

SMETS1 Conclusions - Unblocking Migrations 2

DCC Conclusions on changes to the Migration Error
Handling and Retry Strategy (MEHRS) to allow migration
of certain categories of SMETS1
Installations

Filename: CON_SMETS1_Unblocking2_Conclusion

Date: 26 August 2021

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Classification: DCC Public

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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 code (SEC) and the latest version of the SEC is v43.0 which was published on 30 July 2021. Clauses 8.8 to 8.10A of the TMAD covers the arrangements for initial development and subsequent change of the Migration Error Handling and Retry Strategy (MEHRS).

In December 2020, the Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) consulted¹ on changes to the TMAD to provide a framework to develop options for the Migration of SMETS1 Installations comprising Device Model Combinations (DMCs) which DCC consider currently blocked. In February 2021, BEIS concluded² on these changes, introducing Clauses 1.4 to 1.9 in the TMAD which provide a transparent process for promptly assessing SMETS1 Installations currently blocked for Migration.

On 28 July 2021, DCC consulted³ on changes to the MEHRS that will enable certain categories of currently blocked SMETS1 Installation to be Migrated. This document provides a response to that consultation consistent with the regulatory requirements for amending the MEHRS.

This document provides a response to these consultations consistent with the regulatory requirements related to the MEHRS set out in TMAD.

2. Stakeholder Engagement

This section details DCC's stakeholder engagement that has taken place in relation to the proposed revisions to the MEHRS.

Stakeholders were invited to respond to the consultation issued on 28 July 2021 by 16:00 on Friday 20 August 2021 using the separate response template that was provided. Via the consultation process, DCC sought views on proposals to amend the MEHRS to remove two checks related to the prepayment card for the MOC (Secure) cohort asking the question set out in the table below.

Unblocking 2 Q1

Do you agree with DCC's proposal to amend the MEHRS to remove the MA516 and MA517 checks to unblock migration for impacted SMETS1 Installations? Please provide a rationale for your views.

¹ The BEIS consultation is available via <https://smartenergycodecompany.co.uk/latest-news/secretary-of-state-direction-on-the-smets1-tmad-and-further-smets1-tmad-consultation/>

² The BEIS conclusion is available via <https://smartenergycodecompany.co.uk/latest-news/sec-v35-0-implemented-to-support-the-dcc-smets1-service/>

³ <https://www.smartdcc.co.uk/customer-engagement/smets1-consultation-unblocking-2/>

Table 1 – Consultation Question

3. Analysis of Responses

DCC received a written response from five respondents to question in the 28 July 2021 unblocking consultation on changes the MEHRS. None of the Respondent’s comments were marked confidential. DCC has analysed the feedback provided and views of stakeholders. Subject matter experts within DCC have reviewed each response. The remainder of this section sets out the respondents’ comments and DCC’s reply.

Respondent’s Answer to Q1	DCC’s Reply
Yes, we agree with the removal of these irrelevant checks.	Support noted.
<i>[THE RESPONDENT]</i> agrees with this proposal.	Support noted.
Agree with this. If the historic prepayment card information is wiped in the migration, then this should be changed to allow migration of these devices. It appears from the information provided that this poses no risks to the meters and their operating mode, so is a positive change allowing more migrations.	Support noted.
Yes we are in agreement with the proposal as we believe there is no other way to get these installations migrated.	Support noted.

Respondent's Answer to Q1	DCC's Reply
<p>Subject to the DCC providing sufficient and appropriate testing evidence to SEC TAG, [THE RESPONDENT] agrees with the changes proposed.</p> <p>We believe that the DCC must take all reasonable steps to accelerate delivery of other SMETS1 Unblocking solutions for other cohorts, given that it is evident SMSOs are already examining options to cease their SMETS1 services. The DCC's SMETS1 Unblocking capabilities will be critical to the enrolment of "hard to reach" installations, protecting services to energy consumers, but also ensuring that the SMETS1 E&A programme benefits are fully realised by the DCC and industry.</p>	<p>Support noted. As set out in the consultation document, this solution change is not a SMETS1 Uplift as there are no associated amendments to the Code; this matter is prescribed in Clause 21 of the SMETS1 SVTAD. The solution change is being progressed as a maintenance release with the appropriate process for such changes (being that DCC's internal Change Release Board (CRB) will assess the test results and determine whether to deploy the solution). Confirmation that the testing has concluded successfully and the CRB's deployment decision will then be reported to the TAG for information but will not be subject to TAG approval.</p> <p>DCC notes that the respondent considers that DCC's unblocking activities should be expedited. DCC is working hard to progress all such matters in a timely fashion.</p>

Table 2 – Responses Received

4. Summary of MEHRS Changes

Following the consultation process, there is a minor drafting change to the MEHRS related to the effective date. The consultation set out that DCC was planning for this minor solution change to be deployed on 14 September 2021 as part of a maintenance release. However, development of this solution change was delayed slightly so it will now be deployed on 12 October 2021 as part of the next available maintenance release. The effective date on the MEHRS has been amended according.

5. Conclusions and Next Steps

DCC is confident that the version of the MEHRS meets the requirements set out in Clause 8.8 of the TMAD and is fit for purpose.

DCC is of the view that it has met its obligations set out in Clause 8.8 of the TMAD having consulted in line with this Clause. In accordance with Clause 8.8 of the TMAD, DCC will publish the updated draft MEHRS with an effective date of 12 October 2021 along with the documents that have been published pursuant to that Clause.

In accordance with Clause 8.9 of TMAD, within 14 days of the publication of the draft MEHRS, any Supplier Party may refer the document to the Secretary of State, which should be sent to the following email address: smets1_appeals@beis.gov.uk.

6. Attachments

Attachment	Title
1.	MEHRS V6.0 – clean
2.	MEHRS V6.0 – delta against current version V5.0

Table 3 - Attachments