

JANUARY 2022

# SEC Newsletter



## WELCOME TO THE FIRST SEC NEWSLETTER OF 2022!

We hope you've all had a great start to the year, especially now that the end of January is in sight for those doing dry January or Veganuary!

We hope you enjoy this edition in its new style, in which you are invited to respond to the SEC Panel Draft Budget 2022-2025 consultation, learn how you can update your Operational Contact details, view the Ofgem Cross-Code Survey results and current vacancies in the SECAS Team. SEC Parties can register to our January webinars on Credit Cover and Security Assessments. You will also find out about approved Modification Proposals, new Draft Proposals and Modification Consultations on which you are invited to provide feedback and many more important topics.

We always like to hear from you, and we welcome feedback on this edition as well as any topics you would like covered in future webinars or newsletter editions. Feel free to contact us via the [SECAS Helpdesk](#).

For everyone who has made them - "May all your troubles last as long as your New Year's resolutions!"

**SEC**  
Smart Energy Code

# Governance

## LAST CHANCE TO RESPOND TO THE SEC PANEL DRAFT BUDGET CONSULTATION

SEC Parties are invited to respond to the SEC Panel Draft Budget 2022-2025 consultation by **5pm on 28 January 2022**, available [here](#). Parties should provide their feedback by including it in an email to the [SECAS Helpdesk](#), highlighting if you would prefer any of your feedback to be marked as confidential/anonymous. Feedback will be considered by the SEC Panel, and any modifications to the Draft Budget discussed at its February 2022 meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact the [SECAS Helpdesk](#).



## ENDURING CHANGE OF SUPPLIER (ECOS) JOINT INDUSTRY PLAN (JIP) CHANGE REQUEST

On 14 January 2022, the DCC issued a JIP CR to the Implementation Managers Forum (IMF) relating to the revision of JIP milestones for the ECoS programme, and the inclusion of two new milestones. The JIP CR proposes a revised Go Live date for the ECoS programme of 30 June 2023.

The consultation will be open until **5pm on 4 February 2022**. SEC Parties should contact their IMF representatives or BEIS ([smip.sdc@beis.gov.uk](mailto:smip.sdc@beis.gov.uk)) for further details on the CR, including the CR documentation, and to provide their feedback. There will be an item during IMF on 27 January 2022 to discuss potential issues or clarification arising from the JIP CR consultation. Subject to this dialogue, a further item may be included at the February 2022 IMF. If feedback is limited, and in agreement with the proposed changes, the goal is to baseline the JIP at the Smart Metering Delivery Group (SMDG) in February 2022. BEIS and the DCC will take stock of this proposal following conclusion of the consultation period. If you have any questions, please contact [smip.sdc@beis.gov.uk](mailto:smip.sdc@beis.gov.uk).



# Governance

## UPCOMING ANNUAL CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY

SEC Parties will soon be invited to opt in to participate in the Annual Customer Satisfaction Survey, which is a great opportunity to provide feedback on the provision of SECAS services and enable us to use the results to further improve the service we provide.

Your “opt in” would mean that a market research agency will be in touch via telephone, and your involvement would be very much appreciated to add to the value of the data collected and the findings they generate. If you have any questions, please contact the [SECAS Helpdesk](#).



## OPERATIONAL CONTACTS TO RECEIVE CRITICAL ALERTS

SECAS hosts an [Operations Contact List spreadsheet](#) (accessed once [logged in](#)) for Supplier SEC Parties to add their contact details to receive Critical Alert notices from other Suppliers after a DCC User to Non-DCC User Churn. Device Manufacturers and Network Parties may also find it useful to add their details to this spreadsheet. To inform SECAS of any updates that should be made, please use the [online form](#).

Guidance to Critical Alerts and Suppliers' obligations can be downloaded [here](#). SEC Parties should only be contacted via this spreadsheet for Critical Alerts and any other issues that could impact their customers.

If you have any questions, please contact the [SECAS Helpdesk](#).

## DCC INITIAL PALLET VALIDATION (IPV) ONLINE WORKSHOP

SEC Parties are invited to the DCC's next Comms Hub & Network workshop on **27 January 2022** from **1:30pm to 5:00pm** where they will focus on IPV. For more information on the workshop, please click [here](#). If you would like to attend or if you have any questions, please contact [customerengagement@smartdcc.co.uk](mailto:customerengagement@smartdcc.co.uk).



## OFGEM CROSS-CODE SURVEY RESULTS: HOW DID THE SEC PERFORM?

Ofgem has published their findings on the 2021 Cross-Code Administrators' Performance survey [here](#). The SEC's individual performance can be found [here](#) and results were positive overall, thank you to all who participated. SECAS will take onboard the feedback received and look into ways to continuously improve the service we provide.

