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## MP155 'Communications Hub Re-Flash'

### October 2022 Working Group – meeting summary

#### Attendees

Attendee	Organisation
Ali Beard (AB)	SECAS
Joey Manners (JM)	SECAS
Bradley Baker (BB)	SECAS
Elizabeth Woods (EW)	SECAS
Mike Fenn (MF)	SECAS
Rachel Black (RBI)	SECAS
Lorna Clarke (LC)	SMDA
David Walsh (DW)	DCC
Chris Thompson (CT)	DCC
Robin Seaby (RS)	DCC
Samuel Manson (SM)	DCC
Julie Brown (JB)	British Gas
Martin Bell (MB)	EUA
Ralph Baxter (RBa)	Octopus Energy
Audrey Smith-Keary (ASK)	OVO Energy
Mafs Rahman (MR)	Scottish Power
Lorna Clarke (LC)	SMDA
Shuba Khatun (SK)	SSE Networks
Andy Knowles (AK)	Utilita
Daniel Davies (DD)	ESG
Patricia Massey (PM)	BEAMA
George MacGregor (GMacG)	Utilita
Alex Hurcombe (AH)	EDF
Jamie Flaherty (JF)	Ofgem
Eleanor Taylor (ET)	BEIS
Gemma Slaney (GS)	National Grid Electricity Distribution
Kelly Kinsman (KK)	National Grid Electricity Distribution

## Overview

### Issue

- Installing older versions of Communications Hubs presents issues for Suppliers
- SEC Parties tend to install the Communications Hubs on the latest versions first so these numbers have, historically, not reduced at speed

### Proposed Solution

- Communication Service Providers (CSPs) will develop process, logistics & capability to re-flash CHs at volume and deliver those same Communications Hubs back to the Service User

### Refinement Consultation responses

- All respondents “rejected” the mod
- Concern capability actually delivered
- Do any Supplier Parties have far greater backlog?
- No respondents would use service
- No SLAs within solution
- Costs
  - Are OTA upgrade costs avoided by CSPs?
  - CSP benefitting mod but Suppliers paying
  - Cost mechanism question
  - How/when will fixed costs be calculated?
  - What about Year 2 costs once backlog done?
- Further considerations
  - Transition to 4G
  - Supply chain defects Suppliers refuse to install

### Scale of issue

- March 2022
  - 300,000 CHs eligible
  - £9.26m<sup>1</sup> cost if scrapped
- June 2022
  - 258,000 CHs

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<sup>1</sup> Figures based on Explicit Charge K7.5 (p) for a Single Band Communications Hub - £30.87

- £7.96m<sup>2</sup> cost if scrapped
- September 2022
  - 206,000 CHs
  - £6.36m<sup>2</sup> cost if scrapped
- At current rate all Communications Hubs in the backlog will be installed by October 2023

## Summary

- **Costs**
  - Design, Build and PIT - £3,730,000
  - Full Impact Assessment - £251,159
  - Comms Hubs numbers – Reducing
  - Explicit Charge – Continues to rise as backlog decreases
  - Any unrecovered costs would be socialised
- **Implementation**
  - Targeted November 2024

## Working Group Discussion

SECAS (EW) provided an overview of the issue, Proposed Solution, summary of Refinement Consultation responses, scale of issue and costs.

A Working Group member (DD) noted that looking at the numbers, it does not look like this Modification is worth continuing due to timings suggesting that the issue will be resolved before implementation of this modification.

SECAS (AB) asked Working Group members if there any objections of the recommendation for this Modification to be withdrawn.

No objections were voiced from the Working Group.

SECAS (AB) advised this is a DCC led mod and enquired if the DCC were satisfied with the recommendation and go ahead with withdrawal of this Modification. DCC (DW) confirmed DCC will go ahead and confirm the withdrawal in writing to SECAS.

## Next Steps

The following actions were recorded from the meeting:

- The Proposer (DCC) to confirm withdrawal of MP155; and
- SECAS to communicate to Industry of the withdrawal MP155.

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<sup>2</sup> Figures based on Explicit Charge K7.5 (p) for a Single Band Communications Hub - £30.87