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Paper Reference:	SECP_97_1510_17
Action:	For Information

Operations Report – September 2021

1. Purpose

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

2. Recommendation

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

3. SECAS Service highlights from September 2021

This report covers the following notable highlights in September:

- **Party Engagement** – we hosted an Alt HAN webinar for SEC Parties on 28 September 2021 which was a resounding success. Registrations are open for SEC Parties to attend a webinar on an [Introduction to the SEC](#) on 19 October 2021.
- **Security and Privacy** – we hosted the first SSC CPA Issue Resolution Sub-Group (SCIRS) meeting on the 13 September 2021 and have established a SCIRS Issue Log to provide a summary of all the Issues and actions raised by key industry partners and member of SSC, BEIS and NCSC.
- **Technical Operations** – SECAS hosted a workshop to discuss and agree next steps to address Recommendation 5 of the NAO report as part of the SMETS2 Device Interoperability Project. The outcome of this workshop is a set of problem statements for Recommendations 5 and 7, and the next steps have been agreed. The Panel will receive an update during its 97 meeting and will be asked to agree the next steps.
- **Change Management** – we continue to manage a high number of modifications, with 59 proposals currently open. We have also attended the first Cross-Code Steering Group (CCSG) meeting held in September.
- **Committee Support** – the team facilitated 15 Panel, Sub-Committee and Working Group meetings.

Holly Burton

SECAS Team

8 October 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 332 Parties and 261 Voting Groups. The full list of SEC Parties and their Voting Groups can be found in the [SEC Parties List](#).

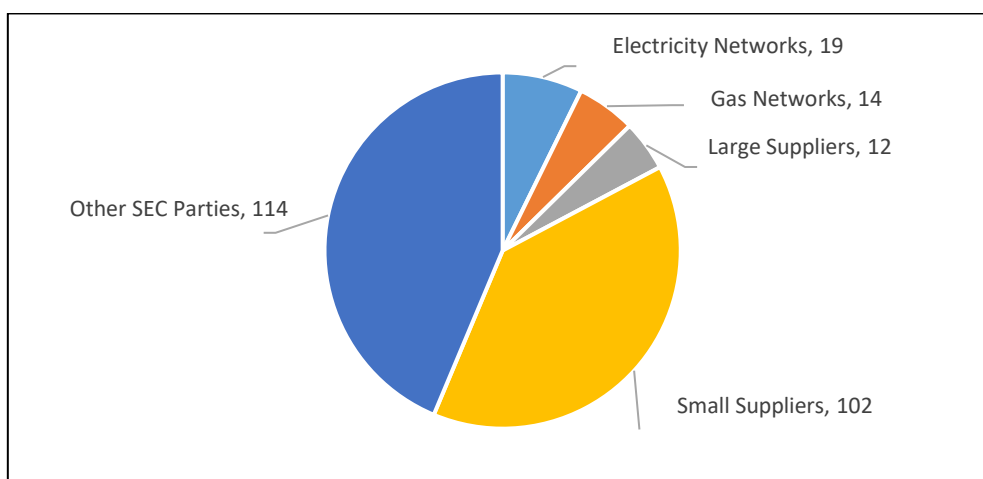


Figure 1: Breakdown of SEC Party Voting Groups by Party Category (excluding the DCC)

4.2 Market Entry and Exit

The following presents the number of Parties who entered and exited the market over the past 12 months. It also displays the Events of Default where ten Parties Defaulted in September 2021:

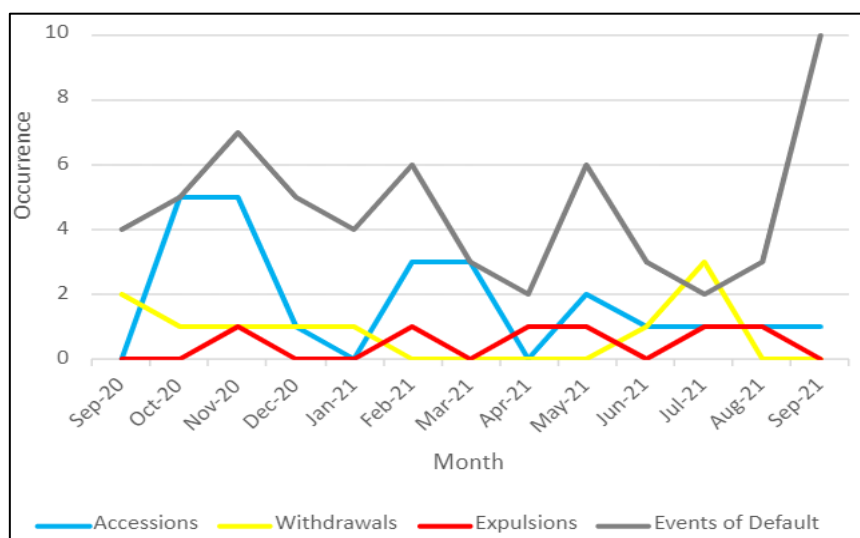


Figure 2: Accessions, withdrawals, expulsions and Events of Default in the past 12 months

