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# June 2020 SEC Release (25 June 2020)

## SEC Release Implementation Document Version 3.0

## About this document

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This document is a Smart Energy Code (SEC) Release Implementation Document (RID). It summarises the scope of the SEC Release, the impacts it will have, the timeline and testing strategy, the central costs that will be incurred, and the acceptance criteria for this release.

This document will be updated periodically as the release develops.

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This document also has one annex:

- **Annex A** will contain the Data Communication Company's (DCC's) SEC Release Testing Approach Document (TAD) for this release – this document will be produced by the DCC at a later date.

## 1. Scope

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### Approved Modification Proposals

The following Modification Proposals have been approved for inclusion in this release:

- [SECMP0053 'Amend Target Response Times for Service Requests Critical to Installation and Commissioning Processes'](#) will reduce the Target Response Times for time-critical Service Requests relating to the installation and commissioning process.
- [SECMP0062 'Northbound Application Traffic Management – Alert Storm Protection'](#) will put in place a traffic management system for Alerts issued by Devices to protect the DCC System and Service Users against alert storms originating from a single Device. SECMP0062 is being implemented in two parts, with the first part of the solution, the mechanism for throttling Alerts, being implemented in this release. The second stage of the solution will be implemented in the November 2020 SEC Release and will cover the changes to allow Users to be notified of throttled Alerts via the metadata in the Alerts that are allowed through.

### Targeted Modification Proposals

The following Modification Proposals will be included in this release if a decision to approve is received by the respective cut-off dates:

- [MP079 'Provisions for withdrawing modifications'](#) proposes to grant the SEC Panel the power to withdraw Modification Proposals if feedback from the Change Sub-Committee (CSC) and the Working Group suggest this is the appropriate course of action.
- [MP084 'Other User Panel Seating Amendment'](#) proposes to create a seat on the SEC Panel to ensure representation from the Other Users sub-set of the Other SEC Parties category.
  - The Proposed Solution is to require one of the existing Other SEC Party seats to be filled by an Other User representative.
  - The Alternative Solution is to create a new seat on the Panel specifically for Other Users.
- [MP088 'Power to raise modifications'](#) proposes to expand the list of Parties that can raise Draft Proposals to include SECAS, the SEC Panel and Sub-Committees.

No further modifications that impact on DCC Systems are expected to be added. Further modifications that do not impact on DCC Systems may be added as exceptions to the scope of this release later, subject to Panel approval.

### DCC Change Requests

The following DCC Change Request is being targeted for implementation alongside this SEC Release:

- CR1088 'DCC Production Proving' proposes that the DCC should undertake production proving activities. This involves conducting tests using production meters and other Devices in the live production environment. The key benefit of this activity is to provide additional assurance of the smart metering production network, systems and Devices.



DCC Change Requests do not form part of a SEC Release, and so this RID does not cover the details of the impacts these will have.

## 2. Impacts

This section lists the impacts that the changes included in this SEC Release will have on participants and their systems, SEC documents and other industry codes. This section assumes all targeted modifications will be approved for inclusion in this release.

### SEC Party and DCC impacts

| Participant impact matrix |           |                      |              |                   |     |
|---------------------------|-----------|----------------------|--------------|-------------------|-----|
| Modification              | Suppliers | Electricity Networks | Gas Networks | Other SEC Parties | DCC |
| SECMP0053                 | ✓         |                      |              |                   | ✓   |
| SECMP0062                 | ✓         | ✓                    | ✓            | ✓                 | ✓   |
| MP079                     | ✓         | ✓                    | ✓            | ✓                 | ✓   |
| MP084                     |           |                      |              | ✓                 |     |
| MP088                     |           |                      |              |                   |     |

The impacts on the different participants are summarised below. The business requirements for each Modification Proposal are annexed to the Modification Reports for each modification, which are available on the corresponding modifications' webpages.

