

Requirement Statement: Acceptance of Failed Readings after AQ Correction

1. Summary

1.1 This paper seeks to define the requirements for UKLP Change Request 202 - Acceptance of Failed Readings after AQ Correction. This document shall be used to specify requirements for design of the solution. Target release is R2.

2. Background

2.1 Following Project Nexus Implementation Date readings submitted to the CDSP are subject to the tolerance validation specified within the Uniform Network Code Validation Rules (UNCVR).

2.2 Where a reading fails the Inner Tolerance Shipper Users may, where the interface file format allows, override this tolerance failure. The RGMA datasets do not have the capability to provide this override flag, therefore this validation is not applied to JOB and UPD transactions.

2.3 Where the reading fails an Outer Tolerance these readings will be rejected by the UK Link system. This validation is also referred to as the 'Market Breaker Tolerance'. This validation applies to all readings received via all interfaces – i.e.:

2.3.1 Class 1 Readings – DMSP to CDSP received via the DLC file -

2.3.2 Class 2 Readings – Shipper User to CDSP received via the UDR file

2.3.3 Class 3 Readings - Shipper User to CDSP received via the UBR file

2.3.4 Class 4 Readings - Shipper User to CDSP received via the UMR file – U01 record

2.3.5 Readings provided with Meter Information Notifications via the JOB file – Shipper User to CDSP - READG dataset

2.3.6 Readings provided with Meter Information Update Notifications via the UPD file – Shipper User to CDSP – READG dataset

2.3.7 Must Reads and Prime & Sub class 4 reading provided by appointed Meter Reading Agency]

2.4 Where a Shipper User considers that a reading failing the Outer Tolerance is Valid, other than for the tolerance failure, then they may submit an AQ Correction. UNC (G 1.6.22) stipulates that this Rejected Meter Reading must be submitted to the CDSP¹.

2.5 Requirements were specified in Business Requirement Documents (BRDs) with relation to the AQ to be used for the purpose of reading validation. The requirement in the Settlement BRD (v5.0 dated 10th March 2017 – 5.15.7) states that:

5.15.7 The AQ/SOQ used to validate the read will be the 'live' AQ/SOQ effective on the date of the read.

Subsequent to the baselining of the BRD it was identified that in the circumstances where the UK Link User was unable to get the reading accepted due to a failure of the Outer Tolerance then the User would need to amend the AQ prior to resubmission of the reading. In these circumstances the validation needs to use the Corrected AQ when considering the resubmitted reading, rather than the AQ that was prevailing at the reading date.

2.6 Where the User is confident that the reading is correct, they may submit an AQ Correction in order to enable the reading to be accepted on re-submission. In such circumstances Users should submit an AQ Correction with a REQUEST_REASON of '4' – Tolerance Change. In order for such an AQ Correction to be accepted the reading must be recorded in the UK Link system as a rejected reading.

2.7 AQ Corrections, once accepted, will become effective from the 1st of the following calendar month. At least 15 Supply Point System Business Days notice must be provided (UNC G 1.6.27(a)).

2.8 UNC (M 5.9.2) defined the submission deadline for Class 4 meter readings:

¹ A number of UK Link Users have configured their systems so as to not submit the reading where it has failed the Outer Tolerance. Manual workaround 13309 has set out the approach that such Users need to take to perform an AQ Correction.

A Meter Reading in respect of a Class 4 Supply Meter is not Valid unless the Read Date is:

(a) in the case of a Monthly Read Meter, not less than 7 Days;

(b) in the case of an Annual Read Meter at a Larger Supply Meter Point, not less than 14 Days,

(c) in the case of an Annual Read Meter at a Smaller Supply Meter Point, not less than 25 Days,

(d) after the Read Date of the preceding Valid Meter Read;

2.9 UNC (M 5.9.4(b)) also defines that readings must be provided by 25 days, and M 5.9.5 states that *the CDSP will not accept any Meter Readings in respect of which the requirement in paragraph 5.9.4(b) is not complied with*

2.10 For the remaining Classes the submission deadline is as follows:

2.10.1 Actual Readings for Class 1 and 2 must be received by D+1, and no later than Exit Close Out on D+5 calendar days, where D is the gas flow date. (M5.6, 5.7) for the purpose of allocation.

