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SEC Change Sub-Committee Meeting 28_2906

29 June 2021, 10:00 – 11:00

Teleconference

SECCSC_28_2906 – Draft Minutes

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Attendees:

Representing	CSC Member
Change Sub-Committee Chair	David Kemp (DK)
Large Suppliers	Sarah-Jane Russell (S-JR)
	Emslie Law (EL) *(part)*
Small Suppliers	Daniel Davies (DD)
	Dave Gilkes (DG) *(alternate for Chris Brown)*
Electricity Network Parties	Gemma Slaney (GS)
Other SEC Parties	Alastair Cobb (AC)

Representing	Other Participants
DCC	David Walsh (DW)
	Sasha Townsend (ST)
Alt HAN Co	David Jones (DJ) *(part)*
	Andrew Firth (AF) *(part)*
Utilita	Robert Johnstone (RJ) *(part)*
	George MacGregor (GM) *(part)*
SECAS	Cecily Bain (CB) *(Meeting Secretary)*
	Ali Beard (AB)
	Bradley Baker (BB)
	Harry Jones (HJ)
	Joe Hehir (JH)
	Kev Duddy (KD)
	Khaleda Hussain (KH)

	Piers Garton (PG)
	Mike Fenn (MF)

Apologies:

Representing	CSC Member
Small Suppliers	Chris Brown (CB)
Consumers	Ed Rees (ER)

1. Welcome and Introductions & Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The Chair welcomed members to the Change Sub-Committee (CSC) meeting.

The Meeting Secretary (CB) informed the CSC that no comments had been received from the previous CSC meeting held on 28 May 2021. The CSC **APPROVED** the minutes as written.

2. Actions Outstanding

Action Reference	Action
27/01	SECAS to reach out to members offline to see who would be willing to volunteer to reduce their term of membership for the CSC by one year, in order to stagger elections.
A representative from each Party Category has volunteered to reduce their membership of the CSC by one year, meaning half of the seats will be up for re-election next year. To clarify, members will be able to re-nominate themselves when elections take place in April 2022. Status: **Closed**	

3. SEC Modification Progression

MP134A 'Use of SMKI Certificates relating to a SoLR'

The CSC was provided with a summary of Modification Proposal MP134 'Use of SMKI Certificates relating to a SoLR event'.

The CSC had no comments.

The CSC:

- **AGREED** that MP134A should be progressed to the Report Phase
- **APPROVED** the Modification Report
- **APPROVED** the implementation approach
- **AGREED** that MP134A should be progressed as an Authority Determined Modification

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DP157 'Removal of DUIS v1.0 and v2.0'

The CSC was provided with a summary of Draft Proposal DP157 'Removal of DUIS v1.0 and v2.0'.

A member (GS) highlighted that this had been discussed at the Operations Group (OPSG) meeting on Monday 28 June, and several questions had been raised which did not appear to have been addressed ahead of this CSC meeting. Namely, GS raised concerns about the DCC providing guidance and codifying the process for Users once a DCC User Interface Specification (DUIS) version is planned to be removed from the Technical Specification Applicability Table (TSAT). SECAS (AB) confirmed that this is not codified and the DCC had no intention to codify this as it would not turn off a DUIS version immediately after the end date had passed. but the DCC would investigate to make sure Users had uplifted and work with them if they had not. GS explained that this is more a concern for the enduring process. SECAS (HJ) agreed it would make sense for a non-material SEC modification to be raised when necessary to end-date subsequent DUIS versions.

GS also questioned whether a consultation will be issued for such future changes. The Chair (DK) explained that at least the Modification Report Consultation (MRC) will be issued as part of the modification, with the possibility for other consultations before then. SECAS agreed to incorporate the concerns raised at the OPSG into the Modification Report before it goes to MRC.

The CSC:

- **AGREED** the issue and the impact it is having is clearly defined and understood
- **AGREED** that DP157 should be converted to a Modification Proposal
- **AGREED** that MP157 should be progressed to the Report Phase
- **APPROVED** the Modification Report
- **APPROVED** the implementation approach
- **AGREED** that MP157 should be progressed as a Self-Governance Modification

CSC28/01: SECAS to incorporate the concerns raised at the OPSG into the MP157 Modification Report before it goes to MRC

DP158 'Incorporation of multiple Issue Resolution Proposals into the SEC – Batch 5'

The CSC was provided with a summary of Draft Proposal DP158 'Incorporation of multiple Issue Resolution Proposals into the SEC – Batch 5'.

