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MP179 ‘DCC Boxed’ Conclusions Report – version 1.0

About this document

This document summarises the responses received to the Modification Report Consultation and the decision of the Change Board regarding approval or rejection of this modification.

Summary of conclusions

Change Board

The Change Board voted to **approve** MP179. It believed the modification better facilitated SEC Objective (a)¹.

Modification Report Consultation

SECAS received four responses to the Modification Report Consultation. All respondents believed that the modification should be approved. They considered the modification better facilitated SEC Objective (a), and one Networks Party believed the modification also better facilitated SEC Objective (b)².

¹ To facilitate the efficient provision, installation, and operation, as well as interoperability, of Smart Metering Systems at Energy Consumers' premises within Great Britain.

² To enable the DCC to comply at all times with the General Objectives of the DCC (as defined in the DCC Licence), and to efficiently discharge the other obligations imposed upon it by the DCC Licence.

Modification Report Consultation responses

Summary of responses

All four respondents agreed that MP179 should be approved.

One respondent noted that while they believed MP179 should be approved, the DCC Boxed tool should not be used as a 'shortcut' for testing products or System changes that should go through the standard rigorous testing process, such as Communications Hub firmware updates. This is not the intended use of the DCC Boxed tool, however the concern has been noted and relayed to the DCC.

Change Board vote

Change Board vote

The Change Board voted to **approve** MP179 under Self-Governance.

The vote breakdown is summarised below:

Change Board vote				
Party Category	Approve	Reject	Abstain	Outcome
Large Suppliers	6	0	0	Approve
Small Suppliers	2	0	0	Approve
Network Parties	2	0	0	Approve
Other SEC Parties	2	1	0	Approve
Consumer Representative	0	0	1	-
Overall outcome:				APPROVE

The Consumer Representative abstained as they felt unable to comment on whether the concerns raised by other members affected the scope of the modification and should cause the Change Board vote to be deferred to a later date.

Views against the General SEC Objectives

Objective (a)

The majority of the Change Board believed that MP179 will better facilitate SEC Objective (a) on the basis that several Parties had expressed their desire to have the DCC Boxed product made available for purchase.

Change Board discussions

A Change Board member expressed concern that a previous question had not been definitively answered regarding the ability of DCC Boxed to test against future Communications Hub firmware versions. Another member advised this was detailed in the Modification Report, however the concern

remained that without full clarification on this point the business case for implementing MP179 was not strong enough. The member was concerned that by approving this modification some parties may believe the product had been 'approved' by the Change Board, whereas the member believed that the current product offered fell short of what was needed.

SECAS clarified that the vote under consideration was to approve or reject the inclusion of the legal text to allow the DCC to offer the product and charge an Explicit Charge to buyers. SECAS stated that whilst it understood the member's concerns about the limitations of the product, it was up to those Parties purchasing the product to determine its effectiveness.

Other Change Board members believed that if the product was not effective it would not be popular and the DCC would not have many buyers. The majority of Change Board members believed that the vote to approve or reject should take place.

A Change Board member also expressed concern that the DCC had undertaken the initial development of the DCC Boxed tool without consulting industry Parties. SECAS agreed this would be raised for discussion with the SEC Panel but that it does not impact the implementation of the modification.