



Making a positive difference
for energy consumers

Peter Davies – SEC Panel Chair
Smart Energy Code Company Limited
8 Fenchurch Place
London, EC3M 4AJ

Date: 08 October 2019

Dear Peter,

RE: November 2019 SEC Release Date

Thank you for your letter dated 1 October 2019 concerning the SEC Panel request to change the implementation date of the November 2019 SEC Release. The revision requested is for the release date to be extended from its current planned date of 7 November 2019 to 24 November 2019, with flexibility to further extend this to 1 December 2019 should further testing or unforeseen circumstances arise.

The primary driver cited for this request is that additional time is required by the DCC to meet its operational requirements. The DCC has explained to the Panel that the delivery timeline for the Initial Operating Capability (IOC) has reduced the amount of time between this and the November 2019 SEC Release. Sufficient time between major releases is required in order to allow outstanding defects to be resolved prior to the next release going live.

The requested delay to the November 2019 Release date should provide the DCC with adequate time to resolve defects identified during System Integration Testing (SIT) and additional User Integration Testing (UIT). This extension will also provide the time necessary for Users to complete the required testing.

We expect all SEC Releases to be thoroughly developed and tested so that the benefits of the modifications are immediately available and realised by SEC Parties. Whilst we are concerned that the timeline planned for the November SEC Release is not achievable, we

welcome the candour from the DCC and the SEC Panel regarding the status of the timeline, as well as, the outstanding items of testing to be completed. The SEC Panel's request to revise the release date in order to achieve robust scrutiny and testing of this Release is therefore welcomed.

We recognise that UIT and SIT are complex and resource intensive tasks which by design identify issues. In order to account for any unforeseen delays, we note the Panel's request to approve not only a delay of the implementation date from 7 November to 24 November, but an additional extension to 1 December if additional testing or time is required by the DCC. This window from 24 November to 1 December 2019 would provide the SEC Panel and the DCC the comfort and flexibility to ensure the most robust testing is undertaken and delivered to SEC Parties for this Release. We would expect that if additional time is required after 24 November, the SEC Panel will use their discretion and act on the expert advice of appropriate SEC Panel Sub-Committees in order to determine the most appropriate way forward, whilst keeping SEC Parties fully informed.

In accordance with your request under SEC Section D10.5 'Subsequent Amendment to Implementation Timetable', we direct that the November SEC Release date be revised from 7 November 2019 to 24 November 2019, with additional time approved to 1 December 2019 to be utilised at the discretion of the SEC Panel. If a delay past 1 December 2019 is necessary, we would require a new formal request submitted to us.

If you have any queries or comments in relation to the issues raised in this letter, please contact michael.walls@ofgem.gov.uk in the first instance.

Jacqui Russell

Head of Metering & Market Operations

Signed on behalf of the Authority and authorised for that purpose