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MP121 ‘Commissioning non-commissioned Devices after CoS’

September 2020 Working Group – meeting summary

Attendees

Attendee	Organisation
Ali Beard	SECAS
Bradley Baker	SECAS
Joe Hehir	SECAS
Khaleda Hussain	SECAS
David Walsh	DCC (Data Communications Company)
Mari Toda	DCC
Remi Oluwabamise	DCC
Paul Saker	EDF Energy
Emslie Law	Ovo Energy
Gemma Slaney	WPD
Elias Hanna	Landis & Gyr

Overview

SECAS provided an overview of the issue identified by MP121, the impact on Consumers, the Proposed Solution and the draft legal text.

Issue:

- Instances where Smart Metering Equipment Specifications (SMETS)2 Devices have been installed but not commissioned
- The DCC has 90 days to address Wide Area Network (WAN) connectivity
- Change of Supplier (CoS) can happen during this time
- Resulting in a Device without smart functionality

Consumer impacts:

- Lack of an install code for the gaining Supplier prevents the Consumer from having smart functionality
- Consumer is left with a 'dumb' meter
- Potential site visit to replace the Device(s)

Proposed Solution:

- Gaining Supplier logs an incident on Self-Service Interface (SSI)
- Installing Supplier is notified of the incident
- Installing Supplier must respond to the incident with an install code
- Gaining Supplier closes incident when correct code is received

Working Group discussions

SECAS summarised issue identified by the Proposer. The Proposer added that as well as active install and leave and proactive install and leave scenarios, there are other instances where a Device can be left not commissioned. These include when a Consumer requests that it not have smart functionality for their Device(s) and when premises are newly constructed.

SECAS highlighted the impacts the issue has on the Consumer and the Working Group acknowledged the points raised and provided no further comments.

SECAS presented the Proposed Solution which had been developed between SECAS, the Proposer and the DCC. A Working Group member highlighted that although it may not be the most desirable solution, there is no other way of acquiring the installation code other than from the installing Supplier. It added that this point should be highlighted in the Modification Report. However, the Working Group agreed that it is not particularly difficult to provide the install code and that this would ultimately benefit Suppliers as well as Consumers. It was discussed that there is no alternative other than removing the meter, which requires significantly more effort and cost than providing the install code via the SSI.

A Working Group member advised that the legal text must explicitly state that the 'installing Supplier' must provide the install code for clarity. SECAS acknowledged this and informed the Working Group that the legal text will undergo further revision post-Working Group. It added that the new obligation would be included in SEC Appendix AC 'Inventory, Enrolment and Decommissioning Procedures'.

SECAS informed the Working Group of the next steps, highlighting that an SSI Improvement Proposal will be raised and discussed at the Operations Group for approval. The DCC queried whether there was a need for this modification, noting the added SSI functionality will be delivered via the SSI Change Governance Process. SECAS advised that despite this, a modification is still need in order to update the SEC and place an obligation on the installing Supplier to provide an install code upon an incident being raised..

Next Steps

The following actions were recorded from the meeting:

- SECAS to investigate raising an SSI Improvement Proposal
- SSI Improvement Proposal to be taken to the Operations Group
- Refinement Consultation to be issued once implementation of the SSI Improvement Proposal has been approved by the Operations Group