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Action:	**For Information**

Operations Report – March 2021

1. Purpose

The Operations Report is a monthly update on SECAS activities undertaken in support of the SEC during March 2021.

2. Recommendation

The Panel is requested to **NOTE** the contents of this paper.

3. SECAS Service highlights from March 2021

This report covers the following notable highlights in March:

- **Party Engagement –** three Parties acceded to the SEC, no new Parties exited the SEC, and three Parties entered into Event of Default.
- **Security and Privacy –** the team supported SSC and the SMIRT in the Industry wide BEIS Security Incident Management Exercise that took place on the 17 and 18 March.
- **Change –** there are currently 49 open proposals going through the modifications process.
- **Committee Support –** the team facilitated 12 Panel, Sub-Committee and Working Group meetings.

Holly Burton

SECAS Team

9 April 2021

Attachments:

- **Appendix A:** DCC Testing Notifications – UEPT, SREPT and SMETS1 Eligibility Testing (**AMBER**)

4. Market Entry, Exit and updates

4.1 SEC Parties

The following chart shows a breakdown of the number of current SEC Parties to the SEC by Voting Group. Excluding the DCC, there are currently 334 Parties and 262 Voting Groups. The full list of SEC Parties and their Voting Groups can be found in the SEC Parties List.

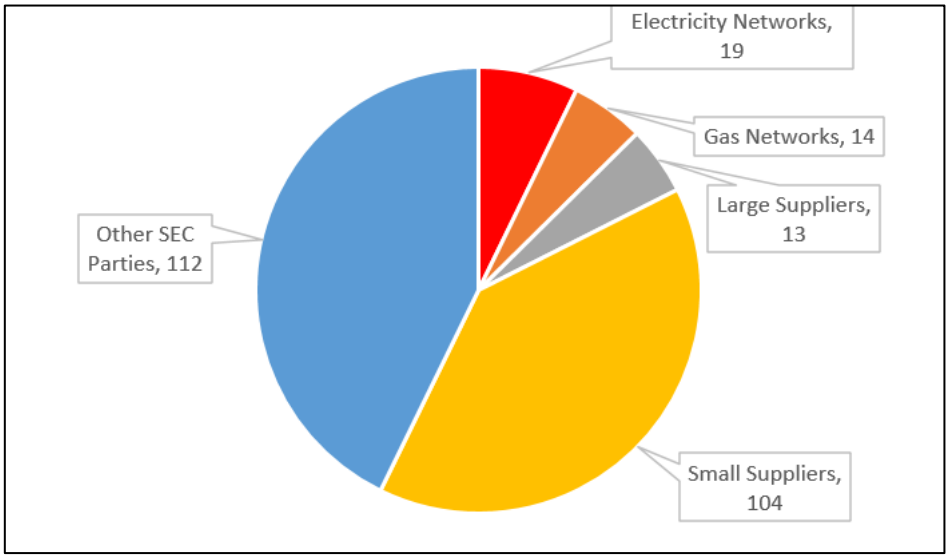

Figure 1: Breakdown of SEC Party Voting Groups by Party Category (excluding the DCC)

4.2 Market Entry and Exit

The following presents the number of Parties that have entered and exited the market over the past 12 months. It also displays the Events of Default that have occurred where three Parties Defaulted in March for failing to pay their DCC Charges:

