**REC Podcast Transcript – 20th October 2023**

**November Release 2023**

***Paul Rocke***

*Hello and welcome to the REC Podcast – the bite-sized show that brings the latest news from the Retail Energy Code straight to your ears. I’m your host Paul Rocke, the Head of Communications within the Code Manager team.*

*Today I’m joined by Holly Law, the Code Release Manager, as we explore the Change Proposals about to be implemented in the REC Release scheduled for 03 November 2023. Welcome Holly – tell me all about what’s going into REC Version 3.6.*

**Holly Law**

That’s right Paul, we have our next REC release coming up on Friday 3rd November and I wanted to take some time to talk through the change proposals that have been approved for this release. There are 6 CPs approved for the November REC release.

The first is [R0017 - Invalid Requests for Site Technical Details](https://recportal.co.uk/group/guest/-/retrospective-implementation-of-distribution-code-use-of-system-agreement-dcusa-dcp-383). Distribution Network Operators have reported that they are receiving a high volume of requests for site technical details which is then in turn resulting in an increase of workload and it’s not clear if these are actually needed. This CP will provide clarity around when it is necessary for DNO’s and Metering Equipment Managers to request and send site technical details as part of a Meter Asset installation, switch or Change of Agent process and will make changes to Schedule 14.

***PR***

*Great, thanks. What’s next on the list?*

**HL**

Yep, next up is [R0059 - Maintenance of Qualification Schedule Change](https://recportal.co.uk/group/guest/-/maintenance-of-qualification-schedule-change). REC Service Users are required to submit Maintenance of Qualification annual statements to the REC Code Manager, and the requirements of what needs to be submitted differ dependent on Service User. This change will make it more clear on what the obligations are for REC service users and therefore what they need to submit as part of the Maintenance of Qualification annual statement.

***PR***

*Understood! What else do we have going in?*

**HL**

We have [R0088 - Make Shipper NExA Values Available on the GES Portal](https://recportal.co.uk/group/guest/-/make-shipper-nexa-values-available-on-the-ges-portal). This proposal is just delivering the consequential changes for the UNC Modification 0701, and making sure that the gas Data Access Matrix is updated to reflect it. UNC 0701 ensures that the daily capacity allowed by Network Exit Agreements and that permitted by the UNC are aligned and is due for implementation on 04 November 2023.

***PR***

*Great to see cross-code changes being effectively coordinated. What’s the next change going in?*

**HL**

The next is a housekeeping change, [R0140 - Housekeeping Amendments](https://recportal.co.uk/group/guest/-/housekeeping-amendments-2). This is only the second housekeeping change we’ve delivered and is to make non-material changes to the REC Products to correct typographical and consistency errors. A housekeeping change doesn’t follow the normal CP process, and instead goes straight to final approval, this is great as it means we can deliver more of these changes efficiently, and we are constantly making improvements to the REC. R0140 is making improvements to four REC Schedules – Schedules 1, 5, 9 and 27.

***PR***

*Fantastic – now I believe the next Change on the list could be classed as a bit of an umbrella change?*

**HL**

Yeh, in the last podcast, I talked about improvements we’ve made to the change process, to make it more agile, engaging and an overall slicker more efficient process - and how we’ve been testing the proposals using a taskforce that was set up. [R0138 - Combined Progression of CPs R0058, R0104 and R0129](https://recportal.co.uk/group/guest/-/combined-progression-of-change-proposals-r0058-r0104-and-r0129)is the first CP brought forward as a result of the task force. It combines 3 Change Proposals that hadn’t been progressed and were identified as being clarificatory, only impacting legal text, and which could follow a similar change pathway to implementation. The areas of code that this Change will help clarify are with respect to REC Services Procurement, Continuous Billing following an Erroneous Switch, and requirements with respect to Events of Default.

Combining the Change Proposals means they can be implemented much more quickly. Similar CPs are coming down the line as part of this change improvements projects and taskforce, and we’ll talk more about this on future podcasts.

***PR***

*Thanks Holly – it sounds like the Change Team has developed a pragmatic and effective approach to moving these Changes through the process. I believe that leaves us with one final Change for this release.*

**HL**

That’s right Paul, the last on the list is [R0110 - A Review of Supplier Access to Data on GES](https://recportal.co.uk/group/guest/-/a-review-of-supplier-access-to-data-on-ges). This CP will give suppliers access to data that shippers have on the GES, including meter reading and Meter Asset Manager history. This will help gas suppliers in responding to consumer facing switching and billing issues.

So, in summary, that’s 6 CPs for the November 2023 REC Release. The REC products that will be impacted are the REC main body, Schedules 1, 5, 9, 14, 27 & 30, in addition to the gas data access matrix.

All of the CPs can be found on the REC Portal, and on the [release management page](https://recportal.co.uk/rec-releases) there is a release plan that provides an overview of all the CP’s included in this release and the parties and products impacted. On 06 September I hosted a drop-in session; the [slides and the recording](https://recportal.co.uk/rec-wiki-rec-events/-/knowledge_base/2023-09-september-/november-rec-release-drop-in-session-06-september-2023-) can also be found on the release page on the portal under the November release.

We’re always looking for ways to improve, and I’d love to hear from anyone on what they’d like to see as part of future releases. There’ll be a feedback survey sent out after the November release, or you can get in touch with directly before then, just drop me an email at [holly.law@recmanager.co.uk](mailto:holly.law@recmanager.co.uk)

***PR***

*Great thanks Holly. When can we expect to hear from you about the next release in the cycle?*

**HL**

We have an extraordinary release after this on 06 December, so look at for a podcast closer to the time when I’ll explain all.

***PR***

*Well thanks Holly, it’s always a pleasure to speak to you about REC Change and Release, I certainly feel like I’m more knowledgeable about the imminent changes to the code.*

*For now, that’s all we have time for on this podcast. I hope you’ve enjoyed listening, and that it’s been useful to hear more about the upcoming November 2023 REC Release. I’ll speak to you on the next one.*