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MP139 ‘MVP and IVP dates for CHTS’

October 2020 Working Group Meeting summary

Attendees

Attendee	Organisation
Harry Jones	SECAS
Joe Hehir	SECAS
Alison Beard	SECAS
Sasha Townsend	DCC
Richard Amey	DCC
David Walsh	DCC
Emslie Law	OVO (SSE)
Simon Trivella	British Gas
Mahfuzar Rahman	Scottish Power
Gemma Slaney	Western Power Distribution
Alastair Cobb	Landis + Gyr
David Lyons	E.ON
Allan Row	British Gas
Gary Williams	DCC
Lynne Hargrave	Calvin Capital
Daniel Davies	Utiligroup
Eric Taylor	SLS
Julie Geary	E.ON
Elias Hanna	Landis + Gyr
Rachel Norberg	Utilita
Ferenc Vanhoutte	Geotogether

Overview

Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat (SECAS) provided an overview of the issue identified by MP139 and the proposed solution.

Issue:

- The Smart Energy Code (SEC) sets out the Smart Metering Technical Specifications, including the Communications Hub Technical Specification (CHTS) and the Great Britain Companion Specification (GBCS). SEC Schedule 11 ‘Technical Specifications Applicability Tables’ (TSAT) specifies the dates in which Devices built to these specifications can be

installed (the Installation Validity Period (IVP)) and maintained (the Maintenance Validity Period (MVP)).

- The DCC believe the current IVP and MVP dates could lead to three issues. Consequently, multiple risks will be presented if dates are not extended. The proposer believes there is a risk that there will be a period where Suppliers can no longer install Communications Hubs due to CHTS v1.3 and GBCS v3.2 compliant Communications Hubs not being available.
- The proposer also believes the current IVP and MVP dates present a risk that there will a period where Single Band and Dual Band Communications Hubs will be non-compliant with a version of CHTS and GBCS with valid end dates.

Proposed Solution:

- The DCC propose to amend the IVP and MVP dates by 12 months each, to mitigate risks presented by the current and imminent IVP and MVP dates.

Solution Discussion

The Working Group agreed with the DCC's proposal to extend the relevant dates by 12 months. The DCC noted the urgency in progressing this modification, due to the imminent IVP and MVP dates noted in the issue and the TSAT. The DCC noted that if this issue is not addressed, they expect Suppliers will not be able to install their remaining Communications Hub stock the end of the current dates.

One Working Group member also anticipated consequential impacts on meter manufacturers for the IVP dates. The risk is presented from the amount of stock that may be rendered dormant.

The Working Group agreed the solution should be progressed and discussed further with the Security Sub-Committee (SSC) and Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC).

Next Steps

The following actions were recorded from the meeting:

- SECAS will ensure the modification is discussed with the SSC and TABASC
- SECAS will produce legal text and issue a Refinement Consultation.