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Paper Reference:	CSC_28_2906
Action:	For Information

Change Status Report – June 2021

1. Purpose

This document is the Change Status Report, which provides information on the progress of Smart Energy Code (SEC) Modifications and Releases. This report was presented to the SEC Panel on 18 June 2021.

The Data Communications Company's (DCC's) progress report on Preliminary Assessments and Impact Assessments is included as Appendix A to this report.

2. Recommendations

The Change Sub-Committee is requested to **NOTE** the contents of this report.

Holly Burton

SECAS Team

22 June 2021

Attachments:

- **Appendix A:** DCC Preliminary Assessments and Impact Assessments Regulatory Report

1. Summary

This report provides a monthly update on the status and progress of SEC Draft Proposals, Modification Proposals and Releases, highlighting key information and decisions made. More detailed information can be found in the [Modification Register](#).

Proposals currently in each stage



Recommended to proceed to Refinement Process

There were three modifications presented to the Panel for progression to the Refinement Process this month:

- [DP159 'Credit Cover Review'](#)
- [DP160 'Certificate Signing Request Forecasting'](#)
- [DP162 'SEC changes required to deliver MHHS'](#)

Recommended to proceed to Report Phase

There was one modification presented to the Panel for progression to the Report Phase this month:

- [MP138 'DCC Service Testing in ETAD'](#)

Decisions

The Change Board approved two Modification Proposals under Self-Governance this month:

- [MP099 'Incorporation of multiple Issue Resolution Proposals into the SEC – Batch 4'](#)
- [MP144 'Charging of Random Sample Privacy Assessments'](#)

The Change Board also recommended to the **Authority** to approve the following modification:

- [MP161 'Significant Code Review – Retail Code Consolidation'](#)

2. Define

New Draft Proposals

DP162

[DP162 'SEC Changes required to deliver MHHS'](#) was raised by Richard Vernon from the DCC on 7 May 2021.

As the smart metering rollout continues, there will be more and more premises with Electricity Smart Metering Equipment (ESME) installed capable of recording consumption in each half-hour period. Ofgem's Electricity Settlement Reform Significant Code Review (SCR) has concluded that settling all consumers on a half-hourly basis would bring net benefits of up to £4.5bn by 2045. Ofgem has therefore concluded that Suppliers should be mandated to settle their customers on a half-hourly basis. Delivering the full solution for market-wide half-hourly settlement (MHHS) will require changes to the SEC and to the DCC Systems. Ofgem has requested the DCC raise a SEC modification to progress and deliver these changes.

DP163

[DP163 'T3 Aerials Requirements Removal'](#) was raised by Rochelle Harrison from Npower on 12 May 2021.

The SEC currently states that in the event of the DCC being unable to provide Smart Meter Wide Area Network (SM WAN) coverage to a Supplier Party, a T3 aerial is deployed and installed to improve the coverage so that smart metering functionality is available. The Proposer believes that the T3 aerials have a variety of problems which include additional processing costs, time spent on site in order to install the unit and that there is no guarantee that the T3 aerials will solve the coverage issue.

DP164

[DP164 'November 2021 SEC Release supporting changes'](#) was raised by David Walsh from the DCC on 18 May 2021.

The DCC detailed system design associated with the [SECMP0007 'Firmware updates to IHDs and PPMIDs'](#) changes occurred after the approval of the modification and associated legal text. As part of this detailed system design process some additions and amendments have been identified as being required in order to align to the required solution design to deliver the required intent of the high level SECMP0007 solution.

DP165

[D165 'ESME Voltage Accuracy'](#) was raised by Alan Creighton from Northern PowerGrid on 27 May 2021.

Electricity Network Parties have a statutory obligation to ensure that the voltage supplied to consumers' premises supplied from low voltage electricity networks is always between defined limits. They currently do this by making planning assumptions when low voltage networks are designed.

During the development of the smart meter technical specification, Electricity Network Parties requested that the average Root Mean Square (RMS) voltage readings from ESMEs would be recorded with a mandated level of accuracy. Such a requirement is not currently codified in the Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specifications (SMETS) or the Great Britain Companion Specification (GBCS).