2.10.2 Batched Readings for Class 3 must be received by "*not later than the 10th (calendar) Day of month M +1*" (M5.8.4)

3. Requirements

3.1 It is assumed that the closeout criteria for Class 1, 2 and 3 meter points will remain therefore any readings obtained, but that failed the Outer Tolerance check, will not be able to be resubmitted. Users may perform a Consumption Adjustment where any reading information is incorrect after the Exit Closeout Date. Such consumption adjustments are also subject to meter reading tolerance, so correction of AQ would be necessary prior to Consumption Adjustment submission.

3.2 The scope of this change is proposed to be confined to scenarios where on the date of the AQ Correction AND the reading date the Supply Meter Points was Class 4.

3.3 This change has been raised in order for the Shipper User to resubmit the meter reading and to have this accepted following an AQ Correction. The AQ Correction process is not considered within the scope of the change.

3.4 Once a Shipper User has been notified of the successful AQ Correction then the User must be able to resubmit the meter reading and this be accepted.

3.5 The meter reading submission deadline (M 5.9.2 and 5.9.4) will have been passed for the majority of such readings, although conceivably it is possible that an Annually Read SSP Supply Meter Point could have its AQ Correction and the reading submitted within this timescale it would be unlikely that this would be the case. As such, the submission validation would need to be suspended in the circumstances that:

3.5.1 A meter reading has previously been rejected for failing the Outer Tolerance Validation; and

3.5.2 The AQ Correction has been resubmitted citing this meter reading as being the reason for rejection; and

3.5.3 The meter reading is resubmitted within [2 months] of the AQ Correction becoming effective.

3.6 In no other circumstances will a reading outside of the meter reading submission deadline be accepted.

3.7 In such circumstances the prevailing AQ at the reading date should not be used and the AQ effective as a result of the AQ Correction should be used.

3.8 Readings received on the following files will require this amended validation in order for previously rejected readings to be accepted:

3.8.1 UMR

3.8.2 JOB

3.8.3 UPD

3.9 The corrected AQ will not be applied retrospectively for any other circumstances other than those outlined above.

3.10 The volume of meter readings subject to Outer Tolerance failure followed by AQ Correction is not known. At this time the CDSP is experiencing a high number of Outer Tolerance failures, this primarily is attributed to readings accepted on UK Link systems prior to Project Nexus not being subject to Reading Validation by the CDSP other than for Opening Meter Readings. Other readings were subject to User validation.

4. Next Steps

4.1 The content of this paper should be discussed at the August Distribution Workgroup to confirm that Users support the recommendations contained within this paper. Participants at this meeting are asked to consider whether such validation merits being included within either the UNC or the UNCVR. Given that explicit UNC instructions references would be over-ridden it would appear relevant to submit a UNC modification proposal.

4.2 It is further recommended that the DSC Change Managers refer this paper to a Solution Development Group to assess the requirements statements above. Whilst not explicit in the above the requirement statement infers a specific solution in order to avoid changes to the file interfaces defined in the UK Link Manual. This recommendation is primarily made as two impacted files (JOB and UPD) are aligned to the industry flows of ONJOB and ONUPD as specified in the RGMA document – any format change to these datasets would impact a significant number of industry participants and is assumed to be significant.

4.2.1 It is recognised that some Shipper Users are not providing Meter Readings that have failed the Outer Tolerance validation. In these circumstances these Users would need to find a way to provide the readings to the CDSP so that these could be recorded and are available as described in section 3.5 above. Such Shipper Users would be required to amend their systems.

4.2.2 Shipper Users who were able to submit readings that had failed this validation should have limited amendments to their systems and processes.

4.3 It is further recommended that this paper is presented to the SPAA Expert Group – who in turn can refer it to the RGMA Review Group. This group is made up of Meter Asset Managers, Meter Asset Providers, Suppliers, Small and Large Transporters and Xoserve to provide an assessment of the potential impacts to the wider industry participants should the dataset format be change to accommodate

4.4 Following the approval of requirements detailed analysis will need to be conducted. Given the scale of readings that may be submitted by Shipper Users it is imperative that any solution option is efficient so as not to degrade the batch performance of the UMR. The JOB and UPD are complex processes so impacts should be kept to a minimum here as well.

5. Recommendation

5.1 The above governance groups are invited to:

- **NOTE** the report;
- **AGREE** this proposal and approve the requirements specified.

6. Appendices

6.1 AQ Correction Record Format



RT_C41_AQ_CORRE
CTION.docx