (North) = 31 July 2020
 - c) GBCS v3.2 Compliant CH firmware in supply chain incl. DB (C&S) = 31 July 2020
 - d) GBCS v3.2 Compliant CH firmware in supply chain incl. DB (North) = 31 October 2020
6. DCC has told BEIS that it will no longer supply earlier versions of Communications Hubs after the above dates.
7. In consideration of resetting the end-dates in the TSAT for both CHTS v1.0 and CHTS v1.1, BEIS has applied the following rationale:

for CHTS v1.0:

- adding six-months⁴ to the 31 July 2020 date for CSP-N to allow industry to clear supply chains of CHTS v1.0 CH devices. This results in the IVP end-date for CHTS v1.0 to be set to 31 January 2021;
- allow one additional month for the completion of any firmware upgrades to installed Devices, resulting in setting the MVP end-date to 28 February 2021.

for CHTS v1.1:

- adding six-months to the 31 October 2020 date for CSP-N to allow industry to clear supply chains, resulting in the IVP end-date to be set to 30 April 2021 and the MVP end-date to be set to 31 May 2021; and
- as regards the GBCS v2.0 Applicability Period end date to CHTS v1.1, this is to be as early as possible as 28 February 2021 to match the CHTS v1.0 MVP end date.

8. The intention of the above proposals is to ensure that installed Communications Hubs are upgraded to the latest CHTS (and GBCS applicability) versions at the earliest practical opportunity. We recognise that if the DCC is not in fact able to deliver to the dates it has provided to IMF, then this would require reconsideration of the TSAT dates. We will therefore monitor the situation.

Consultation Questions

9. We would welcome views on the proposals to:
- i. **set the CHTS v1.0 IVP end-date to 31 January 2021;**
 - ii. **set the CHTS v1.0 MVP end-date to 28 February 2021;**
 - iii. **set the CHTS v1.1 IVP end-date to 30 April 2021;**
 - iv. **set the CHTS v1.1 MVP end-date to 31 May 2021;**
 - v. **set the GBCS v2.0 Applicability Period end-date for CHTS v1.1 to 28**

⁴ Feedback to previous consultations has indicated that six months should be sufficient to clear physical device supply chains & C&S Comms Hubs will have longer due to earlier delivery dates.

- February 2021; and**
vi. **re-designate the TSAT as contained in the Annex on 18 October 2019 (or, if necessary, as soon as reasonably practicable within one week thereafter).**

10. Comments on this proposal should be submitted by **17:00 on 11 October 2019**

by email to: smartmetering@beis.gov.uk;

or addressed to:

Smart Metering Implementation Programme, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

11. Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal data, may be subject to publication or release to other parties, or to disclosure in accordance with the access to information regimes (these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 2018, Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (the General Data Protection Regulation), and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004).
12. The individual responses to this consultation may be published and you should therefore let us know if you are not content for your response or any part of it to be published. If you indicate that you do not want your response published, we will not publish it automatically, but it could still be subject to information requests as detailed above. If you do not want your individual response to be published, or want it to otherwise be treated as confidential, please say so clearly in writing when you send your response to the consultation. For the purposes of considering access to information requests, it would also be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information, we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded by us as a confidentiality request.

Yours faithfully,



Duncan Stone

Deputy Director and Head of Delivery
Smart Metering Implementation Programme

ANNEX: Proposed updated SEC Schedule 11 – TS Applicability Tables 20/09/2019

ANNEX - TS Applicability Tables

Rows that are depicted by a cross in each cell indicate that either the Maintenance End Date or GBCS Applicability Period End Date has been applied and energy suppliers should have taken all reasonable steps to ensure that there are no Devices operating with that combination of Technical Specification and GBCS once the end date has passed.