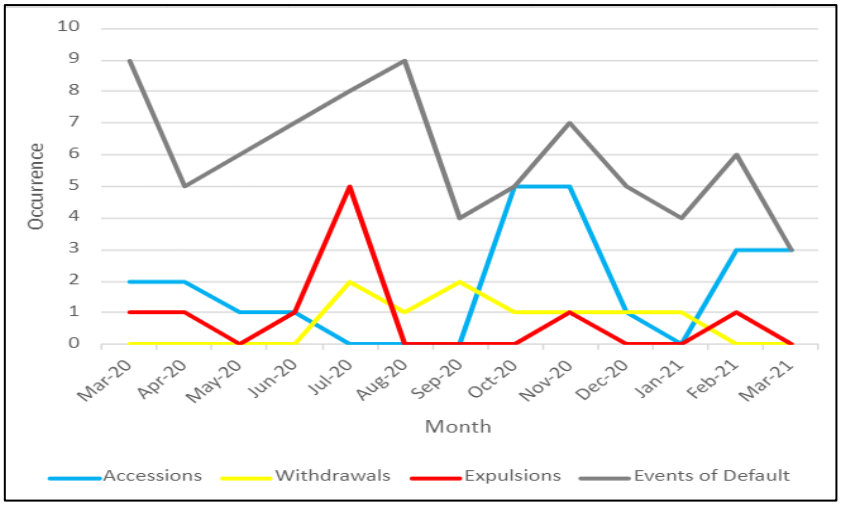

Figure 2: Accessions, withdrawals, expulsions and Events of Default in the past 12 months

In March 2021, the following Parties acceded to the SEC:

Acceded / Withdrawn / Expelled	Party Name	Party Category
Acceded	Barrow Shipping Limited (trading as Barrow Green Gas)	Small Suppliers

Acceded	Beboc Limited	Other SEC Parties
Acceded	CarbonLaces Limited	Other SEC Parties

Table 1: Parties that have acceded to the SEC in the previous month

4.3 User Entry Process (UEP) completion

Two new Parties, UK Healthcare Corporation Limited (trading as D-Energi) and AvantiGas On Limited, completed their UEP in March 2021. All current Parties that have completed the UEP can be viewed in the SEC Parties List.

To date, 127 current Parties have completed the UEP, with a combined total of 73 current Electricity Networks, Large and Small Suppliers that have not completed the UEP.

4.4 Testing Updates

Since the last Panel meeting:

- No new SEC Parties have successfully completed **SMKI and Repository Entry Process Testing (SREPT)**;
- Three new SEC Parties have successfully completed **User Entry Process Testing (UEPT)**; and
- No new SEC Parties have successfully completed **SMETS1 Eligibility Testing.**

SEC Panel members can view the full list of testing completions here.

5. Monthly SECAS Highlights

5.1 March Snapshot

Security Statistics

100% Assessment compliance	4 SECAS Initial validations
7 Assurance or Compliance Status' Set	56 Parties currently being assessed

Modification Statistics

5 New modifications raised	50 Modifications undergoing assessment
5 Modifications decided upon	0 Modifications implemented

Committee Support

100% Meeting notice 5WD in advance	100% Papers issued 5WD in advance
100% Minutes issued 5WD after meeting	12 Meetings held

Party Engagement

2 Newsletters sent	14 CodeWorks registrations
3 Events of Default	3 Accessions

Technical Operations

4 New CPL Versions	5 New CPL Entries
1 New webpage (PPCL & EPCL)	1 CPL Removal

5.2 Security and Privacy Update

- We hosted our usual bi-monthly Security Sub-Committee (SSC) and monthly Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority (SMKI PMA) meetings.
- We also hosted several workshops this month:
  - A workshop with the SSC Chair, BEIS, and the National Cyber Security Agency (NCSA) to discuss the outstanding NCSC actions relating to the CPA Security Characteristics Threat Mapping Review.
  - SECAS and the User Independent Privacy Auditor (User IPA) held a privacy workshop to review the change notification process for Other Users. Proposed amendments to the Privacy Control Framework are being presented for SEC Panel approval at the April meeting.
  - We took part in a SECCo-Deloitte Greenhouse workshop hosted by the User CIO to discuss several topics and explore solutions for the potential impacts on the future Smart Metering security and privacy landscape.
- We supported the SSC and the Smart Metering Incident Response Team (SMIRT) in taking part in the BEIS organised Industry wide Smart Metering Incident Exercise, Cybershock, which took place on 17 and 18 of March.
- On 11 March, we published updated versions of the Security Controls Framework (SCF) V2.3 Part 1, Part 2; and the Agreed Interpretations (AI) V2.2. Updates included:
  - Provision for SECAS to share the Shared Resource Provide Assessment reports with the Users who employ that SRP (in line with the SEC G10.8 Obligation).
  - Clarification regarding the assurance of Alt Han equipment.
  - Clarification regarding SMETS 1 penetration testing reliance in respect of SEC G3.26, G3.27 and G3.28.
  - Further guidance regarding compliance with SEC Appendix AD3.3.1 and G3.7.
  - Section 7 of the AI has been amended to explain a proportionate approach for the reviewing of risk assessments, subsequent to the initial FUSA.
- SECAS facilitated a further two SMKI Document Set Review Project Sub-Group meetings this month to provide feedback on the second and third subset of documents reviewed by the SMKI PMA Specialist.

