XRN4991 - MOD0700 - FAQ

Background

1. **What is MOD0700 trying to do?**

   The objective of MOD0700 is to support Shippers in moving large volumes of Automated Meter Read (AMR) & SMART enabled Supply Meter Points into the Class 3 product, along with the handling of subsequent increase in meter read volumes while enabling effective read submission performance reporting without putting the stability of UK Link at risk

2. **Why the big rush to move sites into Class 3 product?**

   Changes to Unidentified Gas (UIG) weighting factors for 19/20 gas year will provide the potential opportunity for Shippers to reduce their UIG allocation through use of the Class 3 product

3. **What Supply Points do the new read rules affect?**

   Changes under MOD0700 for meter read submission and validation will impact Class 3 Supply Meter Points in EUC band 01 (Small Supply Points)

4. **When will the system changes required to fulfil MOD0700 come into effect?**

   Change deployment is planned to be completed during the scheduled maintenance window, 5am to 7am, on Saturday 28th September. Any UBR files received prior to completion of the deployment will be handled under pre MOD0700 rules, UBR files received following deployment confirmation communication from Xoserve, post closure of the maintenance window, will be handled under the new rules.

   Xoserve would advise shippers to complete their pre MOD0700 UBR file submissions by close of play 27th September and send post MOD0700 UBR files no earlier than 10am on 28th September or following receipt of the deployment confirmation communication, whichever is later.

Class Change and the SPC

5. **What is an SPC file?**

   The 'Supply Meter Point Amendment Requests' (SPC) file allows the Shippers to make amendments to Supply Meter Points. This file was enhanced for Project Nexus implementation to allow Supply Meter Point updates such as Capacity, Meter Read Frequency and Class Change amendments to be made, without the need for the Shipper to perform a re-Confirmation

6. **What is the problem with submitting a large number of Class Changes?**

   UK Link volume requirements were based on a steady flow of Class Change requests over time, as per the UK Link IS Service Definition document the expected number of SPC records per day is 26k, across all parties. We are now anticipating an increase in Class Change requests and this will need to be managed to ensure there is no detrimental impact on UK Link system and processes

7. **Who do I contact to confirm my class change capacity requirements or changes to it?**

   Please contact your Customer Advocate to discuss your estimated demand requirements. If you are unsure who this is please contact externalrequests.cpm@xoserve.com

8. **Why is it important for me to let you know if circumstances, and my capacity requirements, change?**
The capacity allowances will be carefully managed across all industry parties. If there is a decrease in one party's requirement then this can be shared to others. Similarly, should you need to increase your class change rate then this will need to be balanced with others to ensure UK Link systems remains stable. It is also requested that Shippers not only spread their SPC file submissions over a number of days, but also the requested effective date of the Class Changes, this will help us manage downstream processes within UK Link systems

9. **Does the restriction of SPC file apply to non-Class Change transactions?**
The limitations around SPC files will be at the file level and, therefore, will include non-Class Change transactions. Best practice would be to include non-Class Change transactions within the first SPC file of a given day to ensure these are processed within any allocation you may receive

10. **If a submitted SPC file causes me to breach my daily allocation, will the whole file be rejected or just the records contained within them that exceed the limit?**
As the SPC limitations will be set by number of files per day rather than individual transaction count contained within them, if too many files are sent in a day, whole files received above your allocation <u>may</u> be rejected. This will depend on the total industry volume on that day and if we can accommodate an increase in processing

Shippers who are planning to migrate large volumes to Class 3 will be contacted by their advocate to discuss their file limit. If files are rejected then shippers will be notified via the FRJ file using code FIL000124 "File rejected and will not be processed".

Read Submission

11. **What is an UBR file?**
A UBR is the Class 3 Read submission file, Shipper to Xoserve, and is used to submit Class 3 readings to Xoserve… for clarity:
DMSPs > CDSP
DLC - Class 1 read submission file

Shipper > CDSP
UDR - Class 2 read submission file
UBR - Class 3 read submission file
UMR - Class 4 read submission file

12. **What changes are being imposed regarding UBR batch submissions?**
For Class 3 Supply Meter Points in EUC band 01 a batch of cyclic reads should be limited to a maximum of 7 days. Currently, batches of Class 3 Supply Meter Points are allowed for 7, 14 and a whole month of reads. The changes within MOD0700 state that Shippers should submit a 7 day or less batch of reads per Supply Meter Point.

