RELEASE PLAN

DOCUMENT VERSION	1.3
REC RELEASE DATE	23/02/2024
MAJOR/MINOR/PATCH RELEASE	MINOR
NEW REC VERSION	3.8.0

CHANGE PROPOSALS IN SCOPE	R0071 - DCC Access to EES & GES
	R0103 - Central provision of DCC Technical Contacts for Requesting Test Certificates
	R0156 - Updates to the CSS Message Business Data Validation Rules and Physical Interface Design Specification

1 SCOPE

1.1 SCOPE OF THE RELEASE

There are three Change Proposals (CPs) in scope of the February 2024 (3.8.0) REC Release. These are listed below, together with a summary of their impacts. Further information on each CP is available through the REC Portal. On 23 February 2024 these Code and technical changes will be delivered.

R0071 – DCC Access to EES & GES

The Switching Service Desk generates and resolves tickets relating to Switching Incidents and Switching Data queries for Market Participants. GES and EES data are currently unavailable to the Switching Service Desk and access will allow them to resolve tickets more effectively, resulting in a more efficient service and better SLA performance.

• EES Changes will be implemented on 23 February 2024

• GES Changes will be implemented on 24 February 2024

The misalignment of implementation dates is to align the GES Providers implementation with The UK Link Major Release dates. This ensures that the GES Provider can effectively align its deployment activities across its systems and promotes overall release resilience.

REC PRODUCTS IMPACTED:

ARTIFACT	CURRENT VERSION	DESCRIPTION	IMPACT
CATEGORY 3 PRODUCT			
Data Access Matrix – Appendix 1	V1.1	Creation of a new User Category for the Switching Service Desk.	AMENDED

ARTIFACT	CURRENT VERSION	DESCRIPTION	IMPACT
Electricity Data Access Matrix	V3.4	Updated to include new User Category for the Switching Service Desk.	AMENDED
Gas Data Access Matrix	V3.4	Updated to include new User Category for the Switching Service Desk.	AMENDED

REC SERVICES IMPACTED: GAS & ELECTRICITY ENQUIRY SERVICES, SWITCHING DATA SERVICE

REC STAKEHOLDERS IMPACTED: N/A

REC USER GUIDES AND KNOWLEDGE ARTICLES IMPACTED: N/A

R0103 - Central provision of DCC Technical Contacts for Requesting Test Certificates

The Switching Operator carries out system testing, including maintenance and emergency testing, within the Central Switching Service (CSS). This needs to be done within a test environment which requires security certificates. Security testing certificates expire, which means there is currently an insufficient amount available for connecting to the test environment.

This change will allow the Switching Operator to nominate Technical Contacts (TCs) for requesting certificates, for all CSS Users, in order that certificates can be requested for simulators in the test environments. CSS Users would continue to be able to nominate / remove their own TCs as now and can see all TCs listed on the Switching Portal.

REC PRODUCTS IMPACTED:

ARTIFACT	CURRENT VERSION	DESCRIPTION	IMPACT
CATEGORY 1 PRODUCT			
Schedule 25 – Central Switching Service	V1.1	Amended to reflect that the Switching Operator may appoint one or more Technical Contact(s) for any CSS User, for the sole purpose of requesting test security certificates for connecting to the CSS test environments which emulate that CSS User during testing.	AMENDED

REC SERVICES IMPACTED: SWITCHING DATA SERVICE

STAKEHOLDER	STAKEHOLDER TYPE	DETAILS
Switching Operator	REC Service Provider	Will be able to nominate technical contacts for requesting certificates, for all CSS Users.
CSS Users	REC Party	Will not have to request certificates, as the Switching Operator will nominate a technical contact for this purpose.

REC USER GUIDES AND KNOWLEDGE ARTICLES IMPACTED: N/A

R0156 - Updates to the CSS Message Business Data Validation Rules and Physical Interface Design Specification

There is a risk that without transparency of the Physical Interface Design Specification (PhID) document and changes to it, parties may use an outdated version and encounter errors in their systems.

This proposal aims to bring the PhID into the Retail Energy Code as a Category 3 document as well as provide updates to the Central Switching Service (CSS) Message Business Data Validation rules (Category 2 document), aligning both documents with current CSS functionality.

REC PRODUCTS IMPACTED:

ARTIFACT	CURRENT VERSION	DESCRIPTION	IMPACT
CATEGORY 2 PRODUCT			
CSS Message Business Data Validation Rules	V1.3.2	Updated to reflect CSS functionality.	AMENDED

REC SERVICES IMPACTED: N/A

REC STAKEHOLDERS IMPACTED:

STAKEHOLDER	STAKEHOLDER TYPE	DETAILS
CSS	REC Service Provider	Will need to raise a cat 3 CP when making up-dates to the PhID
CSS Users	REC Party	Will always have the most up to date version of the PhID that aligns with current CSS functionality

REC USER GUIDES AND KNOWLEDGE ARTICLES IMPACTED: N/A

2 OTHER IMPACTED REC PRODUCTS

REC BASELINE STATEMENT:

ARTIFACT	CURRENT VERSION	DESCRIPTION	IMPACT
CATEGORY 3 PRODUCT			
REC Baseline Statement	V1.32	Amended to reflect the new version numbers of REC products in scope of this release	AMENDED

3 IMPACTED REC SYSTEMS

REC PORTAL

No changes are required to the REC Portal to support the changes in scope of the release.

ENERGY MARKET ARCHITECTURE REPOSITORY (EMAR)

No impacts to EMAR have been identified for the changes that are in scope of the release.

4 RELEASE PLAN

REC PRE-RELEASE AND RELEASE ENGAGEMENT PLAN

EVENT / MILESTONE	DATE	COMMUNICATION METHOD
Release Plan V1.0	21/12/23	Weekly Bulletin
Legal Text Pre-Release	21/12/23	Weekly Bulletin
Release Plan V1.1	02/02/24	Weekly Bulletin
Release Webinar	07/02/24	Microsoft Teams
Release Plan V1.2	14/02/24	Email from REC Change Management
Release Plan V1.3	23/02/24	Weekly Bulletin
Release Go Live communication	23/02/24	Weekly Bulletin
Release Go Live communication on REC Portal	23/02/24	Release Management Page

5 TEST PLAN

TESTING REQUIREMENTS

There will be CSS testing of the technical changes to support the implementation of R0103 and the GES Provider will complete testing in accordance with the requirements for R0071. There are no user testing requirements.

6 TECHNICAL ASSURANCE

SERVICE PROVIDER ASSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

The Code Manager will conduct technical assurance of testing activities carried out for both the CSS Provider and the GES Provider for changes R0103 and R0071 respectively.

PARTY ASSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

There are no Party Assurance requirements in scope of this release.

7 GOVERNANCE AND REPORTING

The Code Manager will report to RECCo on progress against the Release Plan as necessary.