Developer Communication --- January 6, 2021

I wanted to post a note for developers as we approach the beginning of the MEF 2021 filing season (TY2020)...anyone with the scoop on MEF1040 start date/controlled launch call me.

* South Carolina will participate in the “controlled launch” for MEF1040 (whenever that may be). If there are two windows for the “controlled launch”, likely SCDOR would only participate in the second window.
* Approved developers for Business MEF stand down on submitting any TY2020 returns until an update is posted on FTA SES or sent to the NACTP listserv. SC DOR is working through some final testing with our processing systems before we will be ready to accept TY2020 Business MEF returns. The IRS is opening MEF Business on January 8th and we will accept any back year returns submitted at that time. If you submit any TY2020 returns prior to SCDOR activating your production ETINs, your returns will be rejected by SCDOR.
* The reject codes/error messages for SCDOR MEF are being posted same time as this document. Several of you have requested it.
* A list of the foreign address province/state codes utilized by SCDOR will be posted to FTA SES prior to GO LIVE date for MEF1040...if not sooner. We are sticking with the codes again this year, but as requested by industry...providing you those values.
* PLEASE REMEMBER THAT SC DOR wipes our test environment each weekend. If you submit tests for approval this week, and you don’t receive approval by end of day Friday, January 8th (5 pm ET)...plan on resubmitting those test returns on Monday, January 11th.
	+ PLEASE email my personal work email with the submission IDs (and it would be nice to remind me of your TEST ETIN) so I will know you have submitted returns. I print out your emails and work down the list during my review.
* I want to apologize to those of you who read my note of December 18th. I informed you at that time that the SC1040 instructions and the NR instructions were in final stages of approval. I fully expected they would have been made available to you the week of December 21st. I returned to the office on December 29th only to be smacked with the realization that the instructions had not been posted to the developers’ site at SCDOR. I believe they finally were posted to the site on December 30th. We have an annual forms kickoff meeting each year. I plan to raise this issue at that meeting.
	+ Please consult our Developers’ Guide as we cover some if not all of the pertinent changes forthcoming on forms each year.
* Some of you have asked about forms that have not been updated or have a prior year revision date. My belief is that they tried to get those forms/instructions that had major changes or a significant number of minor changes updated first. They will work their way down to forms that only have date changes.

I know industry has expressed concern/requested updates on COVID impact on all states and processing operations. No impact at SCDOR at this time. If that changes, we will notify industry.

Keith