In September 2021, the following Party entered the SEC:

Acceded / Withdrawn / Expelled	Party Name	Party Category
Acceded	Utility Smart Metering Limited	Other SEC Parties

Table 1: Party that entered the SEC in the previous month

4.3 User Entry Process (UEP) completion

Cilleni Energy Supply Limited (trading as Rebel Energy) completed the [UEP](#) in September 2021. All current Parties that have completed the UEP can be viewed in the [SEC Parties List](#).

To date, 123 current Parties have completed the UEP, and a combined total of 74 current Electricity Networks, Large and Small Suppliers 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)**;
- No 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 September 2021 Snapshot

Security Statistics		Modification Statistics		Committee Support	
100% Assessment compliance	4 SECAS Initial validations	5 New modifications raised	59 Modifications undergoing assessment	100% Meeting notice 5WD in advance	100% Papers issued 5WD in advance
6 Assurance or Compliance Status' Set	53 Parties currently being assessed	2 Modifications decided upon	1 Modification implemented	93% Minutes issued 5WD after meeting	15 Meetings held
Party Engagement		Technical Operations			
2 Newsletters sent	12 CodeWorks registrations	5 New CPL Versions	7 New CPL Entries		
10 Events of Default	1 Accession	0 New webpage (PPCL & EPCL)	0 CPL Removals		

5.2 Security and Privacy Update

- We hosted the first SSC CPA Issue Resolution Sub-Group (SCIRS) meeting on the 13 September 2021 and have established a SCIRS Issue Log to provide a summary of all the Issues and actions raised by key industry partners and members of SSC, BEIS and NCSC.
- We hosted an extraordinary Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority (SMKI PMA) meeting on 24 September 2021 where the details of the SMKI Recovery Event required to resolve the incorrect Gas Network Operator Certificates were discussed.
- We published an updated version of the [Security Controls Framework \(SCF\) V2.5](#), which included updates on guidance in the use of cloud computing, and a minor update to Part 2 Appendix F to include a clarification in the scope of a Verification User Security Assessment.

5.3 Modifications and Releases Update

- We are currently managing 59 open proposals going through the modification framework. Four new proposals were raised in September with an existing modification also split into two. Two modifications were approved, and one modification was implemented.
- The Cross-Code Steering Group (CCSG) met for the first time in September 2021. We are also progressing well with our further piece of work to review and enhance cross-Code working with other Codes.

SEC versions issued in September 2021

SEC Version	Date	Key Changes
45.0	1 Sep 21	Amendments to several SEC Sections and Appendices due to the implementation of MP161 'Significant Code Review – Retail Code Consolidation' .
46.0	22 Sep 21	Amendments to SEC Appendix AK 'SEC Variation Testing Approach Document for SMETS1 Services' directed by the DCC to streamlines the approach to SMETS1 Uplift Testing.

Table 2: SEC changes released in the previous month

Modification statistics



Figure 3: Proposals currently in each modification framework stage (at time of this report)

Status	Total	Avg. duration
Proposals open (pre-decision)	59	339 WD
Proposals concluded in the last 12 months	38	355 WD

Table 3: Modification progression timescales (12-month period up to the end of September 2021)

