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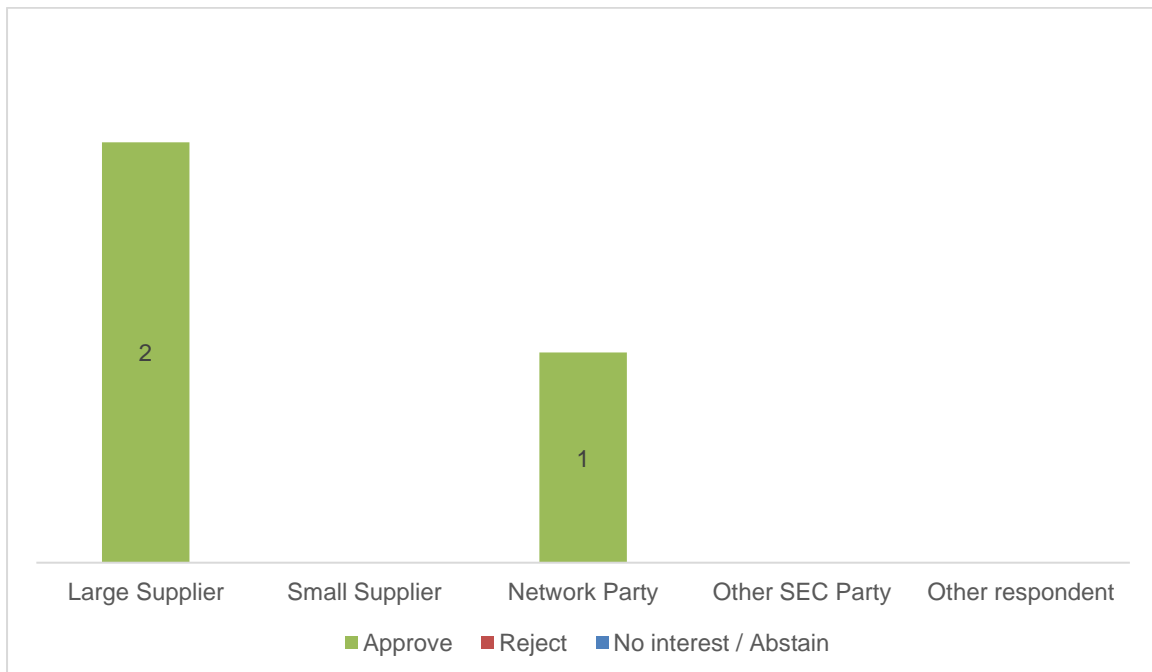
SECMP0024 ‘Enduring Approach to Communication Hub Firmware Management’

Modification Report Consultation responses

About this document

This document contains the full collated responses received to the SECMP0024 Modification Report Consultation.

Summary of responses



Question 1: Do you believe that SECMP0024 should be approved?

Question 1				
Respondent	Category	Response	Rationale	SECAS Response
E.ON	Large Supplier	Approve	<p>This SEC Mod has formalised and documented a transparent, collaborative industry process for introducing new firmware versions to DCC comms hubs, including a pilot and safe launch approach. This allows a “Shift-Left” to identifying any issues before wide-spread deployment has occurred. It provides a CH firmware update framework that is coordinated, controlled and transparent to the relevant parties.</p> <p>In terms of financial outlay, the DCC implementation costs are relatively small and Supplier costs will only be incurred if the Supplier wishes to take advantage of the new Alert to better serve customers.</p>	-
OVO	Large Supplier	Approve	We are fully supportive of the Alert to be able to manage the CHs we have as part of our portfolio although we still have many concerns with the DCC CH Firmware Management processes that have not been addressed.	-
Western Power Distribution	Network Party	Approve	We believe that this modification better facilitates SEC Objectives (a) to facilitate the efficient provision, installation, and operation, as well as interoperability, of smart metering systems at Energy Consumers' premises within Great Britain.	-

Question 2: Please provide any further comments you may have

Question 2			
Respondent	Category	Comments	SECAS Response
E.ON	Large Supplier	<p>Suppliers are the first point for customer contact. Without this SEC Mod, Suppliers are not aware of firmware upgrade activity on the asset sets they are managing on behalf of their customer.</p> <p>The new Alert will result in the following benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suppliers can track progress of a CH firmware update rollout, and may also be able to inform the DCC if a firmware upgrade is causing e.g. HAN Stability issues, Suppliers can update back-office systems to record the active firmware version on each CH, avoiding the need to query the SMI periodically to obtain this information; and Suppliers can plan the deployment of firmware updates to other HAN Devices following activation of the new CH firmware. <p>Over several years, this SEC Mod has been adapted and progressed to deliver a minimal cost solution to industry issues. We strongly recommend this SEC Mod be implemented in the June 2022 SEC Release along with other DUIS impacting modifications, which requires a decision at the Change Board meeting on 25 August 2021. Any delay will mean targeting this modification for the next DUIS impacting release which is likely in 2023.</p>	-

Question 2			
Respondent	Category	Comments	SECAS Response
OVO	Large Supplier	We would like to understand when the Firmware Management Policy will be updated following the comments we have already provided. This has not happened and nothing has been published as set out.	<p>The DCC notified SECAS that it had published the 'CH Firmware Management Overview' on its website earlier on the same day of OVO's consultation response. SECAS acknowledges that this did not give respondents enough time to consider or provide feedback on the policy as part of this consultation but would encourage feedback which it can pass on to the DCC. SECAS expects the DCC to engage with those respondents to confirm what actions it has taken in response to those comments. SECAS can confirm that the DCC has since reached out to OVO to discuss its previous feedback on the document.</p> <p>SECAS highlights that this document is a DCC-owned document and is not referenced in the SEC. It therefore does not require a Modification Proposal to amend and so does not form part of the Proposed Solution. It has been updated alongside SECMP0024 to further support the solution.</p>

Question 2			
Respondent	Category	Comments	SECAS Response
Western Power Distribution	Network Party	-	-