SEC Newsletter

WELCOME TO THE JULY 2022 SEC NEWSLETTER!

Welcome to the July 2022 SEC Newsletter!

This edition includes the latest on Ad Hoc SEC releases, the new REC release, the SEC Strategic Plan and updates on the BSC P375 and SMETS Interoperability projects. You can also catch up on the latest on the standing updates from the SMDA and SEC Modifications.

We hope you enjoy this edition, please contact us at the SECAS Helpdesk if you have any topics you would like to see covered in an upcoming newsletter.

Governance

AD-HOC SEC RELEASES

SEC version 62.0 came into effect, 18 July 2022, to implement MP200 'Faster Switching consequential changes to the SEC'. Several SEC Sections and Appendices have been amended to facilitate the go-live of the Centralised Switching Service (CSS). These changes have been deemed as consequential changes that have minor, if any, impacts on SEC Parties.

By implementing the consequential changes to the SEC and to other industry Codes, consumers will be able to realise the benefits from Ofgem's Faster Switching Programme.

Please visit our latest news page for more information. Here you can find out what SEC documents are affected and the redlined changes to these documents.

A further Ad-Hoc SEC Release is planned for 1 August 2022 to incorporate MP209 'Lifetime CPA Certificates'. This modification introduces the concept of Commercial Product Assurance (CPA) Certificates that will be renewed as opposed to expire.

If you have any questions on either Release, please email the Change Team.

NEW RETAIL ENERGY CODE (REC) RELEASE NOW LIVE

REC V3.0 was implemented on 18 July 2022. This latest code release covers changes to introduce the new Central Switching Service arrangements into the REC. Documentation has been updated on the REC Portal and on the Energy Market Architecture Repository (EMAR).

If you have questions about this release, please email enquiries@recmanager.co.uk.

HAVE YOUR SAY – TECHNICAL ARCHITECTURE AND BUSINESS ARCHITECTURE DESIGN COMMITTEE (TABASC) EFFECTIVENESS REVIEW QUESTIONNAIRE

The TABASC Effectiveness Review Questionnaire aims to assess the effectiveness of the End-to-End Technical Architecture and Business Architectures from the view of SEC Parties utilising the architectures, and to identify potential areas for improvement in the service for Users. SEC Parties are invited to share their views by responding to the questionnaire by 5pm on 20 August 2022. Responses are limited to one per SEC Party.

Please contact the SECAS Helpdesk if you have any queries.

Governance

SEC ELECTIONS – YOUR CHANCE TO TAKE PART

The SEC elections are now open, and SEC Parties are invited to nominate a prospective candidate to represent their Party type. If you would like to be involved in important industry developments, you may wish to nominate yourself. You do not need to be a SEC Party to be nominated, however only SEC Parties can nominate. Please see the table below for more details:

The Security Sub-Committee (SSC)	• Large Suppliers (2 seats) • Small Suppliers • Shared Resource Providers • Gas Networks	• Please complete the online form here by **Tuesday 9 August 2022**.
Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority (SMKI PMA).	• Large Suppliers	• Please complete the online form here by **Tuesday 9 August 2022**.
SEC Panel	• Large Suppliers • Small Suppliers • Other SEC Parties • Electricity Networks	• Please complete the online form here by Friday **19 August 2022**.

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FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE SEC STRATEGIC PLAN

The SEC Strategic Plan provides a Roadmap of material events that are likely to impact the SEC and its services and outlines the SEC Panel's approach in preparing for such events. The Strategic Plan horizon-scans for material strategic events to support the SEC Mission Statement:

"To ensure that the Smart Energy Code, and how it is fulfilled, remains relevant and fit for purpose in an evolving GB energy market"

Version 2.0 of the SEC Strategic Plan was approved by the SEC Panel at its July meeting, following input from SECAS, the Strategic Working Group, and the SEC Panel. SEC Parties can view the latest version here. We welcome thoughts or queries on the plan via the SECAS Helpdesk.

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ENERGY SUPPLIERS CAN NOW READ THE BALANCE AND SETTLEMENT CODE (BSC) MODIFICATION PROPOSAL P375 PROJECT UPDATE

BSC P375 will allow Metering Equipment 'behind' the Boundary Point to be used for Settlement purposes. The TABASC began an investigation to understand the cross compatibility between the Smart Metering Technical Specifications (SMETS) and the BSC CoP11, which is particularly useful for energy suppliers. Analysis was undertaken to understand where the two specifications converge, along with whether Devices would be capable of meeting the requirements of both specifications.

In addition to this analysis, a piece of work was launched by the TABASC to investigate two further aspects, the results of which can be accessed here once logged in.

Governance

SMETS INTEROPERABILITY PROJECT UPDATE

In November 2019 BEIS tasked the SEC Panel with taking forward a set of recommendations outlined in the independent review of assurance for SMETS2 Device interoperability on change.

The project has focused on:

- Monitoring existing and emerging commercial and operational arrangements for accessing and deploying firmware, which is reported by industry as having significantly improved over time.
- Publishing meter firmware best practice guidance.
- Introducing reporting to inform whether there may be issues with interoperability, provide a longer-term view of Supplier firmware management processes, and to monitor the increasing volume of Device combinations. This reporting will be owned by the SEC Operations Group (OPSG). SMETS1 Devices have also been included within the scope.