5.3 Modifications and Releases Update

- There are currently 50 open proposals going through the modifications process. Five new proposals were raised in March (three new Draft Proposals were raised and two existing modifications were split into two), and five modifications were decided upon or withdrawn.
- Our industry consultation on our proposals arising from the Section D Review closed on 24 March 2021, with six responses received. We are presenting our final report and recommendations to the Panel at this month's meeting.

Documentation changes in March 2021

SEC Version	Date	Key Changes
36.0	30 Mar 21	Amendments to SEC Appendix AL 'SMETS1 Transition and Migration Approach Document' and Appendix AM 'SMETS1 Supporting Requirements' directed by BEIS to support the introduction of further changes to the DCC solution to better support the enrolment and subsequent operation of SMETS1 meters on the DCC's network.

- ***Table 2: SEC changes released in the previous month***

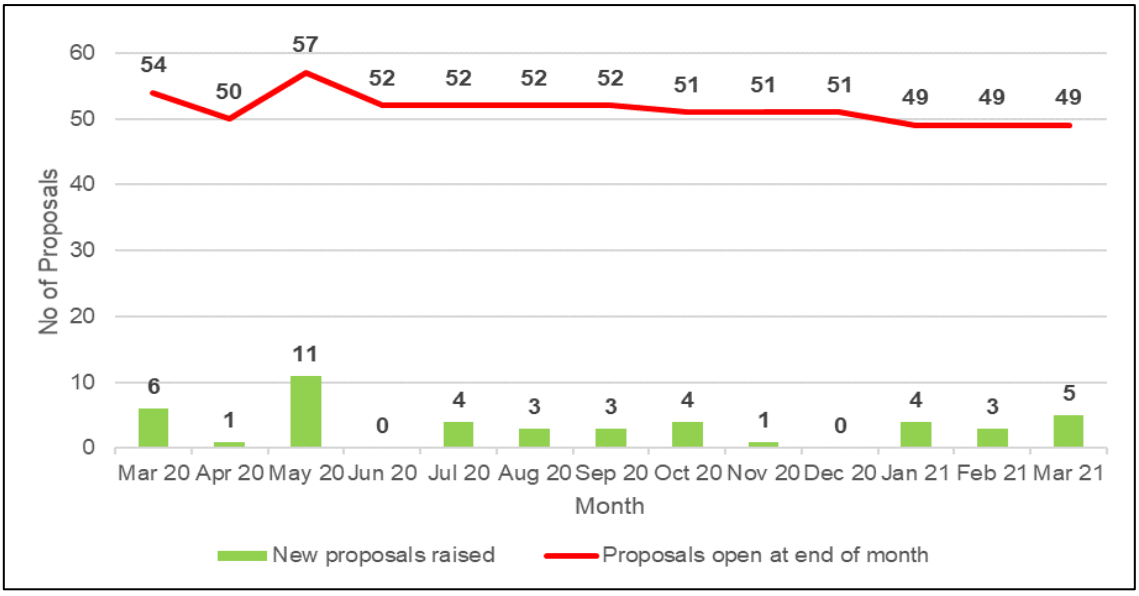

Figure 3: Proposals going through the modification process over the past 12 months

5.4 Code Administrator Code of Practice (CACoP) Update

- The CACoP Forum met on 9 March 2021. The Forum received an update on the formation of the Cross-Code Steering Group (CCSG) and how this will work alongside the CACoP Forum. The minutes will be available on the Master Registration Agreement (MRA) website shortly, once approved by the Forum. The next meeting is on 13 April 2021.