A member (AC) raised concerns that this modification may impact Device manufacturers and questioned whether the DCC is the most appropriate Proposer for this modification, as opposed to a manufacturer. The DCC (DW) explained that it is difficult to find Proposers for modifications, and has assumed this role on the outcome of several conversations at different forums.

SECAS (AB) noted the concern, and agreed that from experience with other Issue Resolution Proposal (IRP) modifications this is a valid issue. The Chair (DK) agreed for SECAS to reach out to AC offline to investigate how to involve manufacturers in this and other modifications.

Another member (GS) suggested that Distribution Network Operators (DNOs) may also be affected by this modification, but are not identified as an impacted party. SECAS agreed to investigate this and amend the Modification Report if necessary.

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The CSC:

- **AGREED** the issue and the impact it is having is clearly defined and understood
- **AGREED** that DP158 should be converted to a Modification Proposal
- **AGREED** that MP158 should be progressed to the Report Phase
- **APPROVED** the Modification Report
- **APPROVED** the implementation approach
- **AGREE** that MP158 should be progressed as a Self-Governance Modification

CSC28/02: SECAS to reach out to a CSC member (AC) offline to investigate how to better involve manufacturers in SEC modifications.

CSC28/03: SECAS to investigate whether DNOs will be an impacted party by MP158 and update the Modification Report before it goes to MRC.

DP156 'Unit Inconsistency'

The CSC was provided with a summary of Draft Proposal DP156 'Unit Inconsistency'.

A member (GS) suggested that the cost-benefit analysis (CBA) should be fully and clearly drawn out as part of this modification's assessment. SECAS (BB) explained that the DCC has put together three proposed solutions which will be costed up during the Preliminary Assessment and used as part of the CBA.

Another member (AC) questioned whether this modification was a high priority, querying whether any Suppliers had any values near the current thresholds. AC was curious as to whether this was an imminent issue and noted any potential lead times for the solution. The Chair (DK) agreed this would be established as part of the modification's refinement. SECAS (AB) reminded AC that SECAS already use a prioritisation matrix by which to determine a modification's urgency.

The CSC:

- **AGREED** the issue and the impact it is having is clearly defined and understood
- **AGREED** that DP156 should be converted to a Modification Proposal
- **AGREED** that MP156 should proceed to the Refinement Process
- **AGREED** the first package of work and the timetable for MP156

DP167 'Review of SEC documents'

The CSC was provided with a summary of Draft Proposal DP167 'Review of SEC documents'.

SECAS (BB) highlighted that several areas of the SEC are being reviewed including Sections T and X. The CSC was invited to suggest any further areas of review.

The CSC had no comments.

The CSC:

- **AGREED** the issue and the impact it is having is clearly defined and understood

- **AGREED** that DP167 should be converted to a Modification Proposal
- **AGREED** that MP167 should proceed to the Refinement Process
- **AGREED** the first package of work and the timetable for MP167

DP165 'ESME Voltage Accuracy'

The CSC was provided with a summary of new Draft Proposal DP165 'ESME Voltage Accuracy'.

A member (AC) noted that when this modification was discussed at the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC), concerns were raised about making changes to Device hardware. The TABASC considered this modification to be more for the next generation of meters, so AC was questioning what this modification is specifically targeting.

Another member (GS) suggested it would be ideal to understand what meters currently do, and then work towards future-proofing Devices. The Chair (DK) explained that this will be investigated during the Development Stage, during which the issue will be defined.

The CSC:

- **AGREED** further development is required to define and understand the issue

DP166 'Adverse Weather Planned Maintenance Process'

The CSC was provided with a summary of new Draft Proposal DP166 'Adverse Weather Planned Maintenance Process'.

A member (GS) suggested it would be useful as this modification progresses for the DCC to clearly articulate both positive and negative potential impacts of implementing this modification, as well as any financial impact of having to delay changes. GS also noted that the trial period would need to be extended up to implementation.

The CSC:

- **AGREED** further development is required to define and understand the issue

DP168 'CPL Security Improvements'

The CSC was provided with a summary of new Draft Proposal DP168 'CPL Security Improvements'.