The SEC Panel has ensured that all outstanding activities have a clear path to resolution and a governance body has been assigned to track the areas and monitor residual risks. This month, the SEC Panel recommended that the remaining activities be taken forward by the appropriate Sub-Committee under SEC governance.

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DCC TEST CERTIFICATE POLICY PUBLICATION

The Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority (SMKI PMA) approved the Test Certificate Policy for publication and this was subsequently published to the DCC website here in line with the DCC's obligation under SEC Appendix J - Enduring Testing Approach Document (ETAD) Section 3.2 (a). The ETAD applies to Testing Services in respect of SMETS1 Devices and SMETS2+ Devices.

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SMDA UPDATE

Since the last newsletter, three devices (one Gas Smart Metering Equipment (GSME) and two Electricity Smart Metering Equipment (ESMEs) have been awarded Full Assurance on the November 2019 SEC Release Baseline and have been added to the Device Assurance Register (DAR).

The WNC pilot programme concluded with no variances found between WNC and Toshiba Communication (Comms) Hubs. The SMDA Technical Sub-Group, previously the Management Panel Sub-Group, is reviewing the proposed approach to introduce WNC Comms Hub into testing.

The Scheme successfully completed independent testing for six DCC Comms Hub variants. Discussions regarding further testing are continuing with the DCC.

The SMDA Testing and Baseline change process is being updated based on feedback provided by SEC Parties that the visibility of SMDA testing changes could be improved. The updated process aligns with other industry practices and improves Party visibility with a consultation period.

If you have any queries on SMDA please contact smdaso@gemserv.com.

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CODE ADMINISTRATION CODE OF PRACTICE

The July 2022 Code Administration Code of Practice (CACoP) Newsletter is available here. This issue covers:

- The introduction to Parliament of the Energy Security Bill
- News and developments across the different Codes, including updates on the latest uplifts to the Retail Energy Code (REC) and Smart Energy Code (SEC)
- A closer look at how CACoP Principle 12 is being achieved.

If you wish to be added to the CACoP mailing list, please email cacop@gemserv.com.

SECAS Vacancies & Events

SECAS VACANCIES

If you would like to join the SECAS team, you may be interested in the following vacancies:

Smart Energy Change Analyst

SECAS Governance Administrator

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UPCOMING WEBINARS

Introduction to the SEC – 4 October 2022

SEC Parties are invited to attend the 'Introduction to the SEC' webinar on 4 October 2022, 11am-12:30pm.

Are you new to your role in smart metering? Has your Party recently acceded to the SEC? This webinar offers you the opportunity to build your knowledge of the SEC and get to grips with the basics from SECAS, SMDA and Alt HAN Co.

SEC Parties can register to attend the session here.

SECAS WEBINAR PRESENTATION SLIDES AND RECORDINGS

Once logged in, SEC Parties can view the presentation slides and video recordings of all our recent webinars here.

Since the last SEC Newsletter, we held the SEC Panel Q&A Session on 15 July and the Alt HAN Co: Supplier Readiness for the Smart Rollout Webinar on 19 July 2022. Both sessions enjoyed excellent engagement and are well worth a watch if you were unable to attend on the day.

If there are any topics that you'd like to be covered at future webinars, please contact the SECAS Helpdesk.

Modifications

NEW DRAFT PROPOSALS

There have been three new Draft Proposals raised since the last newsletter. You are invited to provide feedback to the Change Team to help us understand whether these issues affect you.

DP210 'Registered Supplier Agent (RSA) forecasts, orders and pay stock charges for Alternative Home Area Network (Alt HAN) Equipment'

DP211 'Aligning the Smart Meter Inventory (SMI) with the Central Products List (CPL)'

DP212 'Housekeeping changes 2022'
 The drafted legal text is currently available for review on our website and can be downloaded here.

MODIFICATION REPORT CONSULTATIONS

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 modifications should be approved.

MP102B 'Power Outage Alerts triggered by an OTA firmware upgrade – enduring solution' Download here.	**Closing Date:** Wednesday 10 August 2022	**Impacted Parties:** Electricity Network Parties Other SEC Parties
MP125 'Correcting Device Information for the ESME Variant' Download here.	**Closing Date:** Wednesday 10 August 2022	**Impacted Parties:** Suppliers Electricity Network Parties Other SEC Parties DCC

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 July 2022 WHITE SEC Panel Meeting 106 Documentation. SEC Parties can also view the Transitional Governance Update (TGU) Paper in the July 2022 GREEN SEC Panel Meeting 106 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 Governance Meeting Dates

1 August	Strategic Working Group 10
3 August	SEC Monthly Working Group Meeting – August 2022
4 August	Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee Meeting 80
9 August	Operations Group Meeting 77
10 August	Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority Meeting 96
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22 August	Operations Group Meeting 78
24 August	Security Sub-Committee Meeting 153
24 August	Change Board Meeting 69
31 August	Testing Advisory Group Meeting 93