



The Authority (Ofgem), the SEC Panel, SEC Parties and other interested parties 25 October 2018

Dear Colleague,

### **SMART METERING IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME: SMART ENERGY CODE (SEC) CHANGES FOR RELEASE 2 GO LIVE**

1. On 1 October 2018 we issued a consultation on changes to the SEC related to Release 2 (which involves a number of DCC and SEC Party system-impacting changes, including those necessary to support dual band communications hubs (DBCH)). We consulted on the incorporation into the SEC of a revised DCC User Interface Services Schedule (UISS) and a revised Service Request Processing Document (SRPD). Consequential changes, including a change to Section A of the SEC and changes to the Technical Specification Applicability Tables (TSAT), were set out and the expiry of transitional variations relevant to Release 2 noted.
2. This letter is our response to the consultation and also contains an associated direction following confirmation of Release 2 go-live for 28 October 2018 (which is set out in the letter of today's date from the SRO of the Smart Metering Implementation Programme).

#### **Government Response to Consultation**

3. The consultation closed on 18 October 2018 and we received seven responses. Our consideration of the responses to the two questions is set out below.
  - Firstly, we sought views on the timing for the incorporation into the SEC of a revised UISS and SRPD for Release 2: re-designating v1.1 of UISS (**Annex A** of this letter) as Appendix E of the SEC; and v1.1 of SRPD (**Annex B** of this letter) as Appendix AB of the SEC. We also invited views on clarificatory changes included in the documents and on the inclusion of new definitions in Section A of the SEC (**Annex C** of this letter). There were no substantive comments on the proposed timing of the effective date for these changes as set out in the consultation.

- Secondly, the consultation also sought views on the timing for the incorporation into the SEC of a revised TSAT, Schedule 11 of the SEC (**Annex D** of this letter). The validity and cut-off for various Technical Specification dates contained in the revised TSAT were based on there being 12 months from Release 2 go-live for industry supply chains to be cleared of previous specification Devices.
  - A number of respondents questioned the 12-month period and argued that late delivery of DBCHs could delay the ability of suppliers to complete testing on sub GHz Devices, resulting in suppliers being unable to clear supply chains in time for the cut off. In response, there is no requirement being driven from the changes to the TSAT that requires suppliers to complete testing on sub GHz Devices in advance of rolling out with Release 2 single band 2.4GHz Devices. Suppliers are only required to transition their single band 2.4GHz supply chain to meet the TSAT requirements.
  - Our view remains that 12 months is an appropriate period and we expect energy suppliers to work to this date to deliver the benefits of the updated Technical Specifications that were incorporated into the SEC in February 2018. We will monitor energy supplier progress of in meeting their obligations in this regard.
4. Having duly considered the consultation responses, we have decided to proceed with the designation as set out in the direction below.

### **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 (such licences being the "**DCC Licence**") and the Smart Energy Code designated by the Secretary of State pursuant to the DCC Licence (such code being the "**SEC**").

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

### Re-designation of SEC Schedules & Subsidiary Documents, and consequential changes to Section A

- a) Pursuant to Condition 22 of the DCC Licence and Section X5 (Incorporation of Certain Documents into this Code) of the SEC, the Secretary of State directs that, with effect from 28 October 2018, the TS Applicability Tables previously designated and incorporated into the SEC as Schedule 11 of the SEC are hereby re-designated and incorporated in the form set out in Annex D of this direction.

- b) Pursuant to Condition 22 of the DCC Licence and Section X5 (Incorporation of Certain Documents into this Code) of the SEC, the Secretary of State directs that, with effect from 28 October 2018, the DCC User Interface Services Schedule, previously designated and incorporated into the SEC as Appendix E of the SEC is hereby re-designated and incorporated in the form set out in Annex A of this direction.
- c) Pursuant to Condition 22 of the DCC Licence and Section X5 (Incorporation of Certain Documents into this Code) of the SEC, the Secretary of State directs that, with effect from 28 October 2018, the Service Request Processing Document, previously designated and incorporated into the SEC as Appendix AB of the SEC is hereby re-designated and incorporated in the form set out in Annex B of this direction.
- d) Pursuant to Condition 22 of the DCC Licence and Section X5.6 (Supplementary Provisions) of the SEC, the Secretary of State directs that, with effect from 28 October 2018, Section A.1 (Definitions) of the SEC is hereby amended to include the definitions set out in Annex C of this direction.

For the avoidance of doubt such re-designation of the TS Applicability Tables, the DCC User Interface Services Schedule and the Service Request Processing Document shall be without prejudice to anything done under the DCC Licence or the SEC on or after these documents first being designated, or to the continuing effectiveness of anything done under these documents prior to their re-designation (which shall have effect as if done under the re-designated documents).

This direction is also being notified to the SEC Administrator and an updated version of the SEC to reflect these changes will be available on the SEC website in due course.

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)

**List of Annexes to this letter:**

- Annex A DCC User Interface Services Schedule (UISS) v1.1 for Release 2  
*[Provided as a separate document]*
- Annex B Service Request Processing Document (SRPD) v1.1 for Release 2  
*[Provided as a separate document]*
- Annex C Changes to Section A of the SEC
- Annex D Technical Specification Applicability Tables (TSAT)  
*[Provided as a separate document]*

## **ANNEX C**

### **Changes to Section A of the SEC as a consequence of the re-designation of UISS and SRPD**

<b>Sub GHz Alert</b>	has the meaning given to ‘Sub GHz Alert’ in the GB Companion Specification.
<b>Sub GHz Available Channels</b>	has the meaning given to ‘Sub GHz Available Channels’ in the GB Companion Specification.