A member (AC) offered their support in working on this modification, anticipating it may become complex, and SECAS agreed to keep AC involved throughout the Refinement Process. AC questioned the likely timeframe for implementation, but SECAS (JH) was unable to provide an estimate until the Preliminary Assessment has concluded.

AC questioned whether the DCC will be impacted. SECAS (JH) explained that the Proposer is keen to see this progressed as soon as possible, but that the Proposed Solution may impact DCC processes, hence why a Preliminary Assessment may be required. SECAS (JH) advised a possible solution has been discussed that would see the Certificate Revocation List (CRL) being published on the DCC's website. However, there is a SEC obligation which denies the DCC permission to publish the CRL online and so would need to be changed.

The CSC:

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- **AGREED** further development is required to define and understand the issue

CSC28/04: SECAS to follow up with a CSC member (AC) offline to involve them in the assessment of DP168.

DP169 'Managing SEC Obligations and the Consumer's Right to refuse a Smart Meter'

The CSC was provided with a summary of new Draft Proposal DP169 'Managing SEC Obligations and the Consumer's Right to refuse a Smart Meter'.

A CSC member and the Proposer (EL) explained that this modification was raised in response to a customer complaint, as misleading advice on a website had incorrectly advised consumers that they can have their Communications Hubs (CH) turned off. BEIS and Ofgem have concluded that the 'reasonable steps obligation' is fulfilled if a consumer states they do not want a smart meter. This modification has been raised to clarify what the options are and what, if any, industry communications are needed and the associated costs.

Another member (GS) added that the SEC refers to the possibility of opting out of DCC services, which would result in cross-Code changes (e.g. to the D0350 data flow). This may need to be addressed depending on the outcome of this modification. They had previously raised this question and had been told this was referring to people opting out of DCC services. They had highlighted the need for an option for customers when smart metering is the only option available. GS also noted it needs clarifying what it is a consumer is not wanting when they are seeking to opt out.

Another member (SR) voiced their support for this modification and shared in the Proposer's frustration about the incorrect public information.

The CSC:

- **AGREED** further development is required to define and understand the issue

DP170 'Firmware updates to Point to Point Alt HAN Devices'

The CSC was provided with a summary of new Draft Proposal DP170 'Firmware updates to Point to Point Alt HAN Devices'.

The Proposer (DJ) confirmed that the DCC has already been engaged to explore technical issues, and BEIS has been engaged regarding bringing the modification forward. Alt HAN Co is also keen to engage with the SEC Sub-Committees.

A member (EL) noted his concerns about the timescales that could be required for this modification. They noted that SECMP0007 'Firmware updates to IHDs and PPMIDs' was raised in 2016 and the functionality has not yet been fully delivered. Another member (SR) voiced support for this modification.

The CSC:

- **AGREED** further development is required to define and understand the issue

DP171 'Undertaking a FUSA without a Supply License'

The CSC was provided with a summary of new Draft Proposal DP171 'Undertaking a FUSA without a Supply License'.

The CSC had no comments.

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The CSC:

- **AGREED** further development is required to define and understand the issue

DP172 'Reduced CPA & CPL requirements for innovation and Device field trials'

The CSC was provided with a summary of new Draft Proposal DP172 'Reduced CPA & CPL requirements for innovation and Device field trials'.

A member (SR) noted that they are supportive of further development to fully understand the business case, but are not sure whether this modification is the right way forward. Another member (AC) suggested using the DCC test environment. SECAS (KD) noted that the Proposer does not consider the DCC test environment, which is laboratory-based, to be an authentic testing environment for in-home use.

Another member (AC) suggested it may be difficult to get the modification passed through the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC). The Chair (DK) agreed that SECAS will engage with the NCSC as the modification develops.

The CSC:

- **AGREED** further development is required to define and understand the issue

DP173 'SMKI & DCCKI Document Set reviews'

The CSC was provided with a summary of new Draft Proposal DP173 'SMKI & DCCKI Document Set reviews'.

The CSC had no comments.

The CSC:

- **AGREED** further development is required to define and understand the issue

DP174 'Changes to Electricity pricing limitations within DUIS'

The CSC was provided with a summary of new Draft Proposal DP174 'Changes to Electricity pricing limitations within DUIS'.

The Proposer (GM) clarified the issue being addressed here, which relates to granularity of cost information and decimals, as opposed to the actual value. The Chair (DK) added that the scale of this change will be further understood during the Development Stage, and when the CSC has a clearer view it can decide whether to progress this to a full modification.

