

SMETS1 Consultation -Expiry Date Extension and Housekeeping

A SMETS1 consultation on housekeeping changes to the TMAD and extending the TMAD expiry date to 31 March 2024

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Table of Contents

1.	Introduction and Context	.3
2.	Extension to the TMAD Expiry Date	.3
3.	Housekeeping - Removal of Clause 3.14A	.3
4.	Housekeeping - Amendment to Clause 3.16	.4
5.	Next Steps	.4
6.	How to Respond	.5
7.	Attachments	.5

1. Introduction and Context

A number of energy suppliers have installed first generation smart devices (known as SMETS1 devices) in consumers' premises across Great Britain. The Data Communications Company (DCC) has designed a solution for the enrolment of SMETS1 devices into its network. Part of DCC's plan to deliver SMETS1 services involves a detailed approach for migrating SMETS1 Installations into DCC's systems.

The detailed technical and procedural requirements of the migration approach are set out in the SMETS1 Transition and Migration Approach Document (TMAD). The TMAD is Appendix AL of the Smart Energy Code¹ (SEC). The latest version of the SEC was published on 12 October 2022 as v64.0. In this document DCC proposes a range of changes to the TMAD in support of SMETS1 service delivery.

This consultation covers three changes to the TMAD and proposes that:

- 1. the existing expiry date in the TMAD is changed from 31 December 2022 to 31 March 2024;
- 2. Clause 3.14A of the TMAD is removed; and
- 3. the text and table in Clause 3.16 are amended to align to the current SEC.

This consultation also includes a proposal to re-designate changes to the TMAD arising from the Various 1 Part 2 Conclusion² that was issued on 31 October 2022.

2. Extension to the TMAD Expiry Date

Clause 1.3 of the TMAD sets out that the entire TMAD will cease to apply on 31 December 2022. It is proposed by DCC that the expiry date in Clause 1.3 is changed to be 31 March 2024. This extension to the expiry date is required given that Migration of SMETS1 Installations will not be materially complete by 31 December 2022 whilst the process for closure of a Migration service (as set out in TMAD) extends for a period beyond any Migration close, for example providing rights and obligations around undertaking audits as per Clause 7 of the TMAD. Some Energy Suppliers with SMETS1 Installations containing Active Meters have signalled to DCC an expected demand for Migration services through much of 2023. On this basis, and the need to build in for a period beyond any Migration close, the expiry date is proposed to move to 31 March 2024. DCC will of course be working with Energy Suppliers to support their enrolment of meters as soon as possible and will seek to close Migration services promptly in energy consumers best interests and when economically efficient to do so.

Housekeeping Q1

Do you agree with DCC's proposal to amend Clause 1.3 to extend the expiry of the TMAD until 31 March 2024? Do you have any detailed comments on the relevant changes to the legal drafting? Please provide a rationale for your views.

3. Housekeeping - Removal of Clause 3.14A

It is proposed that the variation provided by Clause 3.1A is removed from the TMAD as it is no longer required. This element is no longer required because Section G of the SEC was amended in July 2019 such that the TMAD variation provided by Clause 3.14A was included as an enduring

¹ The current version of the SEC is available from https://smartenergycodecompany.co.uk/the-smart-energy-code-2/ ² https://smartenergycodecompany.co.uk/the-smart-energy-code-2/ element in the SEC i.e. the TMAD variation provided by Clause 3.14A and the SEC are already aligned. This amendment to the TMAD is purely a housekeeping change.

Housekeeping Q2

Do you agree with DCC's proposal to remove Clause 3.14A from the TMAD? Do you have any detailed comments on the relevant changes to the legal drafting? Please provide a rationale for your views.

4. Housekeeping - Amendment to Clause 3.16

Clause 3.16 of the TMAD provides a variation to Section L3.18 of the SEC which is related to Organisation Certificates covering Migration of SMETS1 Installations. Since the TMAD was incorporated into the SEC, there have been subsequent changes to L3.18 in the SEC but the corresponding variation provided by Clause 3.16 was not updated. Changes are proposed to Clause 3.16 in order to restore alignment with L3.18 of the SEC thereby addressing the current misalignment. This amendment to the TMAD is purely a housekeeping change.