The uncertainty associated with the lack of a mandated level of accuracy means that Electricity Network Parties must take conservative planning assumptions when designing and analysing

performance of low voltage networks of, thereby preventing them from realising the full benefits from the smart meter rollout.

DP166

[DP166 'Adverse Weather Planned Maintenance Process'](#) was raised by Darren Robbins from the DCC on 1 June 2021.

High Impact Planned Maintenance includes activities that directly affect any DCC Services involving end-to-end communications. The disruption of these will impact on consumers as well as SEC Parties. Currently there is no defined process that enables the DCC to postpone High Impact Planned Maintenance activities due to adverse weather conditions.

DP167

[DP167 'Review of SEC documents'](#) was raised by Cordelia Grey from the DCC on 7 June 2021.

The Proposer has identified several areas that appear to be no longer applicable to the Code. Ofgem also raised an action for SECAS to review the SEC and rationalise where possible. It is the intent of this Draft Proposal to review the SEC and identify areas that could potentially be removed from the Code.

Change Sub-Committee decisions

On 25 May 2021, the Change Sub-Committee determined that the following Draft Proposals were ready to be presented to the Panel for conversion to a Modification Proposal:

- [DP158 'Incorporation of multiple Issue Resolution Proposals into the SEC – Batch 5'](#)
- [DP159 'Credit Cover Review'](#)
- [DP160 'Certificate Signing Request forecasting'](#)
- [DP162 'SEC changes required to deliver MHHS'](#)

We are still developing the final legal text for DP158 to allow it to proceed directly to the Report Phase; this will be presented for conversion once this is ready.

3. Refine

Working Group meetings

The last monthly Working Group meeting was held on 2 June 2021, and included the following modifications:

- [MP096 'DNO Power Outage Alerts'](#)
- [MP117 'Bulk CH returns'](#)
- [MP121 'Commissioning non-commissioned Devices after CoS'](#)

- [MP128 'Gas Network Operators SMKI Requirements'](#)
- [MP149 'Effecting Changes to the Smart Energy Code efficiently'](#)
- [MP154 'CH Returns SLA Amendment'](#)

The next monthly Working Group meeting will be held on 7 July 2021, and the provisional agenda for this session will be announced on 23 June 2021.

Refinement Consultations

There are currently no Modification Proposals out for Refinement Consultation.

The following modifications are expected to be issued for Refinement Consultation in the week commencing 14 June 2021:

- [MP121 'Commissioning non-commissioned Devices after CoS'](#)
- [MP122B 'Operational Metrics – Part 2'](#)
- [MP149 'Effecting Changes to the Smart Energy Code efficiently'](#)

Impact Assessment requests

No Impact Assessment requests were presented to the Change Board in May 2021.

DCC Assessment timescales

The timescales below cover the 12-month period up to the end of May 2021.

Summary		
Assessment	Total	Average duration
Preliminary Assessments open	0	0 WD
Preliminary Assessments completed in the last 12 months	14	62 WD
Impact Assessments open	4	49 WD
Impact Assessments completed in the last 12 months	8	102 WD

Open Assessments				
Modification	Type	Accepted	Target duration	Current duration
MP107	IA	1 Dec 20	40 WD	130 WD
SECMP0024	IA	12 Apr 21	40 WD	36 WD
MP078	IA	10 May 21	40 WD	16 WD
MP104	IA	12 May 21	40 WD	14 WD

