



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

Department for Business,
Energy & Industrial Strategy
1 Victoria Street,
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www.gov.uk/beis

The Authority (Ofgem), the SEC Panel, SEC Parties and other interested parties 30 August 2018

Dear Colleague,

SMART METERING IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME DIRECTION REGARDING DCC PROVISION OF SMETS1 DEVICE AND USER SYSTEM TESTS AND PENDING PRODUCT COMBINATIONS TESTS

Background

1. On 18 July 2018 the Government brought into effect a number of amendments to the Smart Energy Code (SEC) as well as Data Communications Company (DCC) and energy supply licence conditions. These changes adapt the regulatory framework for the purposes of enabling enrolment of SMETS1 meters in the DCC, subject to the Secretary of State's decisions on the provision by the DCC of SMETS1 services in respect of relevant SMETS1 meter cohorts.
2. As part of this set of regulatory changes, the concept of Device and User System Tests (DUST) was extended to SMETS1. These tests provide the ability to test devices against the DCC System, for Users to test their interface(s) with the DCC System, and for simultaneous testing of User Systems and Devices ("end-to-end tests").
3. We also introduced a new concept of SMETS1 Pending Product Combinations Testing (PPCT), which allows Users to test a later version of a Device Model(s) that comprises all or part of an existing entry on the SMETS1 Eligible Product Combinations (EPC). The purpose of these tests is to determine whether the DCC can successfully communicate with the new Device Model combination, and therefore whether it should be added to the EPC.
4. On 24 August the DCC published a consultation on a draft SMETS1 User Testing Services Approach Document (UTSAD), and on amendments to the Enduring Testing Approach Document (ETAD) and Common Test Scenarios

Document (CTSD). These documents set out in greater detail how it is proposed that SMETS1 DUST and PPCT will operate.

5. Section H14 (Testing Services) of the SEC states that from 31 August 2018 or any such later date as the Secretary of State may direct further to a recommendation from the DCC (following consultation with stakeholders):
 - Section H14.31 of the SEC shall apply in respect of SMETS1 devices, requiring the DCC provide SMETS1 DUST; and
 - Section H14.36A of the SEC shall apply, requiring the DCC to provide PPCT.

DCC consultation and recommendation

6. From 31 July 2018 to 15 August 2018 the DCC consulted on a recommendation to the Secretary of State that the date from which the DCC is required to provide SMETS1 PPCT and DUST is changed to 30 November 2018. Following consideration of stakeholder responses, the DCC published a recommendation to the Secretary of State on 20 August 2018¹ that the date should be changed to 30 November 2018.
7. Having considered the DCC's recommendation and the stakeholder views expressed in response to its consultation, BEIS acknowledges that the DCC will not be in a position to make SMETS1 PPCT and DUST testing services available from 31 August 2018. BEIS therefore accepts the DCC's recommendation that the date from which the DCC should be required to make these testing services available should be moved to 30 November 2018.
8. We note the DCC's suggestion that this revised date may need to be further amended as part of the finalisation of a revised SMETS1 Services Delivery Plan, which is being produced further to a Secretary of State direction issued pursuant to Condition 13 of the DCC Licence (LC13). We consider it important that the DCC's revised plan sets out a credible and evidence-based path to the delivery of its SMETS1 Service, and it is therefore right that the dates from which the DCC is able to make SMETS1 PPCT and DUST available should be given further consideration as part of the LC13 process.

¹https://www.smartdcc.co.uk/media/463334/recommendation_to_sos_on_proposed_date_change_for_ppct_dust.pdf

Direction

9. This direction is made for the purposes of the Smart Energy Code designated by the Secretary of State pursuant to the smart meter communication licences granted under the Electricity Act 1989 and the Gas Act 1986 (such code being the "SEC").
10. Words and expressions used in this direction shall be interpreted in accordance with Section A (Definitions and Interpretation) of the SEC.
11. Pursuant to Section H14.31 (Device and User System Tests) of the SEC, the Secretary of State hereby directs that Section H14.31 of the SEC shall apply in respect of SMETS1 Devices from 30 November 2018.
12. Pursuant to Section H14.36A (SMETS1 Pending Product Combinations Tests) of the SEC, the Secretary of State hereby directs that Section H14.36A of the SEC shall apply in respect of SMETS1 Devices from 30 November 2018.
13. This direction is also being notified to the SEC Administrator.

Yours faithfully,



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)