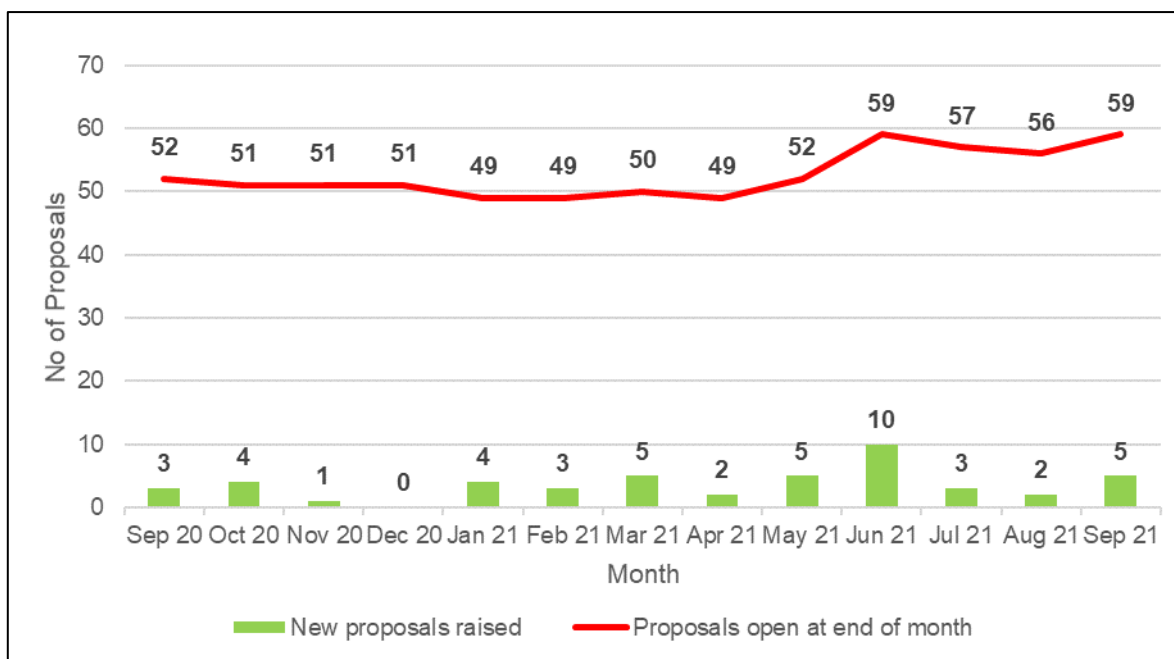


Figure 4: Proposals going through the modification process over the past 12 months

DCC Assessment statistics

Assessment	Total	Average duration
Preliminary Assessments open	3	19 WD
Preliminary Assessments completed in the last 12 months	13	30 WD
Impact Assessments open	3	79 WD
Impact Assessments completed in the last 12 months	7	78 WD

Table 4a: Summary of DCC Assessment timescales (12-month period up to the end of September 2021)

Modification	Type	Date accepted	Target duration	Current duration
MP078	IA	10 May 21	40 WD	104 WD
MP140	IA	1 Jul 21	40 WD	66 WD
MP141	IA	1 Jul 21	40 WD	66 WD
MP134B	PA	18 Aug 21	15 WD	32 WD
MP143	PA	13 Sep 21	15 WD	14 WD
MP166	PA	16 Sep 21	15 WD	11 WD

Table 4b: DCC Assessments underway (as at the end of September 2021)

Modification	Type	Date returned	Target duration	Actual duration
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
SECMP0024	IA	7 Jun 21	40 WD	41 WD
MP107	IA	14 Jun 21	40 WD	140 WD
MP104	IA	24 Jun 21	40 WD	32 WD
MP154	PA	28 Jul 21	15 WD	27 WD
MP128	PA	10 Aug 21	15 WD	22 WD
MP129	PA	25 Aug 21	15 WD	29 WD
MP125	PA	1 Sep 21	15 WD	13 WD
MP162	PA	17 Sep 21	15 WD	18 WD
MP170	PA	30 Sep 21	15 WD	30 WD

Table 4c: DCC Assessments completed (12-month period up to the end of September 2021)

Change Sub-Committee update

The Change Sub-Committee (CSC) met once last month. The meeting covered the following topics:

Modifications progressed to the Report Phase

The CSC considered the Modification Reports for the following Modification Proposal. It agreed the Modification Report was complete and that the modification was ready for final decision:

- [MP128B 'Incorrect Gas Network Operator Certificates'](#)

Modifications progressed to the Refinement Process

The CSC considered the problem statements for the following Draft Proposals. It agreed the issue and impact had been clearly defined and understood, and that these should be progressed to the Refinement Process:

- [DP152 'Consumption on Smart Polyphase Electricity Meters'](#)
- [DP163 'T3 Aerials Requirements Removal'](#)
- [DP168 'CPL Security Improvements'](#)
- [DP169 'Managing SEC Obligations and the Consumer's Right to refuse a Smart Meter'](#)
- [DP177 'Replacement of CPA Evaluation Assurance and Certification Provider'](#)
- [DP178 'Removing DSP validation against SMI join status for SR8.8.x'](#)
- [DP181 'Meter Asset Provider access to asset related data held by the DCC'](#)