| SEC Party impacts           |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Participant                 | Summary of impacts   |
| Supplier Parties            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suppliers will receive a response to Service Requests 6.14.1 'Update Device Configuration (Auxiliary Load Control Description)', 6.14.2 'Update Device Configuration (Auxiliary Load Control Scheduler)' and 7.9 'Add Auxiliary Load to Boost Button' within 30 seconds, rather than 24 hours.</li> <li>Suppliers may be subject to the throttling of Alerts from Devices that exceed defined thresholds.</li> <li>Modification Proposals raised by Suppliers may be subject to withdrawal by the SEC Panel.</li> </ul> |
| Electricity Network Parties | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electricity Network Parties may be subject to the throttling of Alerts from Devices that exceed defined thresholds.</li> <li>Modification Proposals raised by Electricity Network Parties may be subject to withdrawal by the SEC Panel.</li> </ul>   |
| Gas Network Parties         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gas Network Parties may be subject to the throttling of Alerts from Devices that exceed defined thresholds.</li> <li>Modification Proposals raised by Gas Network Parties may be subject to withdrawal by the SEC Panel.</li> </ul>   |
| Other SEC Parties           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parties may be subject to the throttling of Alerts from Devices that exceed defined thresholds.</li> <li>Modification Proposals raised by Other SEC Parties may be subject to withdrawal by the SEC Panel.</li> <li>Other Users will have a seat on the Panel to be filled by a representative for this sub-group of Other SEC Parties.</li> </ul>  |

| DCC impacts                      |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Area impacted                    | Summary of impacts  |
| Communications Service Providers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Communications Service Providers will need to ensure that a response to Service Requests 6.14.1, 6.14.2 and 7.9 are received by the User within 30 seconds.</li> </ul> |
| Data Service Provider            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Data Service Provider will throttle Alerts issued by Devices when the number of a specific Alert exceeds the set thresholds.</li> </ul>                                |
| Governance                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Modification Proposals raised by the DCC may be subject to withdrawal by the SEC Panel.</li> </ul>   |

## SEC document impacts

The following documents will be updated in this release:

- Section A 'Definitions and Interpretation'
- Section C 'Governance'
- Section D 'Modification Process'
- Section G 'Security'
- Section H 'DCC Services'
- Section L 'Smart Metering Key Infrastructure and DCC Key Infrastructure'
- Appendix E 'DCC User Interface Services Schedule'
- Appendix AB 'Service Request Processing Document'
- Appendix AH 'Self Service Interface Access Control Specification'

Each of these documents is impacted by the following modification(s):

| SEC document impact matrix |           |           |       |       |       |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| Document                   | SECMP0053 | SECMP0062 | MP079 | MP084 | MP088 |
| Section A                  |           | ✓         |       |       |       |
| Section C                  |           |           |       | ✓     |       |
| Section D                  |           |           | ✓     |       | ✓     |
| Section G                  |           |           |       |       | ✓     |
| Section H                  |           | ✓         |       |       |       |
| Section L                  |           |           |       |       | ✓     |
| Appendix E                 | ✓         |           |       |       |       |
| Appendix AB                |           | ✓         |       |       |       |
| Appendix AH                |           | ✓         |       |       |       |

The approved changes to each document are annexed to the Modification Reports for each modification, which are available on the corresponding modifications' webpages.

### Other Code impacts

No other Codes are impacted as a result of this SEC Release.

### 3. Implementation timeline

This section lists the planned timeline for the implementation of this release.

This timeline includes the dates on which decisions on modifications are anticipated, dates for when the System Integration Testing (SIT) and User Integration Testing (UIT) test phases are planned to commence and complete, and key governance steps for the Panel and the Sub-Committees to complete.

