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Dear Michael,

Request to change the implementation date for the June 2020 SEC Release

The SEC Panel is requesting that the implementation date for all the Modification Proposals targeted or approved for inclusion in the June 2020 SEC Release be brought forward from the current date of 25 June 2020. The Panel agreed that the revised implementation date should be 6 May 2020. This letter sets out the rationale for the Panel's request and seeks the Authority's approval for these revised implementation dates.

The June 2020 SEC Release, due to be implemented on 25 June 2020, consists of the following approved Modification Proposals:

- [SECMP0053 'Amend Target Response Times for Service Requests Critical to Installation and Commissioning Processes'](#)
- [SECMP0062 'Northbound Application Traffic Management - Alert Storm Protection'](#) part 1

[MP084 'Other User Panel Seating Amendment'](#) and [MP088 'Power to raise modifications'](#), currently with the Authority for decision, are also targeted for inclusion, if approved by the Authority.

The Panel was presented with a request originating from the DCC to bring the implementation date forward to 6 May 2020.¹ The primary driver for this request is that the SMETS1 Middle Operating Capability (MOC) release currently occupies the June 2020 SEC Release slot. Having considered several delivery options, and the importance of SECMP0062 part 1, the DCC has identified that a revised go-live date of 6 May 2020 is the preferred option. This revised date also provides an improved risk profile to deliver SECMP0053 and SECMP0062 part 1.

The SMETS1 Core 1.1 release is currently planned to use the DCC's testing environment before the SMETS1 MOC release in June. Attempting to deliver the SEC Release in-between these two releases would add significant risk for the SEC Release. Any slippage in the delivery of SMETS1 Core 1.1 would result in the June 2020 SEC Release being cancelled, as MOC delivery cannot be put at risk.

Combining the System Integration Testing (SIT), User Integration Testing (UIT), and Go-Live timelines for the SMETS1 Core 1.1 release and the SEC Release allows for the timely delivery of both releases, well in advance of the SMETS1 MOC delivery in June.

¹ Please see Panel paper SECP_78_1303_24 for further details.

Bringing forward the SEC Release go-live date will also allow the first part of the SECMP0062 solution to be implemented earlier than currently planned, while also mitigating the risk of a delay to its delivery. The DCC highlights that any slippage to the delivery of SECMP0062 would expose the industry to the risks related to Alert Storms highlighted under this modification.

The Testing Advisory Group (TAG) has reviewed the DCC's testing plans based on this revised date and has endorsed the DCC's proposed approach to testing on the basis that it reduces some overheads shared by the two releases and reduces overall delivery risk.

To mitigate the risk of the June 2020 SEC Release and the SMETS1 Core 1.1 release becoming dependent on each other, the TAG will monitor the progress of testing the SEC Release. If it becomes apparent that a delay to this will result in a delay to the SMETS1 Core 1.1 release, the TAG will notify the Panel and recommend that the June 2020 SEC Release is delayed until after the SMETS1 Core 1.1 release has been implemented. To mitigate the impact of any delay to the SMETS1 Core 1.1 release on the June 2020 SEC Release, the TAG recommended that some flexibility is permitted around the implementation date to allow the June 2020 SEC Release to repeat any testing required and complete governance prior to implementation.

The Panel considered the DCC's request and agreed to request a revised implementation date of 6 May 2020. The Panel also considers it pragmatic that a small amount of flexibility be allowed, should the DCC require additional time to complete any actions arising from testing before going live. It therefore requests the flexibility to delay the implementation date to no later than 31 May 2020 without needing to write to the Authority again. The Panel notes that the implementation of this release will not have any direct impact on Users' systems or processes or on consumers.

In accordance with SEC Section D10.5 'Subsequent Amendment to Implementation Timetable', the Panel therefore requests the Authority directs that the implementation date for all the above Modification Proposals be revised to 6 May 2020. The Panel also requests that, should there be any delay to the DCC's delivery, the implementation date can be further revised to no later than 31 May 2020 without the need for a further Authority direction.

If the decisions on MP084 and MP088 are still outstanding, the targeted implementation date set out in the Modification Reports will be revised accordingly, with the cut-off date for inclusion being amended to 22 April 2020.

If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact myself or the SECAS team on 020 7090 7755 or sec.change@gemserv.com.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Davies

SEC Panel Chair

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