13. **How is a 'Shipper Batch' defined?**
A Shipper Batch is defined as all Cyclic Reads for a Supply Meter Point in EUC band 01 submitted to the CDSP within a single processing day (currently 6pm – 5:59pm) via the Class 3 UBR file. If multiple UBR files and cyclic reads are sent to the CDSP for the same Supply Meter Point in the same processing day, then these will be considered a single batch and processed together, meaning only one cyclic read will be selected for forward processing

regardless of how many UBR files have been sent. For further clarification, if you are planning on submitting daily readings to the CDSP on separate UBR files but send those files to the CDSP on the same processing day, these will be processed together and only one read will be selected, per Supply Meter Point, for forward processing

14. What are the changes to the read submission window?
The current read submission window for Class 3 is the 10th calendar day of M+1. Following MOD0700, cyclic reads for Class 3 Supply Meter Points in EUC 01 will have to be submitted by Read Date (D) + 10 calendar days to be considered valid. Where reads are submitted outside of this window they will be rejected back to the Shipper within the standard 'Unbundled Meter Read Response' (.URS) file, (U02 Unbundled Read Rejection & S72 Rejection Details records).

The read submission window for non EUC1 cyclic class 3 supply meter points will remain as the 10th calendar day of M+1.

15. Does the D+10 submission rule apply to non MOD0700 defined readings?
No, the D+10 calendar day validation rule is only applied to Class 3 cyclic reads for Supply Meter Points in EUC band 01 at the point of submission

16. At what point will the D+10 submission validation be carried out?
The D+10 validation rule will be the first check (post AMT file validation) that is carried out on the readings. In the scenario where a Shipper submits, to the CDSP, reads for a Supply Meter Point not in their ownership, those reads will be subject firstly to D+10 validation and if outside D+10 will be rejected, all other reads that pass the D+10 will be rejected back to submitting Shipper for the reason of not being in their ownership.

17. When a read is submitted via a batch, what AQ is used for the purpose of read tolerance checks? Will this be the AQ at the point of the Read Date or validation/processing date?
The AQ used in tolerance checks is the AQ that was active on the read date for the read being validated

18. What is the Shipper 'preferred' read date?
This is an optional date that allows a Shipper to provide a single date within a calendar month to take priority for the read selection process. This date is given across their whole portfolio, not at Supply Meter Point level. If a Shipper batch is submitted with reads on this Shipper 'preferred' date then these reads will take priority and be passed to the read validation stage and then, if valid, loaded into UK Link and used in downstream processes

19. Can I request a Shipper 'preferred' read date of "end of the month"?
No, the date provided must be a numbered day of the month e.g. 2nd. If the requested date is 29th, 30th, or 31st each can only be used in the months in which they occur e.g. if 31st is set, in September no preferred date will be found and the last read from each batch will be selected for all batches in September.

20. What if I do not provide a Shipper 'preferred' read date?
If there is not a Shipper 'preferred' read date specified then the last read in a batch will always be assessed first. By 'last read' we mean the max dated read within a batch per Supply Meter Point (as the reads submitted may not be in date order)

21. Can Shippers with multiple supplier relationships specify different 'preferred' read dates?

The scope of a Shippers 'preferred' read date in a calendar month is limited at Shipper level. The objective of the 'preferred' read date is to give Shippers the opportunity to have some control over the read that is used in downstream processing for their portfolio as a whole, in line with the modification. Additional processing capability would be required to look up the current Supplier against each Supply Meter Point at the point of read selection; with the amount of Class 3 Supply Points that are expected to be migrated, adding this in would work against the system's ability to process Class 3 readings.

22. If my UBR file contains reads for Supply Meter Points in EUC bands 2-9 will these be subject to MOD0700 rules?

No, any reads submitted for Supply Meter Points within EUC bands 2-9 will be passed directly to onward processing via BAU validation rules (non-MOD0700)

23. Will all reads in my batch be checked for forward processing?

In the vast majority of cases, no, not all reads contained within a Shipper batch (if it contains more than 2 cyclic reads) will be checked for forward processing. However, there are scenarios around Shipper Transfer and Exception Management that will lead to all reads within a Shippers batch being processed.

Shipper Transfer: If no Opening Read is provided by the incoming Shipper the CDSP is required to estimate a reading, this is done as a BAU activity after D+10. Any Class 3 Cyclic Readings submitted prior to the estimate read being created will be held and, once the Shipper Transfer reading has been fulfilled all cyclic readings held will be processed forward for validation. All of these reads will be either accepted or rejected back to the submitting Shipper, none will go to Assured/Unassured.

Exception Management: If a Supply Meter Point currently has, or as a result of read processing will have, an exception raised on it, all Cyclic readings received for it in a UBR will be held. Once the Exception has been resolved all Cyclic readings, that had been held as a result of the Exception, will be processed forward for validation and will be either accepted or rejected back to the submitting Shipper, none will go to Assured/Unassured.

