**REC Podcast Transcript – 11 April 2024**

**April 2024 Extraordinary REC Release**

***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 the 12 April 2024.*

**Holly Law**

Thanks for having me back again Paul. Our next release is coming up on the 12 April 2024. There are 3 CP’s approved for this release.

The first is R0062 - Removal of ERDA meteringPointEnergyFlow Change Restriction

As part of the Faster Switching Programme Enactment Phase change CR-E37, a restriction was applied to Electricity Retail Data Agents (ERDAs) to prevent multiple changes being made to the Registrable Metering Point (RMP). Any errors can be rectified once in the lifetime of an RMP, back to the creation of the RMP.

This change has been raised to allow ERDAs to make more than one change to Energy Flow to improve data accuracy without requiring a new RMP

There are 2 parts to the solution for this change,

First, a change to REC Schedule 27 RMP Lifecycle (section 6.2 (c)) to allow more than one change to Metering Point Energy Flow, within the lifetime of an RMP. Enabling ERDAs to make corrections to an error. In this instance, the ‘Effective From Date’ validation rule of the updated event must be equal to the Effective From Date’ of the event being corrected.

And secondly, a Configuration change to ERDS to increase the limit on ‘Metering Point Energy Flow’ changes. No system changes are required to implement this change as it is a user configurable setting that is set by each ERDA.

***PR***

*Fantastic, thank you for that Holly. What’s the next Change Proposal on the list for this release?*

**HL**

The next one is R0063 - Addition of Key Information to all Service Now Tickets. Service Now (SNOW) tickets sent by the Switching Operator to Electricity Retail Data Agents and the Gas Retail Data Agent do not contain sufficient information for the ERDA or GRDA to identify the rejected Central Switching Service (CSS) message and resolve any underlying issue(s).

To be able to efficiently resolve SNOW tickets and meet their obligations, they need additional data items adding to the tickets and in addition to this, the CSS should be able to enter additional ‘triage’ information as a new free text field which would reduce the requirement for going back and forth between the providers during the ticket resolution.

This change was scheduled for release on 12 April 2024. Delays in the technical development of this change were raised late to the Code Manager, and subsequently the technical implementation of R0063 will be delayed until 28 June 2024. The change to the REC will still take place as planned on 12 April 2024, so the updates to Schedule 26- Switching Service Management will be implemented as part of this release. We sent a comms out on this in the weekly bulletin on the 05 April if you would like more information.

***PR***

*Fantastic and a reminder for our listeners that if they are not signed up to receive the bulletins, they can send an email to* *enquiries@recmanager.co.uk* *and ask to be added to the distribution list. Fantastic, thanks Holly. What’s the next on the list for the Release?*

**HL**

The final change in this release is R0139 - Alignment of Market Message D0225 ‘consent to share flag’ to support PSR data sharing. Energy Networks Association and Water UK are running a project to enable two-way data sharing of Priority Services Register data between Distribution Network Operators (DNOs) and Water companies. Concerns were raised regarding the mandatory status and the naming of Data Item DI51497 (J2208) ‘Consent to share data obtained’. After consulting with the Information Commissioners Office (ICO), DNOs have changed the legal basis on which they are sharing PSR data. DNOs now rely on “legitimate interests” as the legal basis for processing personal data and substantial public interest as the legal basis for processing special category personal data.

Ofgem has been in with discussion with Suppliers last year, requesting them to voluntarily change how they use the consent option within the PSR flow. Ofgem has confirmed that some Suppliers have already amended their Privacy Notices with others planning to make the change early in 2024. This Change Proposal seeks only to change the title of the PSR flag J2208 to “Lawful basis for sharing” so that it covers all legal bases for sharing this data. It does not look to change a party’s legal basis for sharing data, but just capturing Yes or No for the question, “Do you have a lawful basis for sharing this data?” and therefore that the Market Message mirrors the process agreed.

***PR***

*Thank you, Holly, how can people find out about all these changes if they want to look for information on the REC Portal?*

**HL**

All the CP’s can be found on the REC Portal by searching for their individual R numbers and also on the release management page, there is a Release Plan that provides an overview of all the CP’s included in this release and the parties and products impacted.

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, you can get in touch with me directly drop me an email at holly.law@recmanager.co.uk.

***PR***

*Before I let you go today, Holly, it might be a timely opportunity just to remind our listeners about a fairly significant change that went in very recently, I know on 01 April we had a release into the REC around Prepayment Levelisation. Wondering if you just want to remind the listeners about the impacts of those changes that just went live?*

**HL**

Just a reminder that R0147 (Prepayment Levelisation) went live on 01 April 2024 and it was included in the REC Release on 28 March 2024.

All domestic Suppliers are required to submit a snapshot of their Portfolio data from the 1st Calendar Day of the Month to their associated SharePoint by the 15th Calendar day of the month. To ensure smooth processing, it's recommended to submit this ahead of the deadline. For submission templates, the Invoice Schedule, and additional information, you can visit the Payment Levelisation Page on the REC Portal.

If you encounter any difficulties accessing your SharePoint folder or any other enquiries, please contact us at pmlreconciliation@recmanager.co.uk and enquiries@recmanager.co.uk.

***PR***

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

**HL**

We have our next standard release on the 28 June 2024. So far, we have 6 CP’s approved for this release with more targeting. All of these can be found on the release page of the Portal.

***PR***

*Well thanks Holly, it’s always a pleasure to speak to you about REC Change and Release processes, 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 April 2024 REC Release. I’ll speak to you on the next one.*