5.5 Committee Support Update

- In March, the Committee Support Team facilitated 12 Panel, Sub-Committee and Working Group meetings.
- The Draft Budget was finalised and approved by the Panel, and has since been published on the SEC website here.
- The End of Financial Year Report has been drafted for approval at the April SECCo Board meeting.
- The annual Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority (SMKI PMA) election has closed, but there are remaining vacancies available.

5.6 Party Engagement Update

- The Party Engagement Team, along with BEIS, the DCC and Ofgem, hosted the Introduction to the SEC: 'Back to Basics' webinar on 11 March 2021. The webinar was a resounding success and met the expectations of all those who attended. SEC Parties can view the presentation videos and slides here.
- The SECAS Helpdesk offers an email and telephone service to anyone requiring advice. Most contact is made by email, with volumes illustrated in Figure 4, and topic breakdowns in Figure 5. We received eight telephone queries over the past month.

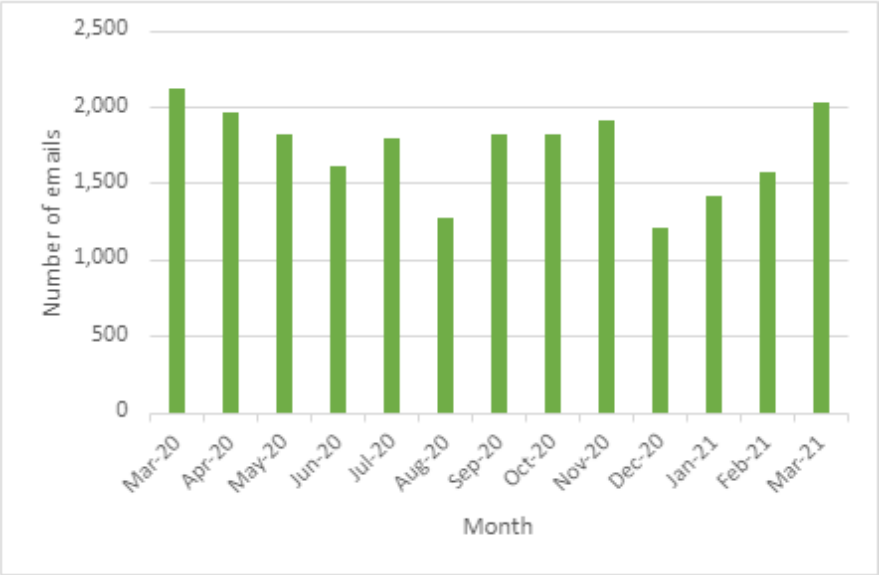

Figure 4: SECAS Helpdesk Emails over the past 12 months

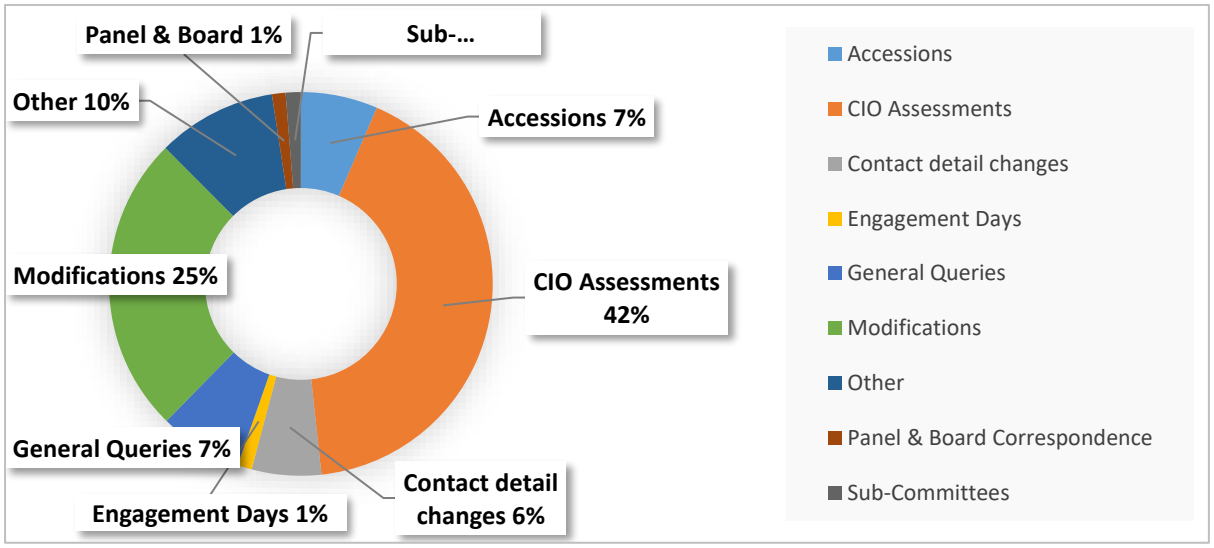

Figure 5: The number of SECAS Helpdesk emails received per topic in the previous month

- CodeWorks is the digital version of the SEC, providing users with enhanced features such as the ability to filter the Code by Party category, view red-lined proposed changes, and find related documents easily.
- SEC Parties can register to CodeWorks here. SECAS reviews how many are registered to the platform each month, which is shown below per Party / Stakeholder category.
- There are currently 474 CodeWorks users:

CodeWorks Users

41 Network Parties	114 Small Suppliers	98 Large Suppliers
78 BEIS, DCC and Ofgem users	7 Committee Members	136 Other SEC Parties

- The SECAS website remains popular with users with 73,493 page visits in March 2021. The top five viewed pages in the month were:
  - About the SEC – (The Smart Energy Code).