New Draft Proposals

The CSC agreed that the following new Draft Proposals should remain in the Development Stage to further define and understand the issue:

- [DP182 'Improving Transparency of Election Results'](#)
- [DP183 'Post Commissioning Obligations'](#)
- [DP184 'Increase Smart Capability of SMETS2 Twin Element ESME to support Solar and Storage use cases'](#)

Modification timetables

The CSC noted an update on the timetables for Modification Proposals currently in the Refinement Process and the next main programme of work for each open modification.

The CSC approved the packages of work and the progression timetable outlined in the paper.

SEC Releases

The CSC noted an update on the scheduled SEC Releases in 2021 and 2022 and agreed an update to the scope of the February 2022 SEC Release.

Change Board update

The Change Board met once in the last month. The meeting covered the following topics:

Change Board Votes

The Change Board voted to approve the following modifications under Self-Governance:

- [MP121 'Commissioning non-commissioned Devices after CoS'](#)
- [MP164 'November 2021 SEC Release supporting changes'](#)

The Change Board voted to recommend the Authority approve the following modifications:

- [MP149 'Effecting Changes to the Smart Energy Code efficiently'](#)
- [MP180 'Market-wide Half-Hourly Settlement Implementation'](#)

5.4 Code Administrator Code of Practice (CACoP) Update

- The CACoP Forum met once since the last update:
 - On 14 September, the Forum was provided with an overview of Xoserve's change process, finalised the updates to the CACoP Forum's ToR, began a review of how the impacts of change are documented in Modification Reports and agreed minor updates to the CACoP.

The next meeting is on 12 October 2021.

5.4 Cross-Code Steering Group Update

The first meeting of the new Cross Code Steering Group (CCSG) was held 13 September 2021. The meeting largely focussed on ways of working and agreeing Terms of Reference under the Retail Energy Code (REC). In summary, the CCSG reviews the Central Modifications Register, and individual representatives from each Code are required to flag any potential impacts arising from changes that have been raised within the month.

In order to fulfil our requirements, SECAS undertakes a regular review of the updated Central Modifications Register to check for impacts. In addition, SECAS has arranged regular monthly reviews with DCC, to ensure that any views on potential systems impacts resulting from the SECAS review of the Central Modifications Register, are aligned ahead of the CCSG meeting.

The CCSG discussed all industry changes raised in August 2021 and discussed any potential cross code impacts.

Balancing Settlement Code (BSC) change P423 was noted as already in progress across codes (this is the Significant Code Review change Ofgem raised for Half Hourly Settlement).

The next meeting of the CCSG is 11 October 2021.

5.5 Committee Support Update

- In September, the Committee Support Team facilitated 15 Panel, Sub-Committee and Working Group meetings.
- The TAG held two extraordinary meetings, TAG 82X and TAG 82XX. TAG 82X was utilised to discuss SMETS1 FOC Mixed Installations TAG, SMETS1 Uplift 3.0 TAD, FOC October Scope Review, and SMETS1 Uplift 2.2 Test Completion. The DCC also provided an update on the Test Automation Framework. TAG 82X facilitated a discussion on the Test Assurance Framework.
- The 2021 SEC Panel elections have closed, and a new Other SEC Party representative, Alastair Cobb of Landis+Gyr, has been appointed. All other vacancies have been filled by the existing members.
- The 2021 OPSG election is now closed. The 2021 TABASC election is now open, and the call for nominations was issued on Friday 8 October.

5.6 Party Engagement Update

- We will be hosting the 'Introduction to the SEC - back to basics' webinar from 11am to 1pm on 19 October 2021. SEC Parties can register to attend [here](#). The slides and recordings of our previous webinars, including the successful Alt HAN webinar which took place on 28 September 2021, can be viewed [here](#) once [logged in](#).
- SECAS continues to publish the SEC Newsletter which currently has 801 subscribers. The last two newsletters received 340 views. You can register to receive the SEC Newsletter by using the registration form at the bottom-right of this [webpage](#). Previous newsletters can be viewed [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 five telephone queries over the past month.

