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<b>Paper Reference:</b>	<b>OPSG_50_0106_16</b>
<b>Action:</b>	<b>For Discussion</b>

## DP155 ‘Communications Hub Re-Flash’ Update

### 1. Purpose

This paper provides a summary of [DP155 ‘Communications Hub Re-Flash’](#) after it was noted that the Panel Sub-Committee took an interest in the Draft Proposal.

This paper provides an overview of the current status and to seek the Operations Group’s (OPSG) endorsement for the proposal to be taken to the Change Sub-Committee (CSC) for conversion into a Modification Proposal.

### 2. Draft Proposal

#### Issue

Installing older versions of Communications Hubs (CH) such as Release 1.3 presents issues for Suppliers. This is due to the over-the-air (OTA) upgrade which, when run at installation, can take a significant amount of time. This increases the length of installation, causing delays for the installer’s workload and inconvenience for the consumer.

Release 1.3 Communications Hubs for the Communications Service Provider (CSP) North Region are currently being held in volume by Smart Energy Code (SEC) Parties as there is no quick means to update them to the latest version of Release 2.0 Communications Hubs. Allowing them to be returned to the Data Communications Company (DCC) for re-flashing and then returned to the Supplier Party will allow for faster installation times at consumers premises and less installation complications.

Currently, the Smart Energy Code (SEC) allows for the return of Communications Hubs in accordance with SEC Section F ‘Smart Metering System Requirements’ (F8) and Appendix I ‘CH Installation and Maintenance Support Materials’.

However, the SEC does not currently accommodate the process of returning a Communications Hub to the DCC for the purpose of re-flashing the Device and then the Supplier retaking delivery of that Device once the re-flashing process has been complete.

Furthermore, there is not an Explicit Charge that could be used for this service.

#### Update

The DCC has confirmed that the return of the Release 1.3 Communications Hubs are being processed in the CSP North Region without this modification in place. However, they are keen to

progress the modification to ensure the SEC is updated to reflect this process in all regions and to ensure any associated liabilities and costs that could arise in future situations are catered for.

### 3. Next Steps

Following the receipt of OPSG views the Draft Proposal will be taken to the CSC for conversion to a Modification Proposal where an appropriate solution will be developed.

### 4. Recommendations

The OPSG is requested to:

- **NOTE** the contents of this paper;
- **PROVIDE VIEWS** on whether there is merit in proceeding with this modification to cater for future situations; and
- **AGREE** that the issue is clearly defined as presented in the Draft Proposal.

Kev Duddy

SECAS Team

25 May 2021

#### Attachments:

- **Appendix A:** Draft Proposal for [DP155 'Communications Hub Re-Flash'](#)