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DP194

‘Incorporation of Category 2 Issue Resolution Proposals into the SEC – Batch 7’

Modification Report

Version 0.1

23 November 2021



Managed by



About this document

This document is a draft Modification Report. It currently sets out the background, issue, and progression timetable for this modification, along with any relevant discussions, views and conclusions. This document will be updated as this modification progresses.

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This document also has one annex:

- **Annex A** contains the redlined changes to the Smart Energy Code (SEC) required to deliver the Proposed Solution.

Contact

If you have any questions on this modification, please contact:

Kev Duddy

020 3574 8863

kev.duddy@gemserv.com

1. Summary

This proposal has been raised by Terry Jefferson from the Energy and Utilities Alliance (EUA).

Issue Resolution Proposals (IRPs) identify and resolve issues in the Technical Specifications documents of the SEC. The Technical Specification Issue Resolution Sub-group (TSIRS) has determined all solutions and has requested these be progressed as a Modification Proposal for implementation into the SEC. Implementation of this IRP will ensure Devices operate as they are intended.

The Data Communications Company (DCC) has performed an initial assessment of this IRP and consider it to be non-DCC System impacting but will require DCC System testing. This change will require a Preliminary Assessment and is expected to have DCC costs associated with its implementation.

2. Issue

What are the current arrangements?

IRPs identify issues within the SEC Technical Specification documents and put forward a solution to the identified problem. In the early stages of the Smart Metering Implementation Program (SMIP), the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) took the lead in developing the SEC Technical Specifications. As part of this, BEIS also took responsibility for receiving and responding to issues raised internally, by the DCC, and by other interested parties. Since its inception, several hundred issues have been raised in relation to Technical Specifications through the TSIRS. In some cases, these queries have been resolved by providing an explanation of the Specifications, whilst others have resulted in proposed amendments to the Specifications in the form of IRPs. The IRP solutions identified to have been developed by the TSIRS.

What is the issue?

The IRP included in this proposal, listed below, requires changes to the Great Britain Companion Specification (GBCS) with initial key impacts identified in the table below.

The individual IRP details for this modification can be found on the Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat (SECAS) website link [here](#) under document name 'DP194 - IRP Details'. This document reflects the issue, background information and details of the solution that has been discussed and agreed at TSIRS. They are an integral part of the SEC modification.

IRP617

GBCS Table 10.6.2.4 requires that certain actions are taken by a Dual Band Communications Hub (DBCH) on the occurrence of a 'No More Sub Gigahertz (GHz) Device Capacity' event. The event shall occur when:

- a Device is added to the Communications Hub Function (CHF) Device Log which is not Gas Smart Metering Equipment (GSME) or Home Area Network (HAN) Connected Auxiliary Load Control Switch (HCALCS);
- there are already four Devices in the CHF Device Log, which are not HCALCS or GSME, that joined the Smart Meter Home Area Network (SMHAN) on a Sub GHz frequency; and
- the Device added then attempts to join the SMHAN on a Sub GHz frequency.

For the DBCH to detect this event, the Device Type of the Device being added to the CHF Device Log must be known before that Device attempts to join. Normally, this is the case because the Command to add a Device to the CHF Device Log includes the Device Type of the added Device. The proposed changes to GBCS Table 10.6.2.4 clarify that the Event is created following the reception of a CCS01 Command.

What is the impact this is having?

Without this clarification, there is confusion as to when this Event should be detected. The above criteria for this Event can also be met during a DBCH exchange. In these instances, the SEC Party would attempt a 'CCS03 Restore Device Log' Command to re-add those Devices to the new DBCH. The Devices would not be able to be paired and the Event would not be generated. The SEC Party would not be able to quickly identify how to resolve the issue to restore the Devices.

Impact on consumers

As the criteria for the Event can be met during a DBCH exchange, but the Event would not be generated, installers may spend more time troubleshooting when re-adding the consumer's existing Devices to the new DBCH. This clarification will aid installers in troubleshooting during a DBCH exchange.

Appendix 1: Progression timetable

This proposal was raised on 23 November 2021. SECAS will present it to the Change Sub-Committee (CSC) on 30 November 2021 for comments and decision to convert to a Modification Proposal and proceed to the Refinement Process. It will then require a DCC Preliminary Assessment.

Timetable	
Event/Action	Date
Draft Proposal raised	23 Nov 2021
Draft Proposal converted to Modification Proposal	30 Nov 2021

Timetable	
Event/Action	Date
Preliminary Assessment requested	6 Dec 2021
Modification discussed with Working Group	2 Feb 2022
Modification discussed with the TABASC	3 Feb 2022
Refinement Consultation	7 Feb – 25 Feb 2022
Impact Assessment requested	21 Mar 2022
Update provided to CSC	19 Apr 2022

Appendix 2: Glossary

This table lists all the acronyms used in this document and the full term they are an abbreviation for.

Glossary	
Acronym	Full term
BEIS	Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
CHF	Communications Hub Function
CSC	Change Sub-Committee
DBCH	Dual Band Communications Hub
DCC	Data Communications Company
EUA	Energy and Utilities Alliance
GBCS	Great Britain Companion Specification
GHz	Gigahertz
GSME	Gas Smart Metering Equipment
HAN	Home Area Network
HCALCS	HAN Connected Auxiliary Load Control Switch
IRP	Issue Resolution Proposals
SEC	Smart Energy Code
SECAS	Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat
SMHAN	Smart Meter Home Area Network
SMIP	Smart Metering Implementation Program
TABASC	Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee
TSIRS	Technical Specifications Issue Resolution Sub-group