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## 1. Introduction and Context

- 1. The Smart Energy Code (SEC) is the agreement that defines the rights of parties involved in the management of smart metering in Great Britain. Changes to the SEC are managed via the SEC Modification Process and then implemented as part of a SEC Release. There are three scheduled SEC Releases a year: February, June and November, the latter two can impact DCC Systems.
- 2. Under SEC Section D10.18, DCC has an obligation to produce a SEC Release Testing Approach Document (TAD) which defines the approach to testing changes to DCC Systems arising from a SEC Release.
- 3. In October 2024 DCC <u>consulted</u> on the draft Testing Approach Document for the June 2025 SEC Release. The June 2025 SEC Release TAD consultation opened on 11 October 2024 and closed on 7 November 2024.
- 4. The draft June 2025 DCC TAD was published alongside the consultation document to satisfy the requirements set out in SEC Sections D10.18 D10.20.
- 5. This document is the conclusion to that consultation and sets out the points raised by respondents and received from the Testing Advisory Group (TAG). DCC presented an updated TAD and the consultation responses to the TAG on 27 November 2024. This has resulted in minor updates to clarify testing environments in version 2.0 of the June 2025 SEC Release TAD.

# 2. Analysis of Responses

- 6. DCC received two written responses to this consultation: One Large Supplier and the Testing Advisory Group (TAG).
- 7. DCC has analysed the feedback provided. This section sets out an overview of the responses received to this consultation and DCC's response.

### **Question 1**

8. DCC sought views on the approach and scope of the June 2025 SEC Release TAD.



Do you support the overall approach and scope of the draft June 2025 DCC Testing Approach Document? Please provide rationale for your views.

### Respondent views

- 9. DCC received two responses to this question.
- 10. Both responses were in favour of the overall approach and scope of the draft June 2025 DCC TAD. One respondent (Large Supplier) provided several suggestions and questions to support its response:
  - Suggestion 1: The DCC should update the TAD with a paragraph outlining its approach to recreating the certificate mismatch issue for testing, as this is something suppliers are unable to test
  - Suggestion 2: DCC should indicate the volumes of tests it will carry out for the mismatch scenario.

- Suggestion 3: DCC should confirm which mismatch devices will be used in production testing, and we propose prioritising where the SRV 6.24.2 fix does not work.
- Question 1: Does DCC acknowledge that the mismatch is a non-standard approach and not something Test Participants can do or are expected to do?
- Question 2: Will there be an opportunity for suppliers to submit meters they would like to be 'tested in production'?

#### **DCC** response

- 11. DCC thanks the respondents, and has provided its response to the Large Supplier's suggestions and questions below:
  - Suggestion 1: whilst we don't think it is appropriate to add our approach to recreating the certificate mismatch issue for testing in the TAD, we are happy to include it in the Test Traceability Matrix (TTM) in respect of the Data Service Provider (DSP).
  - Suggestion 2: the volumes of tests we will carry out for the mismatch scenario will be available in the heatmap which will be appended to the TAD when complete.
  - Suggestion 3: DCC can confirm that no 'production testing' will take place. Once CR5170 Phase 1 goes live, energy Suppliers can send Device details to DCC for resolution.
  - Question 1: Yes, DCC acknowledges that this is a non-standard scenario that is not possible for Test Participants to test in User Testing. DCC will test the scenario during System Integration Testing (SIT), therefore the functionality will have been verified prior to go-live.
  - Question 2: There will be no testing in production, but Suppliers can request any Device to be tested.
- 12. DCC advises that no amendments have been made to the TAD as a consequence of these suggestions and questions.

### **Question 2**

13. DCC also requested any further comments from respondents.

Q2

Do you have any other comments on the draft June 2025 DCC Testing Approach Document? Please provide details and rationale for your views.

#### Respondent views

- 14. DCC received two responses to this question.
- 15. The Large Supplier stated that they had no further comments, and the TAG requested that DCC responded to two queries. The TAG stated that the document is not clear on the environment being used for User Testing and requested that DCC clarifies in all instances which specific environment will be available to DCC Users for testing. The TAG also stated that the number of open issues was not in line with that of recent similar sized releases. The June 2025 TAD specifies 15 open severity three issues, whereas previous releases have three. The response advised that this should be brought in line with recent TAG-approved thresholds.

#### **DCC** response

16. DCC has uplifted the TAD to clearly reflect the correct testing environments available for User Testing. We are also working with our Service Providers to reduce the number of issues to align with the approved thresholds. This has been amended within Section 9.4 of the TAD document.

# 3. Summary of Drafting Changes

- 17. As confirmed within DCC's responses to questions 1 and 2, the following sections of the TAD have now been amended:
  - Section 3.3 UIT
  - Section 3.4 Path to Live
  - Section 5.4 Description of Test Phases
  - Section 6.3 Requirements and Focus Areas for User Integration Testing
  - Section 9.4 Testing Issues Threshold
- 18. A redlined version of TAD v1.0, published alongside this document can be used to identify the specific updates to each of these sections.

## 4. Conclusions

19. DCC is of the opinion that it has undertaken appropriate engagement and consultation with industry on the June 2025 TAD. Following review of the responses and subsequent TAG approval, the DCC has amended the document accordingly.

# 5. Next Steps

20. DCC will publish version 2.0 of the June 2025 SEC Release TAD and a redlined TAD against v1.0 together with this consultation conclusion document.

## 6. Attachments

Attachment 1: June 2025 SEC Release TAD v2.0

Attachment 2: June 2025 SEC Release TAD v2.0 redlined