



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

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

Dear Colleague,

1. This letter provides a response to the 20 September 2019 consultation on Communications Hub Technical Specifications (CHTS) v1.0 and CHTS v1.1 Installation Validity Period (IVP) and Maintenance Validity Period (MVP) end dates, and the GBCS v2.0 Applicability end date for CHTS v1.1. It also constitutes a direction for re-designation of the Technical Specification Applicability Tables (TSAT) (SEC Schedule 11).
2. The consultation invited comments on six 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 February 2021; and
  - vi. re-designate the amended TSAT on 18 October 2019 (or, if necessary, as soon as reasonably practicable within one week thereafter).
3. In response to the consultation, we received seven responses from parties as follows:
  - one from a DCC Communication Service Provider (CSP)
  - four from large energy suppliers;
  - one from a smaller energy supplier; and
  - one from a Meter Asset Provider.

## **Consultation Response**

4. We received positive support for all questions, subject to a challenge raised by one party (the DCC CSP) concerning the length of period between the IVP end dates and the MVP end dates. This party asked for additional consideration to be given to extending the period due to the possibility that an unknown number of Communications Hubs (CH) might be installed in the period immediately preceding the IVP end-date and as such it might not be possible to accommodate firmware updates within one month. A response from one large energy supplier also noted that it would be for DCC to assess if the one-month period allowed would be enough.
5. We have considered this point and remain of the view that the MVP end-dates as originally proposed provides enough time to complete any remaining upgrades. This is based on an expectation that the numbers of end-date affected CH being installed near the end of the IVP period will be low due to the lengthy period of time available to transition for the majority of CH types (all dates having been anchored to the later availability of Dual Band CH in the North). We also note that we did not receive a consultation response from DCC or the DCC CSP for the North Region raising a similar concern.
6. In one response from a large energy supplier, a point was raised that there is potential for incompatibility between a CHTS v1.0 CH and DUIS v2.0 Service Requests (SR). In response, there is no known incompatibility to us. The latest version of DUIS supports all versions of CH and all SMETS2 Devices running any current version of GBCS. There is only one known limitation between Devices and CH in that a CHTS v1.0 CH and its associated gas meter proxy function does not support quarterly, six monthly or annual billing for the gas meter. This can be worked around using monthly billing or through subsequent upgrade of the CH.
7. One large energy supplier asked for additional reassurance that the intent of the sentence: *'adding six-months to the 31 July 2020 date for CSP-N to allow industry to clear supply chains of CHTS v1.0 CH devices'*, taken from the consultation letter, did not mean that there would be a separate MVP for North and Central and South Regions. We can confirm that the IVP and MVP end dates apply equally to all Regions.
8. All responding parties supported the re-designation of the amended TSAT as per question vi), which the direction below achieves.

## **Direction and designation**

This direction is made for the purposes of the smart meter communication licences granted under the Electricity Act 1989 and the Gas Act 1986 (such licences being the "**DCC Licence**") and the Smart Energy Code designated by the Secretary of State pursuant to the DCC Licence (such code being the "**SEC**").

Words and expressions used in this direction shall be interpreted in accordance with Section A (Definitions and Interpretation) of the SEC.

Pursuant to Condition 22 of the DCC Licence and Section X5 (Incorporation of Certain Documents into this Code) of the SEC, the Secretary of State directs that, with effect from **18 October 2019**, the TS Applicability Tables previously designated and incorporated into the SEC as Schedule 11 of the SEC are hereby re-designated and incorporated in the form set out in the Annex to this direction.

For the avoidance of doubt such re-designation shall be without prejudice to anything done under the DCC Licence or the SEC on or after the TS Applicability Tables first being designated, or to the continuing effectiveness of anything done under the TS Applicability Tables prior to this re-designation (which shall have effect as if done under the re-designated TS Applicability Tables).

This direction is also being notified to the SEC Administrator.

Yours faithfully,



**Duncan Stone**

Deputy Director & Head of Delivery

Smart Metering Implementation Programme

(an official of the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy authorised to act on behalf of the Secretary of State)

**Annex:** SEC Schedule 11 – Updated TS Applicability Tables

**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
<del>2.0</del>	<del>30/09/16</del>	<del>Not determined</del>	<del>30/09/16</del>	<del>Not determined</del>	<del>1.0</del>	<del>30/09/16</del>	<del>07/05/18</del>
2.0	30/09/16	27/10/20	30/09/16	Not determined	1.1	06/11/17	Not determined
<del>3.0</del>	<del>28/10/18</del>	<del>07/11/18</del>	<del>28/10/18</del>	<del>07/11/18</del>	<del>2.0</del>	<del>28/10/18</del>	<del>Not determined</del>
3.1	08/11/18	27/10/20	08/11/18	Not determined	2.0	28/10/18	Not determined
<del>3.0</del>	<del>28/10/18</del>	<del>07/11/18</del>	<del>28/10/18</del>	<del>07/11/18</del>	<del>2.1</del>	<del>28/10/18</del>	<del>Not determined</del>
3.1	08/11/18	27/10/20	08/11/18	Not determined	2.1	28/10/18	Not determined
<del>4.0</del>	<del>Not determined</del>	<del>Not determined</del>	<del>Not determined</del>	<del>Not determined</del>	<del>3.0</del>	<del>Not determined</del>	<del>05/06/18</del>

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	31/01/21	30/09/16	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	28/02/21
1.1	28/10/18	30/04/21	28/10/18	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"> <li>• 1.0</li> <li>• 1.1</li> <li>• 2.0</li> <li>• 2.1</li> <li>• 3.0</li> <li>• 3.1</li> <li>• 3.2</li> </ul>	<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>