A member (DD) noted there was nothing about standing charges in the proposal, which also suffers the same limitations. The Proposer (GM) was happy to consider extending the modification to cover other parameters suffering the same limitation.

A member (EL) noted that this is not a limitation in the DCC User Interface Specification (DUIS), but within the Device Language Message Specification (DLMS). Changing the DLMS will not be easy and could prove a blocker for this change. Another member (AC) noted the Proposer needs to articulate the impact of exceeding the current limits on granularity more clearly.

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A member (AC) informed SECAS that they have a DLMS contact and will pass this on to SECAS (AB).

The CSC:

- **AGREED** further development is required to define and understand the issue

CSC28/05: A CSC member (AC) to inform SECAS of their DLMS contact for DP174.

DP175 'Alt HAN Inventory Information Sharing'

The CSC was provided with a summary of new Draft Proposal DP175 'Alt HAN Inventory Information Sharing'.

An Alt HAN representative (DJ) informed the CSC that they had recently spoken with the Energy Association Networks (ENA) and a couple of clarifications were made. Firstly, it was confirmed that meter operators can access the Alt HAN inventory. Secondly, this modification is seeking to access data related to a landlord and the Building Network Operator (BNO) details. However, as the Alt HAN solution is moving forward with a point-to-point solution, this information will not be gathered and maintained going forward. Therefore, it is unlikely the modification will achieve its original design. The Proposer is keen to have the first Working Group meeting to further discuss this before deciding the next steps.

The CSC:

- **AGREED** further development is required to define and understand the issue

4. Remote vs. Office-hosted meetings

SECAS (CB) informed the CSC that it has undertaken a piece of work comparing the benefits and costs for office-hosted versus remote meetings, at the request of the SEC Panel. SECAS (CB) presented these findings and asked the CSC for feedback on whether they would like to return to quarterly office-hosted meetings, beginning from December 2021.

A member (GS) noted that this might depend on the length of CSC meetings, as longer meetings may benefit from in-person meeting, whereas shorter meetings would not justify the travel. GS also suggested SEC Sub-Committee meetings could be scheduled close together to minimise travel. Another member (SR) agreed that the length of the meeting should direct whether it is remote or office-based.

Another member (DD) agreed that travel was a significant factor, as individual companies are changing their approach to travelling into London for meetings. Furthermore, DD noted that mixed attendance meetings can be difficult for remote attendees to participate in fully, compared to those in the room. GS echoed this point, and suggested SECAS considers how videoconferencing can be optimised to encourage better participation.

SECAS (CB) explained that the next steps are for SECAS to draft a timetable of proposed in-office meetings for Sub-Committee approval, beginning in December 2021. GS questioned when this would be ready. SECAS (CB) explained that it is likely to be July, once all Sub-Committees have been engaged.

The CSC:

- **NOTED** the benefits for operating remote and office-hosted meetings

- **NOTED** the proposed approach for hosting meetings moving forward
- **CONSIDERED** whether there is a current appetite to return for face-to-face meetings
- **PROVIDED** feedback against the current remote working measures in place

5. SEC Modification Timetables

Following the delegation of SEC Panel responsibilities to the CSC, the CSC will now be presented with the SEC Modification Timetables paper.

The Chair (DK) highlighted that there has been a considerable increase in new modifications, which is a significant workload for SECAS, the DCC, Sub-Committees, the Working Group and Parties. Therefore, SECAS will be undertaking a review of the open modifications against the prioritisation matrix to identify any modifications which can be de-prioritised. SECAS will bring a paper to the July CSC meeting requesting endorsement of this approach.

The CSC:

- **NOTED** the packages of work and the progression timetables outlined in this paper.

6. SEC Releases Update

Following the delegation of SEC Panel responsibilities to the CSC, the CSC will now be presented with the SEC Releases Update paper.

The CSC:

- **NOTED** the updates on the 2021 and 2022 SEC Releases.

7. Any Other Business (AOB)

The Chair (DK) notified the CSC that the updated CSC Terms of Reference (ToR), v2.0, has now been uploaded to the SEC website, following SEC Panel approval at its June meeting.

There was no further business, and the Chair closed the meeting.

Next Meeting: 27 July 2021

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