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MP078 ‘Incorporation of multiple Issue Resolution Proposals into the SEC - Part 2’

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 **reject** MP078. It believed the modification did not better facilitate SEC Objective (a)¹. It believed that the costs of implementation outweighed the benefits of the solution.

Modification Report Consultation

SECAS received one response to the Modification Report Consultation. The respondent believed that the modification should be rejected. They considered the modification did not better facilitate SEC Objective (a).

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

Modification Report Consultation responses

Summary of responses

The respondent believed that the modification should be rejected. They noted the costs associated with implementation were too high and outweighed the benefits that would be gained. They also noted that the Security Sub-Committee (SSC) had deemed the security risk as low. The respondent also questioned whether Communications Service Provider (CSP) North's requirement for two rounds of testing was appropriate and commented that this had increased the costs.

The respondent further commented that the Data Communications Company (DCC) had said that reduced costs would be provided once the full November 2022 SEC Release had been scoped and noted this was not provided.

They also believed that the Issue Resolution Proposals (IRPs) should be split into separate modifications to enable the costs to be assessed separately.

Change Board vote

Change Board vote

The Change Board voted to **reject** MP078 under Self-Governance.

The vote breakdown is summarised below:

Change Board vote				
Party Category	Approve	Reject	Abstain	Outcome
Large Suppliers	0	6	0	Reject
Small Suppliers	0	1	0	Reject
Network Parties	0	2	0	Reject
Other SEC Parties	0	3	0	Reject
Consumer Representative	0	0	0	-
Overall outcome:				REJECT

The Consumer representative was not present for the vote.

Views against the General SEC Objectives

Objective (a)

The Change Board believed that MP078 would not better facilitate SEC Objective (a).

Change Board discussions

The Change Board noted that the costs for implementation appeared to vastly outweigh the proposed benefits of the change.

A Large Supplier representative commented that the SSC had determined the security risk as low and questioned whether either issue was actually affecting SEC Parties. They continued that this modification could have been withdrawn from the process at an earlier stage as it was clear that the costs would outweigh benefits at any earlier stage. The Small Supplier representative agreed.

An Other SEC Party representative asked how GBCS deficiencies such as these were addressed. SECAS confirmed that these are currently raised at the Technical Specifications Issues Resolution Sub-group (TSIRS) where a solution is developed and then passed to SECAS to implement in the SEC. This requires SECAS to find a volunteer Proposer, who then may feel obliged to carry the Modification through to the Change Board vote due to the way the process is currently set out.

A Network Party representative noted that the process should be reviewed going forward to ensure that more work on business case was conducted at an earlier stage to help guide an outcome sooner where an issue is not material.