  - Modifications – (Modifications Tracker).
  - Document Download Centre
  - Central Products List (CPL) – Seven CPLs were published this month.
  - Latest News
- SECAS continue to publish the SECAS newsletter which currently has 829 subscribers. The last two newsletters received 353 views. Previous newsletters can be viewed here.

5.7 Technical Support Update

The Technical Operations team in SECAS support the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC), Testing Advisory Group (TAG) and Operations Group (OPSG). Key highlights are set out below to show how the SECAS Technical Operations team has supported the various Sub-Committees during March 2021:

- We have worked with the TABASC to develop end-to-end business process and guidance documents to help Users understand how to operate Smart export sites, including conducting a workshop with Parties to validate the outputs.
- SECAS has continued to work with the DCC and BEIS to ensure that the conditions set out by the Panel during its consideration of the Live Services Criteria for the SMETS1 Final Operating Capability Primary Release are met in full before any FOC Device Model Combinations are added to the Eligible Products Combination List.
- SECAS has worked with the DCC to develop its 'shift left' proposals which are expected to give the TAG a greater role in the governance of Pre-Integration Testing (PIT) and should reduce the overall cost of testing and implementation by allowing defects to be identified during earlier test phases.
- We have also been working with the DCC and colleagues at Gemserv to analyse the data showing the combinations of SMETS2 Device Models deployed in the production environment to try and understand the proportion of combinations which form most of the market, along with identifying the key differences between combinations, for example different firmware versions, different In Home Displays (IHDs) or Prepayment Meter Interface Devices (PPMIDs). The results of this analysis will be presented to the Panel once work is complete.