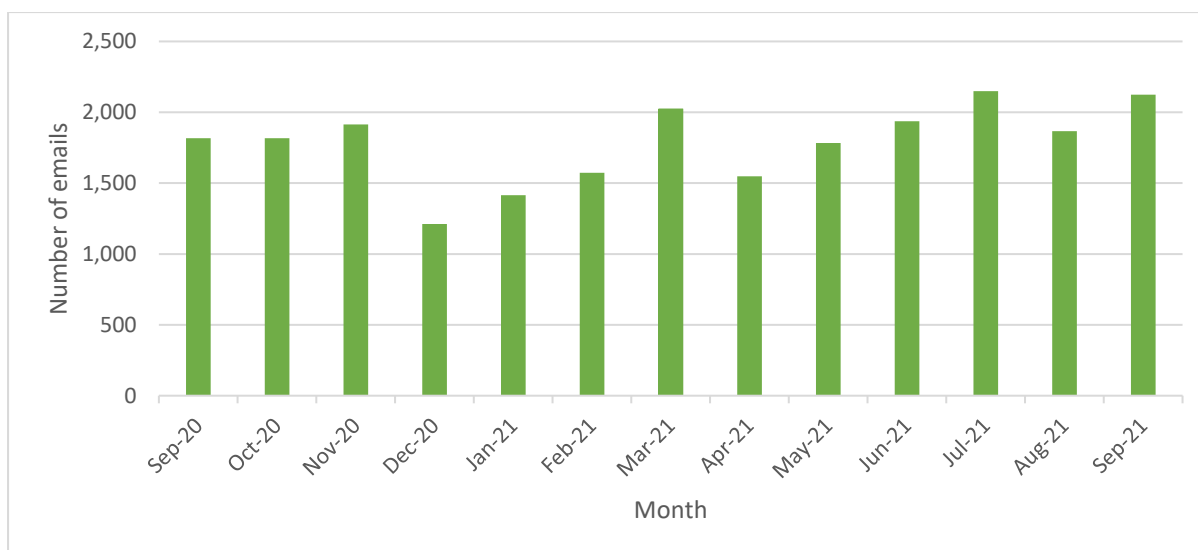


Figure 5: SECAS Helpdesk Emails over the past 12 months

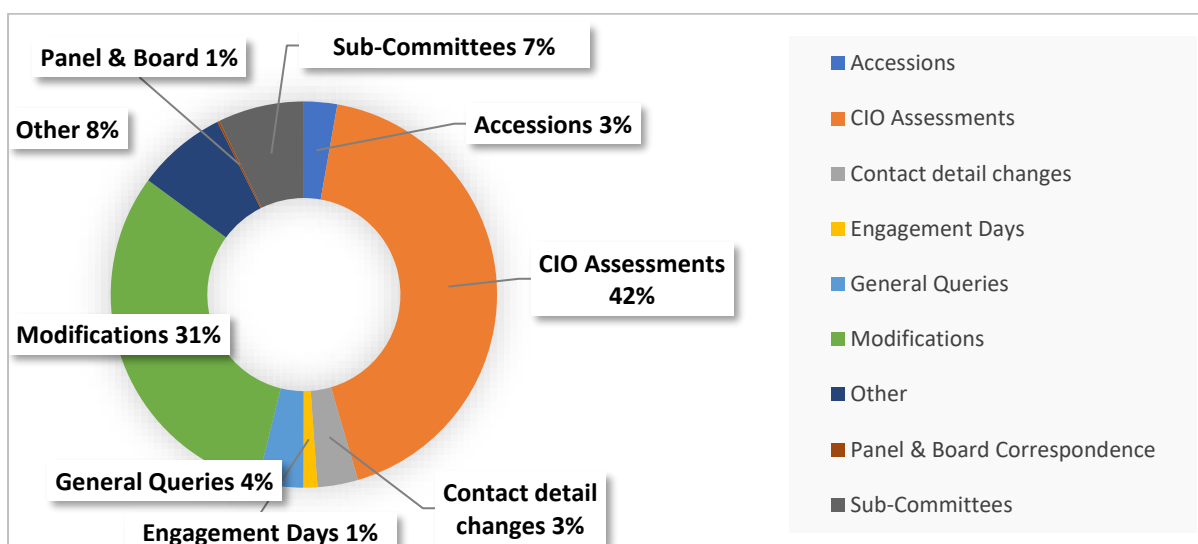


Figure 6: The number of SECAS Helpdesk emails received per topic in the previous month

