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February 2021 SEC Release (25 February 2021)

SEC Release Implementation Document

Version 0.1

7 August 2020



Managed by



About this document

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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1. Scope

Approved Modification Proposals

There are no modifications currently approved for this release.

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:

- [MP092 'New Planned Maintenance methodology'](#) proposes to incorporate the DCC's new approach for the delivery of Planned Maintenance which uses a risk-based methodology to categorise planned changes as either Low Impact or High Impact.
- [MP095 'Alignment of SEC Credit Cover'](#) proposes to change the SEC Credit Cover arrangements in order to minimise the risk of increased socialised costs when a Party ceases trading.
- [MP111 'SMDA Budget Amendments'](#) proposes to change the Smart Metering Device Assurance (SMDA) funding model to ensure the SMDA can provide long-term test assurance.
- [MP122 'Operational Metrics'](#) proposes that the DCC facilitate the necessary changes to the DCC System in order to implement and report on the metrics recommended in the Operational Metrics Review (OMR), commissioned by the Operations Group (OPSG).

No further modifications are expected to be added.

DCC Change Requests

There are no DCC Change Requests planned to be implemented alongside this SEC Release.

2. Impacts

This section lists the impacts that the changes included in this 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
MP092	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
MP095	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
MP111	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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Participant impact matrix					
Modification	Suppliers	Electricity Networks	Gas Networks	Other SEC Parties	DCC
MP122					✓

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
All SEC Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance on DCC Systems affects all SEC Parties. Changes to the Credit Cover arrangements will impact all SEC Parties as this will have a direct impact on the credit cover they need to provide and on the level of socialised costs. The SMDA fixed costs would be covered by the SEC (so all Parties will be charged), and only Device Manufacturers will pay for SMDA variable costs.

DCC impacts	
Area impacted	Summary of impacts
Contractual changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The DCC will need to make contractual changes with its Service Providers in order to implement the new Planned Maintenance methodology. The DCC will need to make contractual changes with its Service Providers in order for them to supply the data in time for the DCC to meet its proposed new Service Level Agreement (SLA) for the Performance Measurement Report (PMR).
Regulatory changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The DCC will be required to follow the Planned Maintenance methodology. The DCC will be required to produce the PMR within 10 Working Days from the end of the measurement reporting period.
Technical Operations Centre (TOC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The DCC's TOC will need to implement the necessary system changes and provide increased application support in order to provide the metrics recommended by the OMR.

SEC document impacts

The following documents will be updated in this release:

- Section A 'Definitions and Interpretation'
- Section H 'DCC Services'
- Section J 'Payment of Charges'
- Appendix AL 'SMETS1 Transition and Migration Approach Document'

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

SEC document impact matrix				
Document	MP092	MP095	MP111	MP122
Section A	✓			✓
Section H	✓			✓
Section J		✓		
Appendix AL	✓			

The SEC document impacts for MP111 are still under investigation.

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 release.

3. Implementation timeline

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

Release implementation timetable		
Date	Event	Notes
14 Aug 20	Panel baselines RID	The Panel will review the RID and baseline the document.
26 Jan 21	DCC submits evidence against the operational acceptance criteria	
02 Feb 21	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. <i>Preliminary reviews of progress will be scheduled across preceding meetings.</i>
12 Feb 21	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 Feb 21	Release go-live	The changes are implemented.

4. Test strategy

This release will not impact the DCC Systems and so will not require any Pre-Integration Testing (PIT), Systems Integration Testing (SIT) or User Integration Testing (UIT). An element of internal DCC testing on the TOC will be required in order to implement MP122, but this is not within the Testing Advisory Group's (TAG) remit to monitor.

There are no User testing impacts for this release.

5. Costs

This section summarises the costs that will be incurred by the DCC and SECAS in implementing this release.

DCC costs

The total DCC implementation costs of this release are estimated to be £340,000 due to the implementation of MP122. None of the other modifications targeted for this release are expected to incur any DCC implementation costs.

No impact on operational costs have been identified.

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 five days of effort, equating to around £3,000, 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

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

Prior to go-live, the Operations Group will review the status of the release against these criteria. It 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.

Appendix 1: Version control

Document history		
Version	Date	Changes
0.1	7 Aug 20	First draft issued to the SEC Panel for comment.

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
ADT	Anomaly Detection Threshold
DCC	Data Communication Company

Glossary	
Acronym	Full term
OMR	Operational Metrics Review
PIT	Pre-Integration Testing
PMR	Performance Measurement Report
RID	Release Implementation Document
SEC	Smart Energy Code
SECAS	Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat
SIT	System Integration Testing
SMDA	Smart Metering Device Assurance
SSI	Self-Service Interface
TOC	Technical Operations Centre
UIT	User Integration Testing