Please note that the DCC is currently working with the Testing Advisory Group (TAG) to determine the most effective testing approach for this SEC Release. Dates for the production of the TAD, testing windows and the submission and approval of the SIT and UIT Completion Reports will be provided following these discussions. Dates are based on scheduled meetings, but ad-hoc meetings may be required in order to sign these documents off.

| Release implementation timetable |  |   |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| Date                             | Event  | Notes   |
| 11 Oct 19                        | Panel baselines RID for system-impacting modifications         | The Panel will review the RID for DCC System-impacting modifications (including modifications targeted but not approved) and baseline the document.                         |
| 17 Jan 20                        | Panel baselines RID for non-system-impacting modifications     | The Panel will review the RID for non-DCC System-impacting modifications (including modifications targeted but not approved) and re-baseline the document to include these. |
|                                  | DCC submits draft SEC Release TAD                              |   |
|                                  | TAG reviews draft SEC Release TAD                              |   |
|                                  | DCC consults on draft SEC Release TAD                          | The DCC will consult the industry on the draft TAD.   |
|                                  | DCC submits updated SEC Release TAD                            | The TAD will be updated to account for comments provided by the TAG and from the consultation.  |
|                                  | TAG reviews updated SEC Release TAD                            | The TAG will provide a view to the Panel on whether this document is suitable for use.  |
|                                  | Panel reviews SEC Release TAD                                  | The Panel will review the TAD and incorporate it into the RID.  |
|                                  | SIT commences  |   |
|                                  | DCC submits SIT Completion Report                              |   |
|                                  | TAG reviews SIT Completion Report                              | The TAG will provide a recommendation to the Panel on whether SIT has been completed successfully.  |
|                                  | Panel approves SIT Completion Report                           |   |
|                                  | Test Participants inform DCC of their regression testing plans | By 10 Working Days before UIT begins  |
|                                  | UIT commences  |   |

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| Release implementation timetable |  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Date                             | Event  | Notes  |
|                                  | Test Participants provide regression testing results to DCC                            | By five Working Days before UIT completion   |
|                                  | UIT window closes  |  |
| 20 May 20                        | DCC submits UIT Completion Report and evidence against the testing acceptance criteria |  |
| 26 May 20                        | DCC submits evidence against the operational acceptance criteria                       |  |
| 27 May 20                        | TAG reviews UIT Completion Report and status against the testing acceptance criteria   | The TAG will provide a recommendation to the Panel on whether UIT has been completed successfully and on whether the release should be implemented as planned. |
| 02 Jun 20                        | Operations Group reviews status against the operational acceptance criteria            | The Operations Group will provide a recommendation to the Panel on whether the release should be implemented as planned.                                       |
| 12 Jun 20                        | Panel approves UIT Completion Report   |  |
| 12 Jun 20                        | Panel go/no-go decision  | The Panel will review the status of the release against the acceptance criteria and will determine if the release should be implemented as planned.            |
| 25 Jun 20                        | Release go-live  | The changes are implemented.   |

## 4. Test strategy

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This section covers the testing approach that will be taken by the DCC as part of the implementation of this release.

### DCC's testing approach

The DCC's SEC Release Testing Approach Document will be provided as Annex A to this document in due course. This will cover the DCC's approach to SIT.

### User testing approach

The DCC's SEC Release Testing Approach Document will be provided as Annex A to this document in due course. This will cover the DCC's approach to UIT.

## 5. Costs

This section summarises the costs that will be incurred by the DCC and the Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat (SECAS) in implementing this release.

### DCC costs

The total DCC implementation costs of this release are currently quoted as £1,120,042.

The DCC has provided the following cost breakdown for each DCC System impacting modification in this release:

| Breakdown of DCC implementation costs |                     |         |        |                   |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---------|--------|-------------------|
| Modification                          | Design, Build & PIT | SIT     | UIT    | Implement to live |
| SECMP0053                             | £53,572             | £26,639 | £5,929 | £5,510            |
| SECMP0062                             | £964,346            | £96,995 | £9,359 | £17,692           |

No impact on operational costs have been identified.

The DCC has provided the standalone costs for SIT, UIT and Implement to Live for each modification as part of the DCC Impact Assessment. Now that the scope of the release is confirmed and the DCC Preliminary Assessments for all candidate modifications are complete, the DCC is completing a combined DCC Preliminary Assessment. This will provide a combined estimated cost for each of these stages when the modifications and the DCC Change Requests are delivered as a single package. The total costs for SIT, UIT and Implement to Live will also be shared between this SEC Release and the DCC Change Requests.

