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SEC Modification Proposal Form – SECMP0050

Mod Title

Section D Review: Moving the Working Group Terms of Reference to a separate document

Submission Date

5th April 2018

Details of Proposer

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1. What issue are you looking to address?

SECAS has been looking at ways to improve the SEC change process and, at the SEC Panel's request, undertook a full review of SEC Section D.

One of the review's recommendations was to move the details of how Working Groups operate out of the SEC and instead require the Panel to maintain a 'Working Group Terms of Reference' document that would provide this detail.

2. Why does this issue need to be addressed? (i.e. Why is doing nothing not an option?)

Currently, the details of how Working Groups are formed and how they operate are provided in the SEC itself. This overly-prescriptive approach provides no scope to vary these rules to cater for specific circumstances that arise.

3. What is your Proposed Solution?

This modification seeks to remove the details in SEC Section D6 regarding a Working Group's establishment, membership and operation from the SEC and instead mandate the Panel to establish a 'Working Group Terms of Reference' document that would provide this detail. All Working Groups established under Section D would adhere to these terms of reference. The Panel would also be able to direct variations to this for specific Working Groups to cater for any specific circumstances that may arise.

The solution that we propose to implement under this modification is that documented in Section 3 of SECAS's Section D Review Consultation document.

The details of the new terms of reference would not need to be specifically drafted under this modification, but we propose that the Working Group prepares a draft for the Panel's consideration. If this modification was approved, the Panel would then approve the terms of reference document as part of the implementation of this modification.

4. What SEC objectives does this Modification better facilitate?

This modification will better facilitate SEC Objective (g) 'facilitate the efficient and transparent administration and implementation of this Code'.

Removing the detail of how Working Groups are established and operate from the SEC and instead holding these in a Panel-owned document makes it more efficient if changes are needed to cater for a specific situation. Currently, the Panel has no ability to vary from the terms as specified in the SEC, which limits flexibility and can result in unnecessary delays to the progression of modifications. Facilitating this flexibility improves efficiency by allowing the Panel more options around the smarter working of Working Groups. Furthermore, if the general terms need to be changed, the Panel will be able to direct these be made without needing to submit these through the modification process, which again increases efficiency.

5. What is the requested Path type?

Path 2

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This modification will make material changes to the processes in SEC Section D. This satisfies criteria (d) in the list of criteria in SEC Section D2.6 for a modification to require an Authority determination.

6. Are you requesting that the Modification Proposal be treated as Urgent?

No

This modification does not meet the urgency criteria.

7. What is your desired implementation date?

1 November 2018 (November 2018 SEC Release) – we believe that this modification can be included as part of this release. This will also achieve efficiencies by being implemented alongside SECMP0034 which is also amending Section D.

8. Which SEC Parties are expected to be impacted? (Please mark with an X)

Large Supplier Parties

☐

Small Supplier Parties

☐

Electricity Network Parties

☐

Gas Network Parties

☐

Other SEC Parties

☐

We do not believe that the implementation of this modification will have a direct impact on any SEC Parties, as it is seeking only to make changes to the Modification Process within the SEC. However, SEC Parties may benefit from the enhancements to the process that this modification seeks to make, allowing for a more effective and efficient assessment of changes.

9. Which parts of the SEC will be impacted?

Section D

10. Will there be an impact on Central Systems? (Please mark with an X)

DCC Systems

☐

Party interfacing systems

☐

Smart Metering Systems

☐

Communication Hubs

☐

Other systems

☐

There will be no impact on Central Systems.

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11. Will there be any testing required?

No testing will be required.

12. Will this Modification impact other Energy Codes?

No

We do not expect any other Code to be impacted by this modification.

13. Will this Modification impact Greenhouse Gas Emissions?

No

There will be no impact on greenhouse gas emissions.