Table 1 SMETS1

SMETS Version	Installation Start Date	General Installation End Date	PPM Installation End Date	Maintenance Start Date	Maintenance End Date	Relevant GBCS Version	Applicability Period Start Date	Applicability Period End Date
1.2	18/12/12	05/12/18	15/03/19	18/12/12	Not determined	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Table 2 SMETS2+ and Relevant Versions of GBCS

SMETS Version	Installation Start Date	Installation End Date	Maintenance Start Date	Maintenance End Date	Relevant GBCS Version	Applicability Period Start Date	Applicability Period End Date
2.0	30/09/16	Not determined	30/09/16	Not determined	1.0	30/09/16	07/05/18
2.0	30/09/16	27/10/20	30/09/16	Not determined	1.1	06/11/17	Not determined
3.0	28/10/18	07/11/18	28/10/18	07/11/18	2.0	28/10/18	Not determined
3.1	08/11/18	27/10/20	08/11/18	Not determined	2.0	28/10/18	Not determined
3.0	28/10/18	07/11/18	28/10/18	07/11/18	2.1	28/10/18	Not determined
3.1	08/11/18	27/10/20	08/11/18	Not determined	2.1	28/10/18	Not determined
4.0	Not determined	Not determined	Not determined	Not determined	3.0	Not determined	05/06/18

SMETS Version	Installation Start Date	Installation End Date	Maintenance Start Date	Maintenance End Date	Relevant GBCS Version	Applicability Period Start Date	Applicability Period End Date
4.0	Not determined	07/11/18	Not determined	07/11/18	3.1	Not determined	Not determined
4.1	Not determined	Not determined	Not determined	04/07/19	3.1	Not determined	04/07/19
4.2	07/11/19	Not determined	07/11/19	Not determined	3.2	07/11/19	Not determined

Table 3 CHTS and Relevant Versions of GBCS

CHTS Version	Installation Start Date	Installation End Date	Maintenance Start Date	Maintenance End Date	Relevant GBCS Version	Applicability Period Start Date	Applicability Period End Date
1.0	30/09/16	Not determined	30/09/16	Not determined	1.0	30/09/16	07/05/18
1.0	30/09/16	27/10/19 31/01/21	30/09/16	27/10/19 28/02/21	1.1	06/11/17	Not determined
1.1	28/10/18	Not determined	28/10/18	Not determined	2.0	28/10/18	Not determined 28/02/21
1.1	28/10/18	Not determined 30/04/21	28/10/18	Not determined 31/05/21	2.1	28/10/18	Not determined
1.2	Not determined	Not determined	Not determined	Not determined	3.0	Not determined	05/06/18
1.2	Not determined	Not determined	Not determined	Not determined	3.1	Not determined	04/07/19
1.2	07/11/19	Not determined	07/11/19	04/07/19	3.2	Not determined	Not determined
1.3	07/11/19	Not determined	07/11/19	Not determined	3.2	Not determined	Not determined

Table 4 GBCS and Relevant Versions of CPA Security Characteristics

GBCS Version(s)	Relevant Versions of CPA Security Characteristics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.0 • 1.1 • 2.0 • 2.1 • 3.0 • 3.1 • 3.2 	<p>The most recent Sub-Version of Principal Version 1 of the document entitled ‘CPA Security Characteristic: Smart Metering – Communications Hub’ published on the NCSC_website at the time the relevant Device Model commences the CPA Certification or re-Certification process (as applicable).</p> <p>The most recent Sub-Version of Principal Version 1 of the document entitled ‘CPA Security Characteristic: Electricity Smart Metering Equipment’ published on the NCSC website at the time the relevant Device Model commences the CPA Certification or re-Certification process (as applicable).</p> <p>The most recent Sub-Version of Principal Version 1 of the document entitled ‘CPA Security Characteristic: Gas Smart Metering Equipment’ published on the NCSC website at the time the relevant Device Model commences the CPA Certification or re-Certification process (as applicable).</p> <p>The most recent Sub-Version of Principal Version 1 of the document entitled ‘CPA Security Characteristic: Smart Metering – HAN Connected Auxiliary Load Control Switch’ published on the NCSC_website at the time the relevant Device Model commences the CPA Certification or re-Certification process (as applicable).</p>