### linkToQuery (Query Contains Link to External Query File)

This element specifies that the current WordprocessingML document's [query](query.docx) string, stored in the [query](query.docx) element (§) and used to specify the data to be imported from the external data source, actually contains a reference to an external [query](query.docx) file which contains the actual [query](query.docx) data to be used against the specified external data source for the mail merge. This [query](query.docx) shall mimic a SQL [query](query.docx) and be of the following form: SELECT \* FROM <[query](query.docx) file path>.

If this element is omitted, then the [query](query.docx) specified for the data source attached to the current document shall be assumed to not be a [query](query.docx) containing a [link](link.docx) to an external file.

[Example: Consider a mail merge source document that uses the linkToQuery element to specify that the [query](query.docx) used is stored in the specified external data source as follows:

<w:[mailMerge](mailMerge.docx)>  
 …  
 <w:linkToQuery />  
 <w:[query](query.docx) w:val="SELECT \* FROM C:\queryExample.txt" />  
 …  
</w:[mailMerge](mailMerge.docx)>

The linkToQuery element specifies that the [query](query.docx) string stored in the [query](query.docx) element (§) is actually just a reference to an externally stored [query](query.docx) file, in this case, an external [query](query.docx) file stored at c:\queryExample.txt. end example]

|  |
| --- |
| Parent Elements |
| [mailMerge](mailMerge.docx) (§) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Attributes | Description |
| val (On/Off Value) | Specifies a binary value for the property defined by the parent [XML](XML.docx) element.  A value of on, 1, or true specifies that the property shall be explicitly applied. This is the default value for this attribute, and is implied when the parent element is present, but this attribute is omitted.  A value of off, 0, or false specifies that the property shall be explicitly turned off.  [Example: For example, consider the following on/off property:  <w:… w:val="off"/>  The val attribute explicitly declares that the property is turned off. end example]  The possible values for this attribute are defined by the [ST\_OnOff](ST_OnOff.docx) simple [type](type.docx) (§). |

The following [XML](XML.docx) Schema fragment defines the contents of this element:

<complexType [name](name.docx)="CT\_OnOff">

<attribute [name](name.docx)="val" [type](type.docx)="[ST\_OnOff](ST_OnOff.docx)"/>

</complexType>