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Modification Decision

SECMP0002:

Add new Command to reset Debt Registers

Summary

This Modification Proposal seeks to add a new Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specification (SMETS) Command to allow Users to reset any of the three debt registers on an Electricity Smart Metering Equipment (ESME) or Gas Smart Metering Equipment (GSME).

Change Board Recommendation



- The Change Board believes that while SECMP0002 would better facilitate the SEC Objectives, the costs would outweigh the benefits. The Change Board therefore believes that this Modification Proposal should be **rejected**.

What stage is this document in the process?

01	Initial Assessment
02	Refinement Process
03	Modification Report
04	Decision

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About this Document

This is the Modification Decision document for SECMP0002. This document provides a summary of the Change Board discussions and conclusions on SECMP0002.

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1. Change Board discussions

The **unanimous** view of the Change Board is that while SECMP0002 would better facilitate General SEC Objectives (a) and (c), the costs of the modification would outweigh the benefits. It therefore believes that SECMP0002 should be **rejected**.

Change Board discussions

The Change Board felt that, in principle, SECMP0002 would better facilitate SEC Objectives (a) and (c), for the reasons given below, although some members did not believe this solution would do so any better than the current baseline does. However, members noted the high costs associated with the implementation of this modification, and believed that the benefits of this modification had not been made in comparison to these.

Members considered that many Suppliers will have implemented their own workarounds to the issue by the time this modification can be implemented, which one member noted would have incurred them costs already. Another member highlighted that this modification wouldn't allow Suppliers to do anything that they could not do now via such workarounds, and it was also considered that having multiple ways of carrying out one activity such as this could negatively impact on customer experience and would add complexity to the process.

A couple of members highlighted that this would not be the first modification rejected on the grounds of the DCC costs being so high. The DCC Representative noted that this modification would require a fundamental rewrite of the system, which was why the costs were so high.

Overall, members believed that while this modification would better facilitate the SEC Objectives, the costs of implementing this change would outweigh the benefits it would bring. On balance, the Change Board therefore believed that SECMP0002 should be rejected.

Views against the General SEC Objectives

Objective (a)¹

The view of the Change Board is that SECMP0002 would better facilitate Objective (a) as it would introduce a more efficient means to reset Debt Registers through the use of fewer Commands. This will reduce the traffic across Supplier and DCC systems, and therefore will reduce the risk of failures.

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



Objective (c)²

The view of the Change Board is that SECMP0002 would better facilitate Objective (c) as it reduces the risk of failed resets of Debt Registers. Sending two Commands to perform one operation, as currently happens, increases the chance that either Command could fail. The Consumer could also be looking at their Smart Metering System at the time that these Commands were being applied. Therefore, the proposed new Commands will minimise the chances of misleading the Consumer.

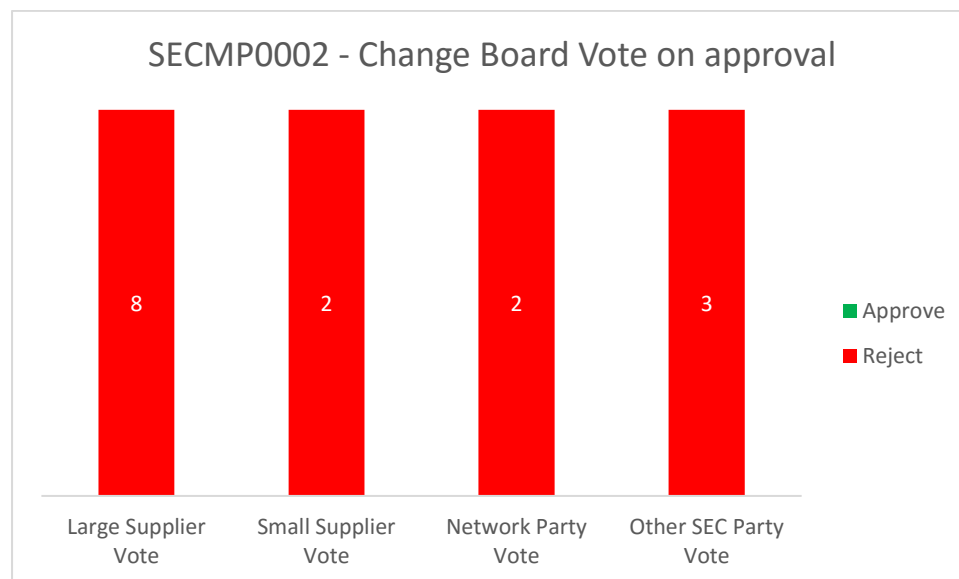
For the avoidance of doubt, the Change Board believes that SECMP0002 is neutral against the remaining Objectives.

² facilitate Energy Consumers' management of their use of electricity and gas through the provision to them of appropriate information by means of Smart Metering Systems

2. Change Board Vote

This section sets out the breakdown of the Change Board’s vote.

The Change Board unanimously voted to **reject** SECMP0002.



One Network member (who operates as a Gas Network Party) abstained from the vote, as they did not believe this change will impact on gas transporters.

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3. Change Board recommendation

The Change Board:

- **CONSIDERED** the Final Modification Report (FMR) and Modification Report Consultation (MRC) responses for SECMP0002;
- **AGREED** not to send the FMR back to the Panel for further clarification;
- **RECOMMENDED** that SECMP0002 should be **REJECTED**; and
- **PROVIDED** rationale as to why SECMP0002 should be rejected.

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