B   ACCESSION

B1.   ACCESSION

Eligibility for Admission

B1.1   Any person who applies to be admitted as a Party (an **Applicant**) shall be entitled to be admitted as a Party, subject to and in accordance with the provisions of this Section B1.

B1.2   An Applicant may not be admitted as a Party if:

(a)   it is already a Party; or

(b)   it was expelled from this Code in accordance with Section M8 (Suspension, Expulsion and Withdrawal) within the 12 months preceding the date of its application (or such shorter period as the Panel may determine from time to time).

Application Form and Guidance

B1.3   The Code Administrator shall create an Application Form, and publish such form on the Website.

B1.4   The Code Administrator shall establish and publish on the Website a guide for Applicants describing, and providing guidance in respect of, the process set out in this Section B1 (the **Application Guidance**).

Application Fee

B1.5   The Panel shall determine (and publish on the Website) a fee from time to time (the **Application Fee**) to be payable by Applicants to SECCo. The Panel shall set the Application Fee at a level intended to recover the reasonable costs incurred by or on behalf of the Panel (including amounts payable to the Code Administrator) in administering the process set out in this Section B1.

B1.6   The Code Administrator shall include within the Application Guidance details of the methods by which the Application Fee may be paid.

Accession Process

B1.7   An Applicant shall submit to the Code Administrator a duly completed Application Form (together with any supporting documents required by that form), and the Application Fee (by a method of payment provided for in the Application Guidance).

B1.8   As soon as reasonably practicable following receipt of an Application Form and the Application Fee from an Applicant, the Code Administrator shall:

(a)   notify the Applicant if it is ineligible to be admitted as a Party in accordance with Section B1.2;

(b)   where the Applicant is not ineligible, check that the Application Form has been duly completed and that any supporting documentation requested has been provided, and notify the Applicant of any omissions; and

(c)   where there are no such omissions, notify the Applicant and the Panel that the Applicant is to be admitted as a Party subject to execution of an Accession Agreement.

Accession Agreement

B1.9   Where an Applicant is to be admitted as a Party in accordance with Section B1.8(c), the Code Administrator shall prepare two counterparts of the Accession Agreement for the Applicant (in substantially the form of the Specimen Accession Agreement), and send them to the Applicant.

B1.10   An Applicant that wishes to proceed with its accession to this Code should sign (but not date) both counterparts of the Accession Agreement, and return them to the Code Administrator.

B1.11   Upon return to the Code Administrator of the two counterparts of the Accession Agreement as envisaged by Section B1.10, the Panel shall procure that (as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter) SECCo:

(a)   signs each counterpart on behalf of itself and all the Parties (as it is authorised to do under Section B1.14); and

(b)   dates each counterpart with the date of such execution.

B1.12   The Code Administrator shall return one signed and dated counterpart of the Accession Agreement to the Applicant, and retain the other counterpart for the Panel's records.

Accession

B1.13   An Applicant will accede to this Code and become a Party with effect from the date of its executed Accession Agreement. The Code Administrator shall give notice of each Applicant's accession to the Applicant, to each other Party and to the Authority. Such notice will confirm the Applicant's Party Details.

SECCo Authority to enter into Accession Agreements

B1.14   Subject to and in accordance with this Section B1, each Party hereby irrevocably and unconditionally authorises SECCo to execute and deliver, on behalf of such Party, any and all Accession Agreements that are substantially in the form of the Specimen Accession Agreement and that have been signed by an Applicant.

Disputes Regarding Admission

B1.15   Where an Applicant disagrees with any decision of the Code Administrator pursuant to Section B1.8, the Applicant may refer the matter to the Panel for determination.

B1.16   Where an Applicant disagrees with any decision of the Panel made pursuant to Section B1.15, the Applicant may refer the matter to the Authority for its determination, which shall be final and binding for the purposes of this Code.

Party Signifiers

B1.17   On an Applicant acceding to this Code and becoming a Party, the Panel shall as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter issue to it a Party Signifier.

B1.18   The Code Administrator shall notify the DCC of each Party Signifier issued to a Party in accordance with Section B1.17.

RDP Signifiers

B1.19   The Panel shall issue to a Registration Data Provider (other than a Gas Network Party or Electricity Network Party which is deemed to be an RDP, acting in its capacity as such) an RDP Signifier:

   (a)   as soon as reasonably practicable after receipt of a request from that RDP for it to do so; or

   (b)   in any event prior to issuing an RDP ID, following receipt of an application from that RDP for it to do so.

B1.20   The Code Administrator shall notify the DCC of each RDP Signifier issued to an RDP in accordance with Section B1.19.