We always welcome your feedback and want to engage with you, so do get in touch either using the online [Feedback Form](#) or contact the [SECAS Helpdesk](#).



## CURRENT SECAS VACANCIES

*Want to join the SECAS Team? Please click the linked images below to review and apply for the two available vacancies*

[SMART ENERGY  
OPERATIONS  
ANALYST](#)

[SMART ENERGY  
SENIOR  
COMMITTEE  
ADMINISTRATOR](#)

JANUARY 2022

# SECAS Events

## NEW SECAS WEBINARS OPEN FOR REGISTRATION

SEC Parties are now able to register for two upcoming SECAS Webinars scheduled in January 2022, we hope you can join us:

### 1. [Security Assessment Guidance Webinar](#)

**28 January 2022, 2 - 3pm**

SECAS Security experts will provide you with a useful insight into the Validation Process for Security Assessments. You will learn about the key obligations that often trip up Users, and what to look out for in Management Responses to Observations raised.

Please register [here](#).

### 2. [Smart DCC: Credit Cover Webinar](#)

**31 January 2022, 2 - 2.45pm**

During this session, SECAS and Smart DCC will provide an overview of the Credit Cover process as detailed in the SEC, as well as in practice from a DCC perspective.

If you have any questions on Credit Cover that you would like addressed via the presentation, please submit these by **5 pm on 24 January**, by emailing [SECAS@gemserv.com](mailto:SECAS@gemserv.com).

There will also be an opportunity to ask questions on the day for any further clarification.

Please register [here](#).





# Modifications

## NEW DRAFT PROPOSALS

Three new Draft Proposals have been raised since the last newsletter. You are invited to provide feedback to the [Change Team](#) to help us understand whether this affects you.

<a href="#">DP197 'Reallocating Third Party Communications Hubs in the Event of a SoLR'</a>	<p>SEC Section F8.7 states that when a SEC Party ceases to be a SEC Party it should return all uninstalled Communications Hubs to the DCC. This would apply in the event of a Supplier of Last Resort (SoLR), but not where the Communications Hubs are held by a third-party Meter Asset Manager (MAM) or Meter Asset Provider (MAP).</p> <p>In the event of that Supplier ceasing trading, the third-party MAM or MAP carries all the financial risk and commercial burden when ordering Comms Hubs on behalf of a Supplier, and would be responsible for the storage, rental, and reallocation costs of the surplus Communications Hubs. There are known issues with the reallocation of Communications Hubs, which are being addressed under <a href="#">MP140 'CH Stock Transfer'</a>; however, in the scenario described where a third party is in possession of the Communications Hubs, the issue could potentially be resolved by migrating liability for existing stock and its rental either to the incoming Supplier or back to the DCC.</p>
<a href="#">DP198 'Further Changes from the Review of the SMKI and DCCKI Document Set'</a>	<p>The observations of the SMKI and DCCKI Document Set review that require further work relate to SEC Appendix L and the processes for the Recovery of the SMKI Contingency. Specifically, there is a discrepancy in the order of the steps set out in Appendix L sections 5 and 6 that need clarification with the DCC to ensure these align with the correct operational processes and the order of the steps.</p>
<a href="#">DP199 'June 2022 SEC Release Supporting Changes'</a>	<p>SECMP0015, SECMP0024, and MP104 are intended to be implemented on 30 June 2022 (June 2022 SEC Release). The DCC detailed system design associated with the SECMP0015, SECMP0024, and MP104 changes occurred after the approval of the modifications and associated legal text. As part of this detailed system design process the DCC has identified some additions and amendments as being required to align to the required solution design to deliver the required intent of the modifications' solutions.</p>



# Modifications

## REFINEMENT CONSULTATIONS

There is currently one Modification Proposal undergoing Refinement Consultation. As a SEC Party, you can help influence the Proposed Solution, help determine the business case for the change, and comment on how the proposal will affect your organisation. For more information and to respond to the consultation, download the consultation pack linked below and send your response to the [Change Team](#).

[MP192 'Extend Scheduled Services for SMETS1 Devices'](#)

Download the consultation [here](#).

**Closing Date:**  
**4 February 2022**

Service Request Variants (SRV) 4.3 'Read Instantaneous Prepay Values' and SRV 4.4.3 'Retrieve Billing Calendar Triggered Billing Data Log', can only be requested on an 'On-Demand' service basis or as a 'Future Dated' service. Eligible Users must send one of these SRVs to the DCC each time the associated data is required. These SRVs are not currently eligible for Scheduled Services so Users cannot use SRV 5.1 'Create Schedule' to schedule these on a repeating frequency.

