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Distribution List Not Shown
Subject: CRE File Format Proposed Changes

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Good Afternoon,

Kate Potts raised an issue in the last UK Link meeting regarding a change we are proposing to the CRE file format. Could the below brief regarding this proposal please be circulated to your UK Link distribution list?

Currently the CRE file is set up in such a way which makes it a very manual task to validate and load into our system. This is due to the fact that the various lines (J83 – Invoice Summary, J80 – LMN Detail and J81 – LMN Summary) are difficult to check against each other due to lack of detail on the J80 and J81 lines. It is currently also impossible to assign an invoice number per J80 and J81 invoice line as the GRE, NTS and LDZ charges all appear on the same line but potentially relate to 3 different invoices.

In the summer of 2007 a change was put through to update the CEP file format as this previously had the same issues as the CRE file. The changes to the CEP file included adding additional invoice items (LMN AQ, EUC and Invoice Number) to the D38 line. This entailed splitting up the charges on that line so that an additional line was put in place for each LMN, one showing the NTS charges and another the LDZ charges (unless the LMN was within a National Grid owned LDZ and both LDZ and NTS charges are issued on the same invoice). Please see attached spreadsheet showing the current CEP D38 line layout on the "Changed CEP file format" tab.

At the time of the change to the CEP file very few, if any, CRE files had been received by shippers and so the changes needed to this file were not highlighted along with the changes to the CEP file as the issues weren't known to the industry.

So, what we are proposing is that a similar change, as was made to the CEP file last year, is now made to the CRE file as well.

The CRE file does have a different layout than the CEP file as it contains 3 main line types rather than the 2 on the CEP file and the changes we are proposing is to preferably change both the J80 and J81 line.

As with the CEP file we are proposing that the GRE, NTS and LDZ charges are split out so that there is a separate row for each charge per LMN on the J81 line, and per invoice day on the J80 line.

Also, as on the CEP file, we are proposing that two more invoice items are added to the J81 line (LMN AQ and Invoice Number) and that the same two items are also added to the J80 line along with the LDZ.

Please see the attached spreadsheet on the "Proposed CRE file changes" tab to see what the proposed change would look like for both invoice lines.

We do realise that the changes would triple the file size with the added rows and so if this will be an issue to transporters or other shippers we would also accept to just have the changes put through on the J81 lines.

<<Proposed CRE File Change.xls>>

We look forward to your questions and comments regarding this proposal.

Kind Regards

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- Proposed CRE File Change.xls