



28 June 2018

The Authority (Ofgem), the SEC Panel, SEC Parties
and other interested parties

**SMART METERING IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME: RESPONSE TO THE
CONSULTATION ON THE REMOVAL OF A TRANSITIONAL VARIATION TO
ENABLE PARTIES TO ORDER DUAL BAND COMMUNICATION HUBS**

Dear Colleague,

1. On 1 February 2018 the Secretary of State issued a direction¹ making various changes to the Smart Energy Code (SEC) to facilitate the delivery of Release 2.0. Paragraph 4 of the direction included a number of transitional variations, one of which, in paragraph 4(c)ii, provides that Sections F5 and F6 of the SEC temporarily apply so that Parties are not entitled to order Dual Band Communications Hubs (DBCH), in advance of the Data and Communications Company (DCC) making necessary changes to the Order Management System (OMS)
2. On 11 June 2018 we consulted on a proposal to remove the transitional variation in paragraph 4(c)ii as DCC had confirmed that the OMS for DBCH would be available from 3 July 2018 and we proposed to remove the transitional variation from that date.

Government response to consultation comments

3. Two responses to the consultation were received, both of which were supportive of the proposal. We have therefore decided to proceed with the removal of the transitional variation through the direction below.

¹ <https://smartenergycodecompany.co.uk/sos-variations/>

Direction

This direction is made for the purposes of the smart meter communication licences granted to Smart DCC Ltd under the Electricity Act 1989 and the Gas Act 1986 ("**DCC Licence**") and the Smart Energy Code designated by the Secretary of State pursuant to the DCC Licence ("**SEC**").

Words and expressions used in this direction shall be interpreted in accordance with Section A (Definitions and Interpretation) of the SEC.

Pursuant to Section X3.7 of the SEC, the Secretary of State hereby designates 3 July 2018 as the date from which Section F5 (Communications Hub Forecasts and Orders) and Section F6 (Delivery and Acceptance of Communications Hubs) of the SEC shall apply without the variation set out at paragraph 4(c)ii of the direction issued by the Secretary of State on 1 February 2018.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stone". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Duncan Stone

Head of Delivery
Smart Metering Implementation Programme

(an official of the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy authorised to act on behalf of the Secretary of State)