DCC Public

SEC Appendix [XX]

SEC Variation Testing Approach Document for the DCC Diagnostic Function

DCC Public

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1. Definitions and Interpretation

1.1. In this SEC Variation Testing Approach Document for the DCC Diagnostic Function (hereafter "DDF SVTAD"), except where the context otherwise requires, the expressions in the left-hand column within Table 1.1 shall have the meanings given to them in the right-hand column within Table 1.1. Where not defined in this DDF SVTAD, words beginning with a capital letter used in this document are defined in Section A of the SEC.

1.2. Where there are conflicts between this DDF SVTAD and the related DDF Testing Approach Document this DDF SVTAD shall take precedence.

1.3. Where obligations are expressed in respect of DCC Service Providers in this DDF SVTAD, or the DDF Testing Approach Document these shall be construed as obligations on the DCC. Where text is included in this DDF SVTAD, or the DDF Testing Approach document which does not explicitly place obligations on a Party, the Panel, or Testing Participant, these shall be construed as obligations on the DCC.

Table 1.1 DDF SVTAD Definitions

Term	Meaning
Completion Report	means a report that is produced setting out evidence demonstrating how the criteria for the completion of testing have been met.
DCC Diagnostic Function (DDF)	means the variations to the SEC that are planned to support the introduction of a function referred to as the "DCC Diagnostic Function" as published by the Secretary of State and/or the DCC from time to time.
Modified DCC Total System	means the DCC Total System as it will be modified following the introduction of the DDF.
TAG	means the Panel's Testing Advisory Group.
Testing Issue Thresholds	means the maximum number of extant Testing Issues that may be permitted at completion of a test phase.
DCC Diagnostic Function Testing Approach Document (DDF Testing Approach Document)	means a document produced pursuant to Clause 4.1.

2. General

2.1. This document is the SEC Variation Testing Approach Document for the DCC Diagnostic Function (hereafter "DDF SVTAD").

2.2. Section X11.7 of the Code requires that the DCC and each person other than the DCC that participates in (or is required to participate in) testing under a SEC Variation Testing Approach Document shall comply with the SEC Variation Testing Approach Document.

2.3. Section X11.8 of the Code specifies that Section H14 of the Code (Testing Services) and the Enduring Testing Approach Document shall apply in respect of testing under a SEC Variation Testing Approach Document as if such testing was a Testing Service under Section H14.34 (Modification Implementation Testing); and each participant in such testing shall be deemed to be a Testing Participant for such purposes.

2.4. This DDF SVTAD sets out:

(a) the framework for the testing that is required to be undertaken for the introduction of the DDF; and

(b) the arrangements that apply to the development of the DDF Testing Approach Document.

2.5. Testing undertaken pursuant to this DDF SVTAD shall be performed by the DCC and any other Party that participates in it in accordance with good industry practice.

2.6. The DCC shall not commence any tests in respect of the DDF in SIT until the DDF Testing Approach Document that sets out the approach to testing has been approved by the TAG.

2.7. Where the DDF Testing Approach Document produced pursuant to Clause 4.1 does not set out the approach to the entirety of testing that will be undertaken during the test phase to which the document relates (SIT) in respect of the DDF, this shall be clearly stated in the DDF Testing Approach Document. The DCC shall subsequently seek TAG approval of an updated DDF Testing Approach Document as and when the remaining approach to testing is planned. As set out in Clause 2.6, the DCC shall not commence any tests in SIT without the DDF Testing Approach Document setting out the approach to those tests having been agreed pursuant to Clause 4.2.

Timetable for Testing

2.8. Test phases shall be commenced in the timescales that are necessary to facilitate testing in accordance with DCC's plans for delivery of the DDF.

DDF Testing Objective

2.9. The objective of testing undertaken pursuant to this DDF SVTAD (the "DDF Testing Objective") is to demonstrate that the DCC and the component parts of the Modified DCC Total System interoperate with Smart Metering Systems and otherwise operate, in each case to the extent necessary, for the DCC to comply with the relevant requirements that will exist in the SEC that pertain to the DDF.

DDF Entry Criteria

2.10. The fulfilment of the following Entry Criteria is required to permit entry into SIT in respect of the DDF:

(a) test plan finalised by the DCC;

(b) all relevant Testing Approach Document approved by the TAG;

(c) Test Completion Certificates for any precursor test phase issued;

(d) test specification prepared, with traceability between relevant requirements and test specifications established and maintained;

(e) confirmation that the required test laboratories, Devices, tools, stubs, environments, and data are in place, secure and are ready for testing; and

(f) an approval to proceed certificate for the test phase has been issued by the DCC

3. Modification of the DDF SVTAD

3.1. This DDF SVTAD:

(a) shall be modified by the DCC in accordance with any direction to do so made by the Secretary of State. The DCC shall consult with Parties concerning any proposed modification to those documents in accordance with any direction to do so made by the Secretary of State;

(b) may be modified by the DCC following consultation with Parties and other relevant persons, the TAG, the Authority, and the Secretary of State, provided that:

i. prior to making any such modification, the DCC must present to the Secretary of State a summary of the consultation responses received and an explanation of how the DCC has taken them into account; and

ii. it may not be modified to the extent that the Secretary of State directs otherwise;

(a) may be modified by DCC without consultation where the modification is of a minor typographical nature, or where the modification does not have any material effect on the rights or obligations of SEC Parties or any other person who is entitled to undertake testing in accordance with this document.

