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for energy consumers

Peter Davies, SEC Panel Chair
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Date: 01 April 2021

Dear Peter,

Decision to direct a revised implementation date for the SECMP0007 'Firmware Updates to IHDs and PPMIDs' Appendix R 'Common Testing Scenarios Document' legal text

Thank you for your letter dated 25 March 2021 concerning the SEC Panel request that we direct a revised implementation date for the SECMP0007 Appendix R 'Common Testing Scenarios Document' legal text. The Panel requests that the implementation date be brought forward from its current planned date of 4 November 2021 to 24 June 2021.

The letter explains the rationale for this request is that SECMP0007 has been approved with the legal text pending implementation for 4 November 2021 (November SEC Release), which includes changes to the Common Test Scenarios Document (CTSD). The CTSD governs the mandatory User testing Parties are expected to complete ahead of production.

The DCC has highlighted that the changes to the CTSD should be implemented from the start of the User Integration Testing (UIT) window to support testing. This applies where changes are made to existing Service Requests or new Service Requests are created. As SECMP0007 is implementing new Service Request 11.4 'Update PPMID Firmware', the CTSD changes must be effective in advance of the November 2021 SEC Release to ensure that Parties are aware of their obligations and can plan accordingly.

The Panel agreed that the SECMP0007 Appendix R CTSD changes should be brought forward and implemented ahead of the UIT phase for the November 2021 SEC Release as detailed by the DCC. It recommended that these changes be implemented on 24 June 2021, and form part of the June 2021 SEC Release for efficiency purposes. The Panel explains that this would allow testing of the new Service Request to commence from the start of UIT for the November 2021 SEC Release.

It is also highlighted within the letter that a change in implementation date to SECMP0007 Appendix R CTSD legal text will not have any impact upon the total SECMP0007 implementation costs.

We agree with the reasons set out in the request by the SEC Panel and consider that a revised implementation date would provide efficiencies in the implementation approach for this portion of the modification's legal text. The Panel's request to revise the implementation date is an example of proactive governance which ensures that modifications and releases are implemented in the most efficient and practical way for industry. Whilst we welcome this, we note, that the DCC and SECAS Working Groups should robustly examine the release strategy and requirements during the development stage of every modification. Every effort should be made to have the confirmed release and implementation details for Parties when they are submitted to the Change Board for voting.

In accordance with your request under SEC Section D10.5 'Subsequent Amendment to Implementation Timetable', we direct that the new implementation timetable for SECMP0007 Appendix R CTSD changes be substituted for the first such timetable and therefore, the implementation date for these changes be revised to 24 June 2021.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Walls

Senior Policy Manager - Metering and Market Operations

Signed on behalf of the Authority and authorised for that purpose