The Technical Operations team oversees the production and publication of several Products lists. The below graph sets out the number of SEC product list versions which SECAS has published over the past 12 months by type. The Deployed Products List (DPL) continues to be the most produced list:

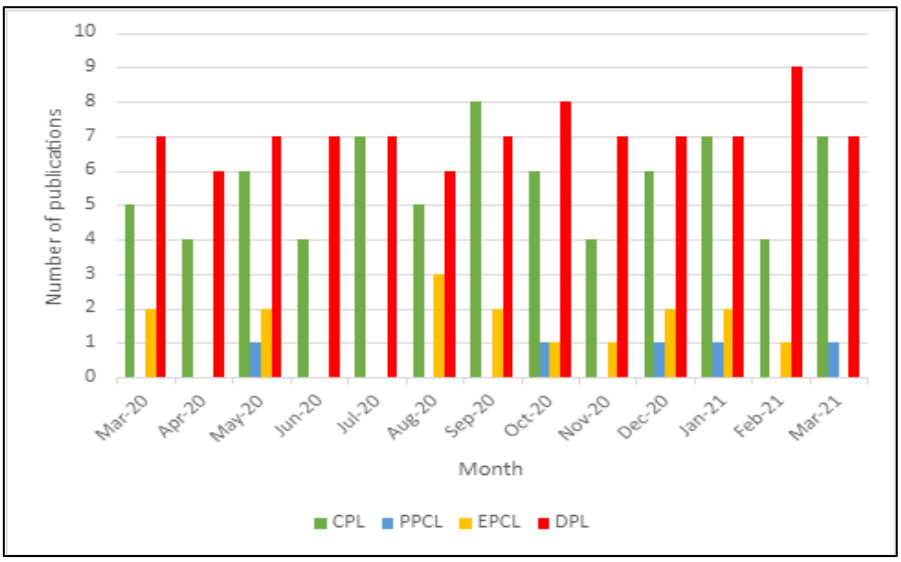

Figure 6: The number of lists that SECAS has produced each month, over the past 12 months

Useful links: Central Products List, Pending Products Combination List, Eligible Products Combination List and Deployed Products List

5.8 Removal from the Central Products List (CPL)

Following discussions with the DCC, the Security Sub-Committee (SSC) and the Device Manufacturer, Flonidan, Entry 489 had its status set to 'Removed' in the CPL. This Entry was a clone release of Entry 488 that used a different firmware identifier.

5.9 Smart Meter Device Assurance (SMDA) Update

- Once a device has completed SMDA testing it is awarded a level of assurance, either Partial Assurance or Full Assurance, and is registered on the Device Assurance Register (DAR).
- The DAR currently consists of 18 devices, ranging from GSME, ESME and PPMID devices with partial assurance for credit and/or pre-payment in the Central/ South region and Credit and/or prepayment in the Northern Region.
- Two devices were awarded Partial Assurance in March.
- One device has extended its assurance to full functionality (credit and pre-payment testing) in CSP Central/South and North with tolerated issues.
- There are currently 11 devices in the SMDA Test lab.
- The majority of manufacturers with devices in test have confirmed they intend to continue testing with the new Test House by novating their current contract.
- Manufacturers were also asked to confirm whether they intended to submit future devices for testing and the majority have confirmed they are interested. Future devices include 5 Terminal and polyphase.
- The SO has estimated that Full Assurance will be available mid-2021 depending on manufacturer engagement and input from SMDA Management Panel Sub-Group and are working on a plan to achieve this.
- The SO has worked closely with DCC to progress activities in relation to the new Test House and ensuring continuity of services (e.g., connections to DCC needed for testing).

- The SO and DCC have also been progressing activities in relation to the SMDA testing of Communications Hubs and work to plan and schedule this with the new Test House is underway.

6. SEC Meeting Details

The table below contains links to documents associated with SEC meetings held in **March 2021**:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
	Operations Group Meeting 44	Monthly Working Group Meeting – March 2021	Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee Meeting 63	
8	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**
	CACoP Meeting 24	Security Sub-Committee Meeting 119		SEC Panel Meeting 90
15	**16**	**17**	**18**	**19**
	Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority Meeting 79	TAG Meeting 76X		
22	**23**	**24**	**25**	**26**
Operations Group Meeting 45		Security Sub-Committee Meeting 120 Change Board Meeting 52		
29	**30**	**31**		
	Change Sub-Committee Meeting 25	Testing Advisory Group Meeting 77		

Figure 7: A summary of all SEC meetings held in the previous month