### SECAS costs

SECAS will incur two days effort, equating to around £1,200, to update and implement the changes to the SEC. SECAS estimates a maximum of 20 days of effort, equating to around £12,000, will be needed for project management of the release. This cost has already been accounted for in the SECAS budget, and so Parties will not incur any additional costs.

## 6. Acceptance criteria

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The following criteria will need to be met before the release can go live.

Prior to go-live, the Operations Group and the TAG will review the status of the release against these criteria. They will provide a recommendation to the Panel on whether to implement the release as planned. The Panel will review these recommendations and will determine then if the release should or shouldn't be implemented as planned.

### Operational acceptance criteria

1. The DCC has brought to readiness all the new and changed components needed to provide the new services. This will include completing the service design and proving the service operations capability.
2. The DCC has demonstrated that all pre-existing services will be stable in the run-up to deployment of the release.
3. The DCC has proven that the new services can be operated alongside, and integrated with, the existing services.
4. The DCC has assessed the risk posed by existing problems and defects in the existing live service, and the implications these will have for the revised service.
5. The DCC has assessed and addressed the impact on Users arising from any issues, defects or workarounds within the new services.
6. The DCC has demonstrated that lessons learnt from previous SEC Releases and other DCC changes have been taken on board.
7. The DCC has demonstrated there will be no detrimental impact on consumers' experience.
8. The DCC has completed assurance of the Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery processes.
9. SECAS will be ready to implement the approved changes to the SEC on the agreed implementation date.
10. SECAS has brought to readiness all the new and changed components that it is responsible for that are needed to support the new services.

### Testing acceptance criteria

1. The DCC has developed the coding for each approved change and confirmed it will be able to deploy this to the production environment on the agreed implementation date.
2. The DCC has completed and closed each test phase against the agreed exit criteria specified in the TAD.
3. The DCC has successfully completed regression testing.
4. The DCC has allowed adequate opportunity for Users to test the changes prior to deployment.

5. The DCC has confirmed that there are no Severity 1 or 2 defects outstanding that would be deployed to the live environment.
6. The DCC has produced a clear resolution plan for any outstanding Severity 3, 4 or 5 defects and that the number of remaining testing issues is within the agreed threshold figures specified in the TAD.
7. The DCC has demonstrated that the SIT and UIT test environments were aligned to the solution being deployed to the production environment; if there were any differences, these were identified and the risks these posed demonstrably managed.

## Appendix 1: Version control

| Document history |           |  |
|------------------|-----------|--|
| Version          | Date      | Changes  |
| 0.1              | 09 May 19 | First draft issued to the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC), the Operations Group and SEC Parties for comment. |
| 0.2              | 12 Sep 19 | Updated draft issued to the TABASC, the Operations Group and SEC Parties for comment.  |
| 0.3              | 04 Oct 19 | Updated draft following comments from the TABASC and the Operations Group presented to Panel to be baselined.  |
| 1.0              | 11 Oct 19 | Version baselined by the Panel to cover the proposed scope of the release on the DCC Systems.  |
| 1.1              | 10 Jan 20 | Updated draft presented to Panel to be baselined.  |
| 2.0              | 20 Jan 20 | Version baselined by the Panel to cover the proposed scope of the release on the SEC documentation and the revised acceptance criteria.              |
| 3.0              | 25 Feb 20 | Updated for the approval of SECMP0062.   |

## Appendix 2: Glossary

This table lists all the acronyms used in this document and the full term they are an abbreviation for.

| Glossary |  |
|----------|--|
| Acronym  | Full term  |
| CSC      | Change Sub-Committee   |
| DCC      | Data Communication Company                                     |
| PIT      | Pre-Integration Testing  |
| RID      | Release Implementation Document                                |
| SEC      | Smart Energy Code  |
| SECAS    | Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat                |
| SIT      | System Integration Testing                                     |
| TABASC   | Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee |
| TAD      | Testing Approach Document                                      |
| TAG      | Testing Advisory Group   |
| UIT      | User Integration Testing                                       |



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