



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

Department for Business,
Energy & Industrial Strategy
1 Victoria Street,
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www.gov.uk/beis

The Authority (Ofgem), the SEC Panel, SEC
Parties, and other interested parties

29 July 2021

Dear Colleague,

Smart Metering Implementation Programme: Decision on the addition of entries to the Eligible Product Combinations List for DCC SMETS1 services – EPCL Report 13

On 19 June 2021 DCC published EPCL Report 13 and sought approval for the addition of the entries referred therein to the Eligible Product Combinations List (EPCL). All entries in EPCL Report 13 relate to the SMETS1 Initial Operating Capability (IOC) and Middle Operating Capability (MOC) for the DCC's SMETS1 Service. Some entries were proposed to be added to the EPCL following test completion whilst other entries were proposed to be added to the EPCL on the basis of substantive equivalence with BEIS having recently approved the addition of the first IOC and MOC Morrison Data Services (MDS) mixed entries through letters also bearing today's date, the first dormant MOC Secure entry on 27 July 2020 and the first active MOC Secure entry on 10 December 2020.

Approval of the proposed EPCL entries would enable the migration of these devices into the DCC system and the use of SMETS1 services in respect of them by DCC Users. In doing so, this would allow energy suppliers to bring back smart services for those customers who have lost them and enable them to retain services on change of supplier.

In determining whether to approve the addition of the entries to the EPCL, I have sought to gain sufficient confidence that the DCC is able to support migration and subsequent operations of SMETS1 Installations that correspond to these specific EPCL entries.

I have received a range of evidence on these matters including:

- DCC EPCL Report 13 responding to Live Service Criteria outlining the DCC recommendations to approve the addition of these entries to the EPCL;
- No objections from SEC Parties since EPCL Report 13's publication by DCC; and

- Advice from my own team in BEIS including confirmation on regulatory readiness and that mitigating actions on residual risks are in place.

I note that DCC's ability to cope with future capacity demand of the relevant SMETS1 Service Provider (S1SP) is important in providing a service for migrated meters. Whilst migrating to the DCC's solution may place additional demands on system capacity, DCC and Secure S1SP have taken steps to mitigate any risks by aligning device level scheduling with the requirements of Users. I also understand Secure, as S1SP, will continue to monitor and scale to meet contractual commitments.

I am aware of a risk where Secure devices, on rare occasions, roll back to a holding account rather than the active energy supplier's account. I recognise that, in November 2020 and January 2021, Secure implemented releases supporting rollback capability to allow energy suppliers to operate meters that have been rolled back. Communications were issued by DCC to SEC Parties to accompany each release.

I am also aware of a risk where the Secure SMSO is required to apply the set of pre-migration configurations (as laid out in S1SR) to Secure devices. If these configurations are misapplied, Users and consumers may see unexpected results. This has been tested through System Integration Testing (SIT) and we are not aware of any incidents arising from migrated devices. There is also a risk of excessive numbers of alerts from these devices where the configuration has not been properly applied. DCC has put in place monitoring regimes to ensure any issues identified with pre-migration configuration or device configuration are appropriately addressed. I note that over 1.3 million Secure meters have been successfully migrated into the DCC's solution to date.

I also recognise the successful code uplift (Uplift 1.3) of 20 July 2021. This has addressed an issue where the ESME did not correctly publish prices to any non-Secure PPMIDs that were connected to Secure Smart Metering Systems once an Update Tariff Command and Price Service Request (SRV 1.1.1) had been sent to the smart metering system post-migration, resulting in active and dormant migrations being halted until the implementation of the Uplift 1.3 fix. I note that DCC expects energy suppliers to send an Update Tariff Command (SRV 1.1.1) to affected devices post-enrolment.

In terms of system stability, I have been assured by the DCC that there have been no production incidents in the previous 5 days. The DCC should continue to proceed with caution, take necessary precautions to ensure there will be no significant adverse effects when migration begins, and keep all relevant stakeholders informed as it continues migrations and manages its operations.

Having considered the range of evidence and recommendations available to me, I have decided to approve to the list of Eligible Product Combinations the addition of the entries in EPCL Report 13 set out in the Annex of this letter, pursuant to clause 3.7 of the SMETS1 Transition and Migration Approach Document.

I note that approval for further additions to the EPCL will be requested in the future and look forward to receiving the evidence and recommendations for these in due course.

Thank you to all parties who have engaged with and supported this process.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D Stone', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Duncan Stone

Deputy Director & Head of Delivery
Smart Metering Implementation Programme

(an official of the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy authorised
to act on behalf of the Secretary of State)

Annex

[EPCL Report 13 – Annex A - EPCL Entries v1.0 09.07.2021](#)