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## Modification Decision

# SECMP0048:

# Extension of SMETS gas Valve exemption to include U16 Large Gas Meters installed at Domestic Premises

What stage is this document in the process?

01 Initial Assessment

02 Refinement Process

03 Modification Report

▶ 04 Decision

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## Summary

This Modification seeks to extend the current Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specifications (SMETS) gas Valve exemption to also cover any U16 Large Gas Meter installed at domestic premises.

## Change Board Decision



- The Change Board believes that SECMP0048 does better facilitate the SEC Objectives. It has therefore **approved** this Modification Proposal under Self-Governance.

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## About this Document

This is the Modification Decision document for SECMP0048. This document provides a summary of the Change Board discussions and conclusions on SECMP0048.

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## 1. Change Board discussions

The view of the Change Board is that SECMP0048 does facilitate General SEC Objectives (a), (c), and d) and should be **approved**.

### Change Board discussions

One member queried the value in implementing the modification, as they were unaware of any U16 Large Gas Meters being developed. They were cautious of paying for a modification that may not be used. The Proposer (who was acting as an alternate for a Change Board Member) clarified that this modification would enable a single type of U16 meter to be developed and procured. Another member noted that U16 meters can be procured now and queried the evidence for the Valve being a blocker. The Proposer considered that Meter Manufacturers would be unlikely to develop a U16 meter with a Valve as the likely number to be installed would be very low, so this would not be commercially viable. They clarified that SECMP0048 is intended to be an enabling modification with regards to where these meters can be installed.

One member queried the costs of the modification, noting that DCC had previously stated that changes to technical specifications would incur costs. DCC confirmed that it would not be impacted by SECMP0048, and that any relevant testing is related to the meter itself, not the modification.

One member queried if this modification would require changes to the licence. The Proposer confirmed it would not, and that Ofgem had not indicated otherwise. Another member queried if further changes to the technical specifications would be required to deliver the modification. The Proposer confirmed again that SECMP0048 relates only to where this particular type of meter can be installed and doesn't change any requirements in relation to the meter itself.

One member asked for consideration to be given if a customer with a U16 meter without a Valve becomes a prepayment customer in the future, and the impact this might have.

### Views against the General SEC Objectives

#### Objective (a)<sup>1</sup>

The **unanimous** view of the Change Board is that the modification better facilitates SEC Objective (a) by increasing the availability and installation of U16 meters at domestic premises. This would also improve the likelihood that domestic customers that would need a Large Gas Meter installed would receive a SMETS meter instead of an Advanced meter.

<sup>1</sup> Facilitate the efficient provision, installation, and operation, as well as interoperability, of Smart Metering Systems at Energy Consumers' premises within Great Britain.



### Objective (c)<sup>2</sup>

The **majority** view of the Change Board is that the modification facilitates SEC Objective (c) as it will better enable customers to manage energy usage via an In Home Display (IHD) due to having a SMETS meter installed.

### Objective (d)<sup>3</sup>

A minority of the Change Board believe that the modification facilitates SEC Objective (d) by improving interoperability between Suppliers and increasing efficiency by not needing two types of U16 Large Gas Meter.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Change Board believes that SECMP0048 is neutral against all other objectives.

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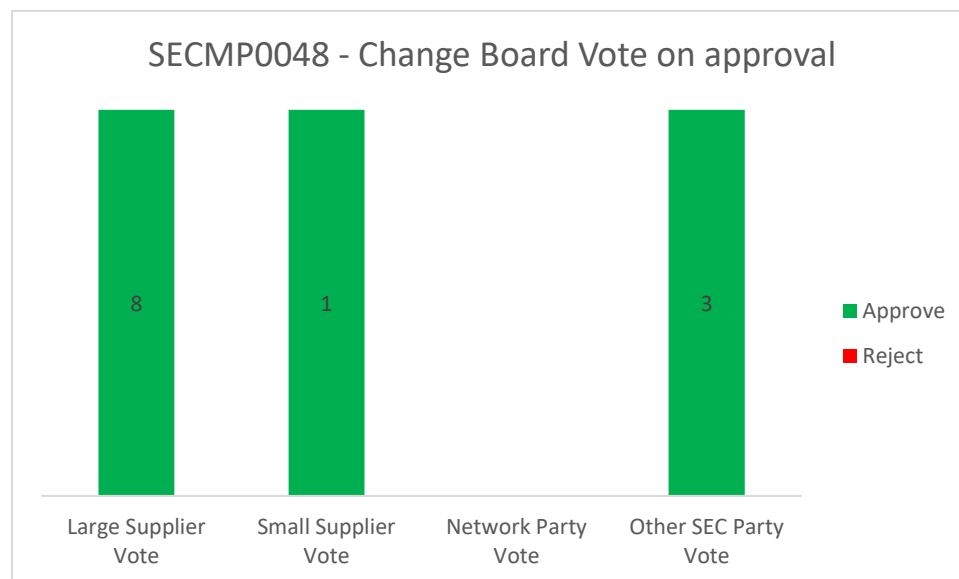
<sup>2</sup> Facilitate Energy Consumers' management of their use of electricity and gas through the provision to them of appropriate information by means of Smart Metering Systems.

<sup>3</sup> Facilitate effective competition between persons engaged in, or in Commercial Activities connected with, the Supply of Energy.

## 2. Change Board Vote

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

The Change Board voted to approve SECMP0048.



The Large Supplier member from E.ON noted they originally said ‘reject’ in their Modification Report Consultation response, but subsequently elected to ‘approve’ due to receiving comfort through the Change Board’s discussions that these types of meters would be developed in response to this modification.

Both Network Party members present at the meeting abstained as they did not believe this modification would impact on Network Parties.



### 3. Change Board decision

The Change Board:

- **CONSIDERED** the Final Modification Report and Modification Report Consultation responses for SECMP0048;
- **APPROVED** SECMP0048 under Self-Governance for implementation on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018; and
- **PROVIDED** rationale as to why SECMP0048 better facilitates the General SEC Objectives.

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