- The SECAS website remains popular with users with over 24,000 page visits in September 2021. The top five viewed pages in the month were:
 - [Home Page](#)
 - [Modifications](#) – (Modifications Tracker)
 - [The Smart Energy Code](#) – (Codeworks, Consolidated SEC & SEC Document Log)
 - [My Account](#)
 - [Login](#)
- [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 527 CodeWorks Users:

CodeWorks Users

45 Network Parties	123 Small Suppliers	108 Large Suppliers
89 BEIS, DCC and Ofgem users	7 Committee Members	155 Other SEC Parties

5.7 Technical Operations 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 from September are set out below:

- We have continued to work on developing an integrated SMETS based solution for BSC P375. The work completed so far indicates that whilst there doesn't appear to be anything prohibiting a SMETS2 meter from meeting the requirements of a CoP11 Embedded Metering Device, the SMETS Devices themselves may be too expensive to be used as a CoP11 solution.
- SECAS has been working with the DCC to prepare for the Sub-Committees to undertake an assessment of the impacts of its Data Services Provider (DSP) technology refresh programme. The current focus of this work is on preparing for a request from the DCC to the Panel to permit the use of additional Planned Maintenance to support the programme. A formal request is expected to be made as soon as the OPSG, TABASC and SSC have each undertaken an assessment of the proposals.
- The team oversees the production and publication of several Products lists. The graph below 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:

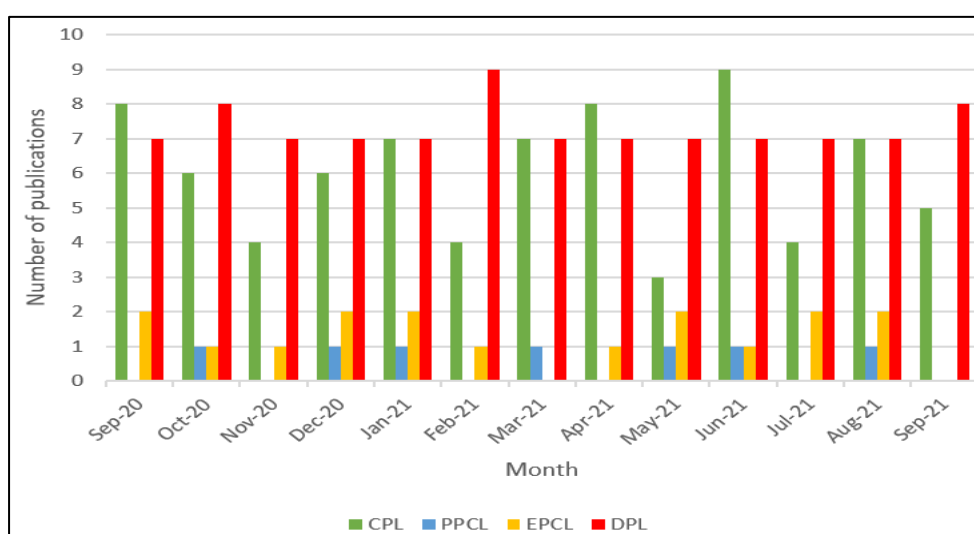


Figure 7: The number of lists that SECAS has produced each month, over the past 12 months

Useful links: [Central Products List](#), [Pending Products Combination List](#), [Eligible Products Combination List](#) and [Deployed Products List](#)

5.8 Smart Meter Device Assurance (SMDA) Update

- 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.
- The SMDA Test House (Critical Software) has advised that the Smart Meter testing capacity within the SMDA Lab has increased so that more devices can be tested at the same time.
- Communications Hubs are currently under test and are targeted to complete testing by the end of the calendar year.

6. SEC Meeting Details

The table below contains links to documents associated with [SEC meetings](#) held in **September 2021**:

Date	Meeting
1 September	Monthly Working Group Meeting – September 2021
2 September	Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee Meeting 69
7 September	Operations Group Meeting 56
8 September	Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority Meeting 85
8 September	Security Sub-Committee Meeting 131
15 September	Other SEC Parties Engagement Call
17 September	SEC Panel Meeting 96
20 September	Smart Meter Device Assurance (SMDA) Sub-Committee Meeting
22 September	Security Sub-Committee Meeting 132
22 September	Small Suppliers Engagement Call
27 September	Operations Group Meeting 57
28 September	Change Sub-Committee Meeting 31
28 September	Alternative Home Area Network – What Suppliers Need to Know Webinar
29 September	Testing Advisory Group Meeting 83
29 September	Change Board Meeting 58

Figure 8: A summary of all SEC meetings held in the previous month