Assessments completed in the last 12 months				
Modification	Type	Returned	Target duration	Actual duration
MP117	PA	16 Jul 20	15 WD	30 WD
SECMP0066	PA	29 Jul 20	15 WD	295 WD
SECMP0007	IA	5 Aug 20	40 WD	130 WD
MP090	IA	18 Aug 20	40 WD	15 WD
SECMP0056	IA	20 Aug 20	40 WD	298 WD
MP105	PA	27 Aug 20	15 WD	30 WD
MP078	PA	3 Sep 20	15 WD	100 WD
MP122A	IA	4 Sep 20	40 WD	37 WD
MP085	PA	10 Sep 20	15 WD	38 WD
MP100	PA	25 Sep 20	15 WD	35 WD
MP109	PA	28 Sep 20	15 WD	87 WD
SECMP0024	PA	23 Oct 20	15 WD	16 WD
SECMP0010	PA	27 Oct 20	15 WD	27 WD
MP077	IA	25 Nov 20	40 WD	40 WD
MP099	IA	21 Dec 20	40 WD	165 WD
MP119	PA	27 Nov 20	15 WD	95 WD
MP104	PA	26 Jan 21	15 WD	45 WD
MP105	IA	13 Jan 21	40 WD	57 WD
MP117	IA	12 Mar 21	40 WD	74 WD
MP140	PA	23 Mar 21	15 WD	34 WD
MP141	PA	9 Apr 21	15 WD	16 WD
MP121	PA	12 May 21	15 WD	23 WD

4. Opine

Modification Report Consultations

There are currently no Modification Proposals out for Modification Report Consultation.

The following modifications are expected to be issued for Modification Report Consultation in the week commencing 21 June 2021:

- [MP134A 'Use of SMKI Certificates relating to a SoLR event'](#)
- [MP138 'DCC Service Testing in ETAD'](#)

Change Board votes

The Change Board voted on modifications on 26 May 2021:

- [MP099 'Incorporation of multiple Issue Resolution Proposals into the SEC – Batch 4'](#) was **approved** under Self-Governance on the basis that it would better facilitate SEC Objective (a)¹.
- [MP144 'Charging of Random Sample Privacy Assessments'](#) was **approved** under Self-Governance on the basis that it would better facilitate SEC Objective (g)².
- [MP161 'Significant Code Review – Retail Code Consolidation'](#) has been sent to the Authority with a recommendation for **approval** on the basis that it would better facilitate SEC Objective (g).

Authority decisions

The Authority issued no decisions in the last month:

The following modification is currently with the Authority for decision:

- [MP161 'Significant Code Review – Retail Code Consolidation'](#)

Modification progression timescales

The timescales below cover the 12-month period up to the end of May 2021.

Proposal timescales		
Status	Total	Average duration
Proposals open (pre-decision)	53	376 WD
Proposals concluded in the last 12 months	34	291 WD

5. Releases

SEC Releases

There are currently five modifications approved for implementation in the June 2021 SEC Release (24 June 2021):

- [MP106 'CHIMSM update for Unknown WAN Variant'](#)
- [MP144 'Charging of Random Sample Privacy Assessments'](#)
- [MP146 'SM WAN Coverage Date'](#)
- [MP147 'SMKI Full Extract'](#)

¹ Facilitate the efficient provision, installation, operation and interoperability of smart metering systems at energy consumers' premises within Great Britain

² Facilitate the efficient and transparent administration and implementation of the SEC

- [MP153 'Follow up changes for Communications Hub Finance Charges'](#)

There are currently five modifications approved for implementation in the November 2021 SEC Release (4 November 2021):

- [SECMP0007 'Firmware updates to IHDs and PPMIDs'](#)
- [MP077 'DCC Service Flagging'](#)
- [MP090 'Incorporation of Non GBCS Non-Mandated Alerts into the SEC'](#)
- [MP105 'Sending SR11.2 to Devices in Suspended State'](#)
- [MP150 'Removing Table 28c from the GBCS'](#)

There is currently one modification approved for implementation in the June 2022 SEC Release (30 June 2022):

- [SECMP0015 'GPF timestamp for reading instantaneous Gas values \(DUIS/MMC only³\)'](#)

There are currently two modifications approved for implementation in the November 2022 SEC Release (3 November 2022):

- [SECMP0015 'GPF timestamp for reading instantaneous Gas values'](#)
- [SECMP0056 'IHD / PPMID Zigbee Attributes Available on the HAN'](#)

³ Only the DCC User interface Specification (DUIS) and Message Mapping Catalogue (MMC) document changes required for SECMP0015 will be implemented in the June 2022 SEC Release alongside other DUIS and MMC changes. The functionality, including the DCC System and Data Services Provider (DSP) System changes, and the associated changes to the technical specifications will not be implemented until the November 2022 SEC Release (3 November 2022).