Market Participant Identifiers

B1.21   The following shall apply in respect of the Market Participant Identifiers:

   (a)   the Panel shall, as soon as reasonably practicable after a person becomes a Party, notify the DCC of the Market Participant Identifiers (if any) by which such person is identified under the UNC and/or BSC, as set out in the Party Details contained in the relevant Accession Agreement;

   (b)   the Panel shall, as soon as reasonably practicable after a Party notifies any change or addition to such unique identifiers under Section M6 (Party Details), or the Panel otherwise becoming aware of any such change or addition, notify the DCC of such change or addition; and

   (c)   the DCC shall use the information provided to it under this Section B1.21 to interpret the Registration Data and identify eligibility for Services; subject to Section L16.9 (Supplier of Last Resort).

SECCo

B1.22   The provisions of Sections B1.17 and B1.18 (Party Signifiers) shall apply to SECCo as if it was a Party and as if it had been an Applicant.

B2.   DCC, USER AND RDP IDENTIFIERS

Panel: Duty to Obtain MA-S Registry Entries

B2.1   The Panel shall obtain one or more MA-S Registry Entries to the extent necessary for the purpose of establishing and issuing EUI-64 Compliant identifiers for use as User IDs, RDP IDs and/or DCC IDs in accordance with the provisions of this Section B2.

ID Allocation Procedure

B2.2   The Panel shall develop and maintain a document to be known as the "**ID Allocation Procedure**", which shall:

(a) make provision for the Panel to establish and issue Party and RDP Signifiers, each of which must be unique under this Code but which need not be EUI-64 Compliant;

(b) make provision for the Panel to establish EUI-64 Compliant identifiers by the concatenation of:

(i) the assigned value of an MA-S Registry Entry obtained by it; and

(ii) a unique extension identifier created by it;

(c) describe the numbering convention to be used by the Panel for the purpose of creating those unique extension identifiers;

(d) set out the application procedure to be followed by any Party which wishes to be issued with an EUI-64 Compliant identifier for use as a User ID or DCC ID, or by any RDP which wishes to be issued with an EUI-64 Compliant identifier for use as an RDP ID; and

(e) set out the procedure to be followed by the Panel in issuing an EUI-64 Compliant identifier to any Party or RDP for such purposes.

B2.3 In developing the ID Allocation Procedure, the Panel shall act in conjunction with the DCC and such other Parties and RDPs as have indicated a wish to be involved, and shall consult with and have regard to the views of all Parties and RDPs.

B2.4 The Panel shall keep the ID Allocation Procedure under review from time to time, and in particular when requested to do so by any Party or RDP, in order to ensure that it remains fit for purpose. Before making any change to the ID Allocation Procedure the Panel shall consult with and have regard to the views of all Parties and RDPs.

Issue of DCC, User and RDP IDs

B2.5 Where:

(a) the DCC wishes to be issued with an EUI-64 Compliant identifier for use as a DCC ID;

(b) another Party wishes to be issued with an EUI-64 Compliant identifier for use as a User ID; or

(c) an RDP wishes to be issued with an EUI-64 Compliant identifier for use as an RDP ID,

it shall, in accordance with the provisions of the ID Allocation Procedure, apply to the Panel for the issue of that identifier.

B2.6 No Party or RDP may apply to the Panel for the issue of an EUI-64 Compliant identifier other than for one of the purposes specified in Section B2.5.

B2.7 On receiving an application from a Party or RDP in accordance with Section B2.5, the Panel shall issue an EUI-64 Compliant identifier in accordance with the provisions of the ID Allocation Procedure.

Issue of Party and RDP Signifiers

B2.8 The Panel shall issue Party and RDP Signifiers to the Code Administrator from time to time, in accordance with the provisions of the ID Allocation Procedure, for their allocation by the Code

Administrator to new Parties pursuant to Section B1.17 (Party Signifiers) and to RDPs pursuant to Section B1.19 (RDP Signifiers).

Record of Signifiers and IDs Issued

B2.9 The Panel shall:

(a) maintain an up to date record of the Party and RDP Signifiers and the EUI-64 Compliant identifiers issued by it pursuant to this Section B2 (and, where applicable, the mapping between them), and make that record available to all Parties and RDPs; and

(b) notify the DCC of any EUI-64 Compliant identifier that it has issued to:

(i) a Party for use as a User ID and the corresponding Party Signifier of that Party; or

(ii) an RDP for use as an RDP ID and the corresponding RDP Signifier of that RDP.

Network Party Subscriber Obligation

B2.10 Each Electricity Network Party shall, as soon as reasonably practicable after its accession to this Code, ensure that it becomes a Subscriber for those Organisation Certificates which pertain to it and that are required by Responsible Suppliers for the purposes of complying with their obligations under Clause 5 (Post-Commissioning Obligations in Relation to SMETS2+ Devices) and Clause 6 (Post Commissioning Obligations in Relation to SMETS1 Devices) of the Inventory Enrolment and Decommissioning Procedures.

B2.11 No Gas Network Party shall become a Subscriber for Organisation Certificates unless it also intends to become a User.