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Paper Reference:	**SECP_60_1409_19**
Action:	**For Decision**

SEC Releases Update

1. Purpose

The Authority (BEIS) has responded to the Panel's request to defer the implementation date for SECMP0023 'Correct Units of Measure for Uncontrolled Gas Flow Rate' . BEIS have requested a specific revised implementation date before a determination can be made.

This paper reviews the current situation with future SEC Releases and proposes a way forward for the Panel's agreement.

2. Deferral of the SECMP0023 implementation date

At the August 2018 Panel meeting[1] the Panel agreed to convert the June 2019 SEC Release into a SEC Documentation Release and to defer the implementation of SECMP0023 to a later release. Noting that there was still uncertainty over the scope of the November 2019 SEC Release, and it being likely that no other DCC Systems impacting Modifications will be approved in time for inclusion, the Panel decided not to defer SECMP0023 to the November 2019 Release but wait until greater certainty on the scope of forthcoming SEC Releases is achieved.

BEIS (as the Authority) has responded to the Panel's request. Whilst acknowledging the rational for the request, BEIS have stated that in order to make a decision to change the implementation date pursuant to SEC Section D10.5, the Authority requires a proposed new implementation date from the Panel and reasoning for such a date. The reasoning would need to cover how the issues the Panel has identified regarding the current date have been adequately addressed, and evidence that the benefits of delivery at the proposed later date would outweigh the implementation costs. The Authority's full letter can be found in Appendix A.

3. Current scope of the November 2019 SEC Release

Following the Panel's decision last month to extend the timetable for SECMP0015 'GPF timestamp for reading instantaneous Gas values' and request that SECMP0025 'Electricity Network Party Access to Load Switching Information' be sent back, it is now not possible to receive a decision to approve these modifications in time to include them in the November 2019 SEC Release. This is due to the 13-month lead times from the point of approval required by the DCC to implement these changes.

[1] Please see paper SECP_59_1008_15 for full details.

This means that the potential scope of the November 2019 SEC Release that would impact on DCC Systems is limited to SECMP0023 and SECMP0018 'Standard Electricity Distributor Configuration Settings' (noting that SECMP0018 has no impact on DCC Systems but will require a version uplift for the GB Companion Specification (GBCS)). This is the same scope that was proposed for the June 2019 SEC Release when the Panel elected to defer these changes to a later release to achieve cost-savings by implementing them alongside other modifications that impact the DCC Systems.

We consider it unlikely that the total costs to implement these two modifications in the November 2019 SEC Release would be lower than that quoted for implementing them in the June 2019 SEC Release. We therefore do not believe there to be merit in implementing these changes in the November 2019 SEC Release.

4. Potential scope of the June 2020 SEC Release

We believe several DCC System impacting modifications, subject to their development, currently have the potential to reach decisions in time for inclusion in the June 2020 SEC Release:

- SECMP0007 'Firmware updates to IHDs and PPMIDs'
- SECMP0010 'Introduction of triage arrangements for Communication Hubs'
- SECMP0013 'Smart meter device diagnostics and triage'
- SECMP0015 'GPF timestamp for reading instantaneous Gas values'
- SECMP0024 'Enduring Approach to Communication Hub Firmware Management'
- SECMP0025 'Electricity Network Party Access to Load Switching Information'
- SECMP0039 'Communication Hub returns notification mechanism for Other SEC Parties'
- SECMP0042 'Amendment to SMKI Services to provide DCC Users and/or SMKI Participants with Authorised Responsible Officer (ARO) Statistics and Information'

Please note that this list is based on the current situation and is subject to change over subsequent months as these and other modifications evolve.

5. Way forward

SECAS believes the most pragmatic approach would be to convert the November 2019 SEC Release into a SEC Documentation Release. This would close it to any Modification Proposals that would impact on DCC Systems, including SECMP0018 and SECMP0023. However, modifications that do not impact on DCC Systems could still be included.

This would mean that the June 2020 SEC Release would be the earliest release in which modifications that impact on DCC Systems could be included. Based on our above assessment, this is very likely to include a larger volume of change, which would make the overall release more cost-effective.

On this basis, we recommend to the Panel that SECMP0023 should be included in the June 2020 SEC Release on 25th June 2020. We would also target SECMP0018 for inclusion in this release.

Furthermore, following discussions with the Panel over recent months, we are in the process of developing the enduring SEC Releases process. By closing all 2019 SEC Releases to DCC System impacting modifications, we will be able to focus on developing, agreeing and implementing the end-

to-end process. Based on current timescales, we anticipate these changes could be implemented in the February 2019 SEC Release, four months before the first checkpoint (at 12 months before go-live) for the June 2020 SEC Release.

6. Recommendations

The Panel is requested to:

- **NOTE** the current scope of the November 2019 SEC Release and the potential scope of the June 2020 SEC Release;
- **AGREE** that the November 2019 SEC Release should be converted to a SEC Documentation Release; and
- **AGREE** to request a revised implementation date for SECMP0023 of 25th June 2020 as part of the June 2020 SEC Release from the Authority.

David Kemp

SECAS Team

7th September 2018