The Proposed Solution is to change SRVs 4.3 and 4.4.3 so they can also be scheduled by Suppliers for SMETS1 Devices using SRV 5.1. As the scheduling capability for SRV 4.3 and SRV 4.4.3 will be applicable for SMETS1 only, the DCC will implement a new error code to notify this validation failure if a Supplier attempts to schedule for SMETS2+ Devices.

# Modifications

## MODIFICATION REPORT CONSULTATION

There are currently two open Modification Report Consultations. You are invited to provide feedback to the [Change Team](#) to help us understand your views on whether the modification should be approved.

<p><a href="#">MP078 'Incorporation of multiple Issue Resolution Proposals into the SEC - Part 2'</a></p> <p>Download the consultation <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p><b>Closing Date:</b> <b>8 February 2022</b></p>	<p>MP078 contains three Issue Resolution Proposals (IRP) 550, 603 and 604. IRP 550 relates to message GCS20r which is sent from the Gas Smart Metering Equipment (GSME) to the Communications Hub. The issue is there are no instructions in the Technical Specification (GBCS) on what response the GSME should give if it cannot send the information (for instance if it does not have the data). IRP 604 has resulted from a typographical error in IRP 550. IRP 603 relates to IHDs, PPMIDs and CADs on the Home Area Network (HAN) can request security log information from the GSME or ESME and can display this information to the consumer. The issue for IRP 603 is the consumer could view the security log information, which could be a security risk.</p>
<p><a href="#">MP085A 'Synchronisation of smart meter voltage measurement periods'</a></p> <p>Download the consultation <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p><b>Closing Date:</b> <b>8 February 2022</b></p>	<p>The Proposed Solution is to provide a consistent approach for all Electricity Smart Metering Equipment (ESME); ensuring that the Average RMS Voltage Measurement Period starts or resumes from a predictable point in time, allowing automatic realignment of a Device's measurement periods with those of other ESMEs. This will allow DNOs to make full use of the Average RMS Voltage Profile Data Logs for remote comparison across all of their ESMEs.</p> <p>To align the measurement periods of multiple ESMEs it is expected that the length of the Average RMS Voltage Measurement Period be consistent across all of a given DNO's ESMEs, as well as ensuring that the length of the period be a factor of 1800 seconds (30 minutes). This is to align with the default value an ESME is configured to prior to installation (GBCS defines this as 1800 seconds). This will also ensure that the sequence of measurement periods continues to align throughout the day, regardless of when an interruption to the measurement of Average RMS Voltage may occur. The DNO is the only impacted Party should the measurement period not be configured to a factor of 1800 seconds. DNOs can resolve this issue by reconfiguring the measurement. As a result, it was deemed unnecessary to restrict the setting of the measurement period within SMETS or GBCS.</p>

## DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THE UPCOMING SEC RELEASE?

The first SEC Release of 2022 is right around the corner! It goes live on **24 February 2022** and consists of text only changes to the SEC. If you want to know more about the changes being made, click [here](#) for the list of approved Modification Proposals being implemented. If you have any questions, please contact the [Change Team](#).

# Publications

## OPEN INDUSTRY CONSULTATIONS WEBPAGE

Please visit our [Open Industry Consultations webpage](#) for details of consultations that may be of interest to SEC Parties. If you are aware of a consultation that should be added, please contact the [SECAS Helpdesk](#).

For other publications that may be of interest to you, please view the Operations Report in the [January 2022 WHITE SEC Panel Meeting 100 Documentation](#). SEC Parties can also view the Transitional Governance Update (TGU) Paper in the [January 2022 GREEN SEC Panel Meeting 100 Documentation](#).

## SECAS HELPDESK

Please contact the [SECAS Helpdesk](#) with any questions and a member of the team will be happy to help. Helpdesk hours are **Monday-Friday 9-5pm (excluding bank holidays)**.

# Key Meeting Dates

26 January	<a href="#">Change Board Meeting 62</a>
26 January	<a href="#">Security Sub-Committee Meeting 139</a>
26 January	<a href="#">Testing Advisory Group Meeting 86</a>
28 January	<a href="#">Security Assessment Guidance Webinar</a>
31 January	<a href="#">Smart DCC Credit Cover Webinar</a>
2 February	<a href="#">SEC Monthly Working Group Meeting - February 2022</a>
3 February	<a href="#">Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee Meeting 74</a>
7 February	<a href="#">Strategic Working Group 07</a>
8 February	<a href="#">Operations Group Meeting 65</a>
9 February	<a href="#">Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority Meeting 90</a>
9 February	<a href="#">Security Sub-Committee Meeting 140</a>
15 February	<a href="#">Change Sub-Committee Meeting 36</a>
18 February	<a href="#">SEC Panel Meeting 101</a>