Housekeeping Q3

Do you agree with DCC's proposal to amend Clause 3.16 to provide alignment with L3.18 of the SEC? Do you have any detailed comments on the relevant changes to the legal drafting? Please provide a rationale for your views.

5. Next Steps

Following the closure of this consultation, DCC will take into account respondents' views, and, subject to the consultation responses received, submit to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) a conclusions report for the Secretary of State consistent with the regulatory requirements for amending the TMAD. DCC is aiming to provide a conclusions report to BEIS no later than 2 December 2022.

DCC has discussed the re-designation of the TMAD with BEIS and it is proposed that, subject to timely receipt of DCC's report, copies of relevant stakeholder responses to this consultation, and the outcome of the consultation exercise, BEIS will re-designate the TMAD on 9 December 2022 or as soon as reasonably practicable within one month. It is also planned that BEIS will re-designate the TMAD changes arising from the Various 1 Part 2 Conclusion that was issued on 31 October 2022.

In order to expedite the re-designation of the TMAD, DCC is also seeking views on behalf of BEIS on the proposed date for re-designation of the TMAD as well as the draft direction which is presented in Attachment 1 of this consultation document for stakeholder consideration.

It is important to note that should readiness to deliver some of these changes slip such that some changes can be deployed at different times to others (e.g. in the circumstances that there are elements of slippage on some but not all matters covered by this consultation), then rather than hold up deployment of all changes until the later of them are ready and thus delay the benefits of them, DCC may propose to BEIS instead that the various updates are made at different times to each other such that individual changes set out in this consultation document are capable of going live at separate times. In such circumstances it is proposed that BEIS could re-designate different changes to the documents so long as such designations occur within the one-month period. Should any changes need to occur outside this window, then a separate consultation on the designation date(s) would be required.

Housekeeping Q4

Do you agree with the proposed re-designation date of 9 December 2022 (or within one month thereafter) for updates to the TMAD within the scope of this consultation and also the changes from the Various 1 Part 2 conclusion?

6. How to Respond

Please provide responses in the attached template by 16:00 on 24 November 2022 to DCC at <u>consultations@smartdcc.co.uk</u>. This template may be submitted in PDF or similar format rather than Microsoft Word format if preferred.

Consultation responses may be published on our website <u>www.smartdcc.co.uk</u>. Please state clearly in writing whether you want all or any part, of your consultation to be treated as confidential. It would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. Please note that responses in their entirety (including any text marked confidential) may be made available to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority (the Authority). Information provided to BEIS or the Authority, including personal information, may be subject to publication or disclosure in accordance with the access to information legislation (primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 2018 and the Environmental Information we/they will take full account of your explanation (to the extent provided to them), but we/they cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded by us as a confidentiality request.

If you have any questions about the consultation, please contact DCC via <u>consultations@smartdcc.co.uk</u>.

7. Attachments

Attachment / Title

- 1. Draft Notification Text for TMAD
- 2. Response Template
- 3. TMAD v22.H Draft Redlined

Table 1 – Attachments

Attachment 1

This attachment contains the text that BEIS plans to use for direction of changes to the TMAD.

TMAD Draft Direction Text

This direction is made for the purposes of the smart meter communications licences granted 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.

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 [DD MM YYYY], the SMETS1 Transition and Migration Approach Document (TMAD) previously designated and incorporated into the SEC as Appendix AL is hereby re-designated and incorporated in the form set out in Annex [XX] to this direction.

For the avoidance of doubt such re-designation of the SMETS1 Transition and Migration Approach Document shall be without prejudice to anything done under the DCC Licence or the SEC on or after this document first being designated, or the continuing effectiveness of anything done in this document prior to its re-designation (which shall have effect as if done under the re-designated document).

This direction is also being notified to the SEC Administrator.