24. How will the reads in my batch be assessed for selection for forward processing?

Reads for Class 3 Supply Meter Points in EUC band 01 will go through the following selection steps:

1. First the system checks if any reads have been marked as Opening or Replacement Reads, if yes, these are passed directly to processing via BAU validation rules (non-MOD0700) all remaining reads will then move to the next check
2. The remaining reads in the Shipper submitted batch will firstly have the D+10 validation carried out on them, if any reads in the batch are older than D+10 calendar days, they will be rejected back to the Shipper (within the URS file), all remaining reads will then move to the next check
3. Next the system checks if any of the reads have a Round The Clock (RTC)/Through The Zeros (TTZ) greater than 0, if yes, these are passed directly to processing via BAU validation rules (non-MOD0700) all remaining reads will then move to the next check
4. Next the system checks if the submitting Shipper has a Shipper 'preferred' date specified, if so, this read is selected for validation, if no Shipper 'preferred' date is specified or is not contained within a Shipper batch then the latest Read in the batch is selected for validation

5. If the Shipper 'Preferred' read or latest Read in the batch passes validation, all other reads in the batch are set to 'Assured' and the selected read is uploaded and passed to UK Link to feed downstream processes

6. If the Shipper 'Preferred' read in the batch fails validation, then it will be rejected back to the submitting Shipper and the latest Read in the batch will then be selected for validation, if this read passes validation then all other reads will be set to 'Assured' and the selected read is uploaded and passed to UK Link to feed downstream processes

7. If the latest Read in the batch fails validation (no Shipper 'preferred' read specified or found in the period) then it will be rejected and the next latest read in the batch will be selected for validation, if this read passes validation then all other reads within the batch will be set to 'Assured' and the selected read will be uploaded and passed to UK Link to feed downstream processes

8. If both selected reads fail validation, then both will be rejected back to the submitting Shipper (within the URS file) and all other reads within the batch will be set to 'Unassured'

25. How will my URS read responses be impacted?
For reads covered under MOD0700 rules, Shippers will only receive a response record in the URS file for those that have been accepted or rejected. Other reads within the batch that are set to 'Assured'/'Unassured' will not be communicated back to the submitting Shipper

26. Can I re-submit my batch if 2 reads are rejected and the remaining reads set to 'Unassured'?
Yes, but advice is to complete this activity as soon as possible to avoid reads within the batch being rejected under the D+10 validation rule

27. Will the inner tolerance check be suspended while the interim solution is in place?
Initially, the inner tolerance check will remain as-is however we are working on a change to suspend this for Class 3, EUC band 01 reads and will look to deploy it within the Post Implementation Support phase. Further details will be made available via DSG.

28. Will my opening and replacement readings be subject to MOD0700 processing?
No, opening and replacement reads will be passed directly to read validation stage as per current BAU processing, this is because they are not defined as cyclic readings and will not fall under the rules of MOD0700

29. How will the additional Class 3 Supply Meter Points and submission of reads affect the AML/ASP invoicing process?
No impacts to the invoicing process have been identified outside of BAU. This means that the result of increasing your Class 3 portfolio will increase the size of the AML file to account for daily reconciliation (as this daily apportionment of consumption will be present between reconciled readings regardless of how many reads are submitted)

30. Would I be able to replace readings that are marked as 'Assured'/'Unassured'?
No, the only reads that can be replaced are the ones that have been loaded into UK Link for forward processing, 'Assured'/'Unassured' readings cannot be replaced

31. **How would the changes under MOD0700 affect the proposed MOD0664 "Transfer of Sites with Low Read Submission Performance from Class 2 and 3 into Class 4"?**

Reads submitted within a Shipper batch that have not been selected for read validation and/or forward processing into UK Link will either be marked as 'Assured' or 'Unassured'. Both these read statuses will count towards read performance statistics and any solution for MOD0700 will be fed into MOD0664 workgroup to ensure development takes into consideration these amended rules. Consideration will also be taken regarding solution for MOD0664 as currently, the rules state that low read performance for sites in Class 2 & 3 that do not meet the required target will have their entire portfolio of Class 2 & 3 moved to Class 4 by the CDSP (if Shippers do not perform the task themselves), this could also result in an increase in SPC Class Change submissions, so information on this will feed the Class Change monitoring & restrictions for MOD0700 in determining potential Shipper SPC submission allocations

Additional Information

32. **How would Supply Point Administration (SPA) processes be affected by this change?**

No impacts are expected to SPA processes. During Confirmation/Re-confirmation and Class Change of Supply Meter Points into Class 3 the Shipper can specify a [Batch Meter Read Frequency], the allowable values for which are W - 7 days, F - 14 days, M - month. This will still be the case and no SPA files will be rejected or held if a Shipper selects a batch frequency greater than 7.

33. **What read will be used to populate the Last Recorded Read and Date in the TRF and MRI?**

There are no changes planned in this area therefore the values will be populated using the last Valid Read accepted into UK Link. Assured reads will not be considered for these fields and the population of the SPA files.

34. **How should the C38 record be populated, specifically the Meter Read Frequency (MRF)?**

When changing to Class 3 the MRF should be set to [M]onthly. The field is optional and if left null it will be defaulted to [M] for a change to Class 3.

To note, the field is conditional mandatory where the change is to Class 4.