Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

**Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy**
1 Victoria Street,
London SW1H 0ET
www.gov.uk/beis

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

7 October 2020

Dear Colleague,

**Smart Metering Implementation Programme: Direction to re-designate the Smart Energy Code's Common Test Scenarios Document, Enduring Testing Approach Document and SEC Variation Testing Approach Document for SMETS1 Services in support of the November 2020 SEC Release**

1. In July 2020, the Data Communications Company (DCC) consulted upon proposed amendments to the SEC Subsidiary Documents (SSDs) that are required to support the November 2020 SEC Release, which includes BEIS directed changes. These included changes to the Common Test Scenarios Document (CTSD) and the Enduring Testing Approach Document (ETAD), both of which are required to support the start of the user testing window before the November 2020 Release goes live. The CTSD changes included a revised approach to User Entry Process Testing (UEPT) and the introduction of Additional Service Request (SR) Testing.

2. The introduction of Additional SR Testing removes the requirement for specific UEPT-type arrangements for DCC functional releases, some of which were contained in the CTSD itself, and some of which were set out as requirements for Eligibility Testing in the SMETS1 User Testing Services Approach Document (UTSAD), which is a document created under the SEC Variation Testing Approach Document (SVTAD) for SMETS1 Services. As a result, DCC proposed to remove Eligibility Testing from the UTSAD and relocate a small number of provisions in the UTSAD to the ETAD, thereby removing the requirement for the UTSAD.

3. Consequently, in August 2020, DCC then consulted upon the proposal to remove the UTSAD under the SMETS1 SVTAD and make further consequential changes to the ETAD. As part of the same consultation, the DCC also consulted, on behalf of BEIS, upon a re-designation date of 21 September (or within one month thereafter) in the case of the July 2020 consultation, and 5 October 2020 (or within one month thereafter) in the case of the August 2020 consultation.

4. On 29 September 2020, DCC provided BEIS with its conclusion reports for both consultations and its final proposed changes to the CTSD, ETAD and SVTAD for SMETS1 Services. Having considered the DCC submission, BEIS is today designating new versions of the CTSD, ETAD and SVTAD for SMETS1 Services for incorporation into the SEC as Appendices R, J and AK respectively.

**Direction**

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 7 October 2020, the documents set out in the Annex to this direction are hereby re-designated for incorporation into the SEC as:

- The Common Test Scenarios Document as Appendix R;
- The Enduring Testing Approach Document as Appendix J; and
- The SEC Variation Testing Approach Document for SMETS1 Services as Appendix AK.

In accordance with Condition 22.30 of the DCC Licence, the Secretary of State hereby directs that the CTSD and the ETAD which are by this direction being re-designated and incorporated into the SEC shall apply and be interpreted as if:

i) Each of the Schedules and Appendices published at https://smartenergycodecompany.co.uk/november-2020-sec-release/ (in each case as may be superseded and/or supplemented by any subsequent relevant publication by the Secretary of State) had been incorporated into the SEC (although in any event, only until such time as each such Schedule or Appendix has been designated or re-designated and incorporated into the SEC);

ii) Each of the SEC Modifications published at https://smartenergycodecompany.co.uk/november-2020-sec-release/ had been made (although in each case only until such time as each such Modification has been made); and

iii) The Direction under Section X3.1 published at https://smartenergycodecompany.co.uk/download/27487/ had not been made (and so the modification to the table in SEC Section L3.18 had come into effect) (although only until such time as that modification has been brought into effect).

For the avoidance of doubt such re-designation of the Common Test Scenarios Document, the Enduring Testing Approach Document and the SEC Variation Testing Approach Document for SMETS1 Services shall be without prejudice to anything done under the DCC Licence or the SEC on or after these documents first being designated, or to the continuing effectiveness of anything done under these documents prior to their re-designation (which shall have effect as if done under the re-designated documents).

This direction is also being notified to the SEC Administrator.

Yours faithfully,

**Duncan Stone**

Deputy Director and 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** (separate document)

- SEC Appendix R – Common Test Scenarios Document v.R2.1
- SEC Appendix J – Enduring Testing Approach Document v.J2.3
- SEC Appendix AK – SEC Variation Testing Approach Document for SMETS1 Services v.AK4.1