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MP168 ‘CPL Security Improvements’

April 2023 Working Group – meeting summary

Attendees

Attendee	Organisation
Kev Duddy (KD)	SECAS
Rachel Black (RB)	SECAS
Elizabeth Woods (EW)	SECAS
Mike Fenn (MF)	SECAS
Rainer Lischetzki (RL)	SECAS
Mohammedanwar Sumro (MS)	SECAS
David Walsh (DW)	DCC
Robin Seaby (RS)	DCC
Patricia Massey (PM)	BEAMA
Julie Brown (JB)	British Gas
Beth Davey (BD)	Calvin Capital
Amy Cox (AC)	EDF
Alex Hurcombe (AH)	EDF
Daniel Davies (DD)	ESG
Martin Bell (MB)	EUA
Kelly Kinsman (KK)	National Grid Electricity Distribution
Stuart Blair (SB)	Northern Powergrid Metering
Ralph Baxter (RBa)	Octopus Energy
Jamie Flaherty (JF)	Ofgem
Audrey Smith-Keary (ASK)	OVO Energy
Stephen McLaughlin (SM)	Scottish Power
Gordon Hextall (GH)	Security Sub-Committee
Jeff Studholme (JS)	Smart Meter Assets
Shuba Khatun (SK)	SSE Networks
Kevin Clark (KC)	Utilita

Overview

The Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat (SECAS) provided an overview of the issue identified, the business requirements and the Proposed Solution.

Issue

- Device Manufacturers are required to Digitally Sign the Central Products List (CPL) Submission if it contains the Hash of a Manufacturer Image, and Suppliers (or Data Communications Company (DCC)) are required to provide those details to the Panel (via SECAS).
- The Smart Energy Code (SEC) Panel (via SECAS) authenticates the CPL submission originates from the person who created the Image and is endorsed by a Supplier.
- The Security Sub-Committee (SSC) established this authentication of the Manufacturer signing the CPL Submission is not sufficient.

Proposed Solution and impacts

- The DCC will be responsible for issuing Infrastructure Key Infrastructure (IKI) Certificates to requesting Parties and issue Certificates to Device Manufacturers and Suppliers to use.
- Device Manufacturers digitally sign the CPL submission spreadsheet using the IKI Certificates and pass to the Supplier (Devices) or DCC (Communications Hubs) to countersign.
- SECAS checks the validity of the Certificates against the Certificate Revocation List (CRL) which the DCC must make publicly available.

Legal text

- Changes required to multiple references to include Manufacturer in:
 - Section A 'Definitions and Interpretations'
 - Section L 'Smart Metering Key Infrastructure (SMKI) and DCC Key Infrastructure (DCKI)'
 - Appendix D 'SMKI Registration Authority Policies and Procedures'
 - Appendix Q 'IKI Certificate Policy'
- Appendix Q also required to be updated to allow CRL to be made public.

DCC Impact Assessment summary

- DCC will make the CRL available publicly. The costs to do so will be less than £25,000.
- Implementation can be aimed at November 2023 as this is outside the DCC Total System.

Working Group Discussion

SECAS (KD) provided an overview of the issue, the associated business requirements, and the Proposed Solution, as well as the impacts and DCC Impact Assessment summary.

A Working Group member (MB) noted that Device Manufacturers would need to test the process using an IKI Certificate prior to implementation. They also sought to confirm that Device Manufacturers that were non-SEC Parties would have access to the IKI Certificates and CRL. SECAS (KD) confirmed that the process would be available for non-SEC Parties and did not expect the testing request to be an issue as part of implementation.

The Working Group had no further comments.

Next Steps

The following actions were recorded from the meeting:

- SECAS will issue the Refinement Consultation.