4. DDF Testing Approach Document

4.1. The DCC shall prepare a draft DDF Testing Approach Document, which shall include the approach to testing for the DDF including:

(a) the proposed amendments to this Code that pertain to the testing, an explanation of the associated changes to the Modified DCC Total System, and the testing objective;

(b) the scope of the DDF;

(c) the principles and approach to apply to SIT;

(d) the testing environments to be used;

(e) the requirements (if any) for security testing;

(f) the requirements (if any) for system capacity testing;

(g) the process for resolving Testing Issues, the applicable Testing Issue Thresholds for use in SIT completion and the process for excluding Testing Issues;

(h) the exit criteria for testing to complete successfully;

(i) any perceived risks associated with the approach to testing and the proposed mitigations;

(j) the approach to providing for assurance of the testing undertaken; and

(k) matters to be included in the DDF Testing Completion Report (to be prepared pursuant to Clause 5).

4.2. The DCC shall submit the draft of the DDF Testing Approach Document to the TAG for review (and such submission by the DCC and review by the TAG may take place prior to this Clause 4.2 coming into effect); and:

(a) Where the TAG and the DCC can reach an agreement, the relevant draft DDF Testing Approach Document shall be updated by the DCC as necessary and deemed to be final; or

(b) where the TAG and the DCC cannot reach an agreement, the matters of disagreement shall be referred by the DCC to the Secretary of State for determination. The Secretary of State's decision on such matters shall be final and binding for the purposes of this Code and the relevant draft DDF Testing Approach Document shall be updated by the DCC as necessary and deemed to be final.

4.3. The DCC shall comply with the DDF Testing Approach Document.

4.4. Revisions to the DDF Testing Approach Document finalised pursuant to Clause 4.2:

(a) may, from time to time, be submitted by the DCC to the TAG for agreement in accordance with the provisions of Clause 4.2, and the provisions of Clause 4.2 shall apply (again) to the revised version of the document; or

(b) shall be made by the DCC in accordance with any direction to do so issued by the Secretary of State. The DCC shall consult with TAG concerning any such proposed revision in accordance with any direction to do so issued by the Secretary of State.

4.5. The DCC may at its discretion choose to test against devices and if so, may at its discretion select the devices to test against.

5. Test Completion

5.1. Completion of testing for SIT in respect of the DDF shall only complete when the Panel determines that the exit criteria for completion as set out in the relevant Testing Approach Document have been met.

5.2. When the DCC considers that SIT completion ought to occur, the DCC shall prepare a Completion Report as provided for in the DDF Testing Approach Document. The DCC shall:

(a) notify the Secretary of State, the Authority, the Panel, TAG and the Parties that the DCC considers that SIT has been completed in respect of the DDF;

(b) provide the Authority, the Panel, TAG, and the Secretary of State with copies of the Completion Report, and a list of the sections of such report that the DCC considers should be redacted prior to publication; and

(c) review the supporting documentation and evidence with regards to the relevant Exit Criteria with the TAG.

5.3. The Panel shall confirm the completion of SIT in respect of the DDF (as the case may be) or shall highlight where it believes the Exit Criteria have not been met.

5.4. Where the Panel confirms the completion of SIT (subject to the Panel and the DCC reaching an agreement regarding resolution of any issues raised by the Panel) the Completion Report shall be updated by the DCC as necessary and deemed to be final.

5.5. Where the Panel declines to confirm the completion of SIT, the DCC shall update the Completion Report to reflect resolution of any issues where the DCC and the Panel reached an agreement, and the DCC shall then either:

(a) refer the matters where the Panel and the DCC are in disagreement to the Secretary of State for determination; or

(b) continue with testing (and Clause 5.2 onwards shall apply again).

5.6. Where a referral has been made by the DCC pursuant to Clause 5.5 (a) the determination of the Secretary of State shall be final and binding for the purposes of this Code as follows:

(a) where the Secretary of State agrees that SIT is complete, the relevant Completion Report shall be updated by the DCC as necessary and shall be deemed to be final; or

(b) where the Secretary of State disagrees that SIT is complete, the DCC shall continue with testing (and Clause 5.2 onwards shall apply again).

5.7. The DCC shall publish the final Completion Report for SIT, which shall be anonymised and redacted where directed by the Panel, on the DCC Website. The DCC shall notify the Panel, the Secretary of State, the Authority, and the SEC Parties of the publication of the report.