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Subject: EH/793/DA - Representation Pack 08/11/07

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Dear Colleague,

The following communication invites representations on the attached implementation summaries. These changes were raised and discussed at the UKLink Committee meeting on the 8th November 2007. If you have any questions please contact myself or the individual project managers identified in each notice.

EH/793/DA - 1 .UK Link Reference: 13829 - DN Interruption Reform
EH/793/DA - 2. UK Link Reference 13935 - Limitation of restricted Billing Period
EH/793/DA - 3. UK Link Reference 13284 - Issue of Supporting Invoice documentation via IX
EH/793/DA - 4. Changes to the Ad Hoc Invoicing Process for User Pays Type I Services

<<1. UK Link Reference: 13829 - DN Interruption Reform>> <<2. UK Link Reference 13935 - Limitation of restricted Billing Period>> <<3. UKL 13284 - Issue of Supporting Invoice documentation via IX>> <<4. Changes to the Ad Hoc Invoicing Process for User Pays Type I Services>>

User representations are invited, using the attached template, by the 23 November 2007.

Regards

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1. UK Link Reference: 13829 - DN Interruption Reform

At the time of defining the implementation date for DN Interruption Reform (DNI) there was an additional proposal put forward by Distribution Networks to bring the auction timescales forward by one month. The suggested date of DNI implementation, 23rd February 2008 took account of the proposal being approved, however the members at the August UK Link Committee rejected the proposal. In light of this decision it has been possible to adjust the DNI implementation date to 29th March 2008.

There have also been some minor formatting changes to the description fields of the attached file formats and a change to the field length of the Tranche_price field in order to simplify the bidding process so shippers can place bids at pence, per kWh, per day.

The first issue date of the files attached below is from 2nd June 2008. The exceptions are the .EPS format which will be sent on 1st April 2008 and the .PIR file that is sent on 1st May 2008. Please note that the .PIR file is not attached as there is no formatting change.

The revised implementation date was discussed yesterday's UK Link Committee and has no impact on the dates that the file formats are to be received. If you wish to add a comment on the implementation date or the file format changes please send your comments by 23rd November 2007.

Regards

Andy Earnshaw
Project Leader

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2. UK Link Reference 13935 - Limitation of restricted Billing Period

History / Change Objectives:

Currently gas transportation invoices and energy balancing invoices can cover any period from 1 February 1998 to last month. Regularly invoices are produced for adjustments and reconciliations covering this entire period or a substantial portion of it causing xoserve and Shippers complex calculation and validation. The complexity arises from the large amount of data held, detailed calculations and changes to the charging rules over the years.

Whereas the gas industry currently works to a restricted billing period, as the earliest date invoices can include is 1 February 1998, it is intended to bring forward this back stop date in order to lower risk faced by the market participants, thus reduce the amount of data the industry is required to retain. The primary objective of the change is therefore to bring xoserve systems into line with the provisions of UNC Modification 0152V.

Impact on UK Link:

A solution to meet these requirements is currently in an analysis/design stage within xoserve which involves operational changes to UK Link and non UK Link systems. This change is not expected to impact file formats, and will use the existing 'backstop' functionality. The proposed implementation date is 1 April 2008 as detailed in the UN Modification. Following implementation the backstop date will be set to 1 April 2004.

User representations are invited on this matter, in particular the implementation timescales given that this is within a UKLink release, by 23/11/07. In the meantime, should you wish to discuss this further then please contact the Project Manager Bob Marshall on 0121 623 2757.

Regards,

Julie Smart
Project Officer - Service Development
Business Programme Management
xoserve

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3. UKL 13284 - Issue of Supporting Invoice documentation via IX

Following the implementation of the IX Adjustment backup files for the ADI Adhoc invoice, xoserve would like to advise that a discrepancy between the data issued via IX and and the file format definition published for the .BCD Backup Detail and .OOA Adjustment Detail files has been discovered. The discrepancy affects all fields detailed below in which a date is populated:

CNF_EFFECTIVE_DATE
CNF_END_DATE
ADJ_START_DATE
ADJ_END_DATE
START_CEF_DATE

START_READ_DATE
END_READ_DATE
VAR_START_DATE
VAR_END_DATE

The actual format of data being issued for all of the date fields listed above, for both .BCD and .OOA data files, is 11 characters, DD-MMM-YYYY e.g. 01-Mar-2007. xoserve have identified two options to rectify this situation and are inviting comments from Committee members on the preferred option to resolve the discrepancy.

Option 1: The file format definition document is amended to reflect that the field length will be 11 characters long, DD-MMM-YYYY e.g. 01-Mar-2007

Option 2: xoserve make changes to it's systems to issue the data in the files as 10 character long date formats, DD-MM-YYYY e.g. 01/03/2007

Please send your comments and preferred option for resolution on the template to the e-mail box account: .Box.UKLINK.Manual by the 23rd November 2007.

Kind regards

Debi Jones

Projects Officer

xoserve

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Changes to the Ad Hoc Invoicing Process for User Pays Type I Services

With the proposed introduction of User Pays on 1st April 2008, a set of existing ASA service lines will be defined as Agency User Pays Services and will be treated as Excluded Services when determining revenue through Transportation charges. As a result, where such services are described in the UNC – referred to within the User Pays Implementation Group discussions as “Type I” - these services will be invoiced under specific charge types using the Ad Hoc Invoicing mechanism.

Although analysis is still being completed, it is currently the intention to utilise the existing ADN invoice type to provide these charges to Users. This invoice is currently used to provide the Must Reads charges on behalf of Transporters. New Charge Types will need to be introduced for each of the Type I services. The following charge types are proposed:

N28 Shipper Agreed Reads Credit
N29 Shipper Agreed Reads Debit
N30 User Admission Charges Credit
N31 User Admission Charges Debit
N32 Must Reads Credit
N33 Must Reads Debit

The UNC Related Document entitled "Operational Rules Governing the Supply of Invoice Charges via the Adhoc Process" acknowledges that the introduction of a new invoice type requires consultation and approval through the UKLink Committee and would be subject to the notification timescales associated with the consultation process. However, this same document also states that where the change is the introduction of a new charge type, without amendment of existing file formats, that a period of only one month's notice need be observed.

Industry discussion regarding these User Pays services is still in progress, and the invoicing process is due for discussion at the User Pays Implementation Group on 19th November. It is currently expected that the first invoice will be issued in May 2008. Should the above charge types be subject to change following further analysis, and industry discussion, these will be notified to the UKLink Committee and xoserve Billing Contacts distribution list observing the one month minimum notice period prior to the first invoice issue.

Users representations are invited upon this subject by 23rd November 2007, in particular the proposed solution for the use of the existing ad hoc invoice type ADN, and introduction of the new charge types.

Regards

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