

UNC Modification Panel
Minutes of the 216th Meeting held on Friday 24 November 2017
By Teleconference

Attendees

Voting Members:

Shipper Representatives	Transporter Representatives	Consumer Representative
A Green (AG), Total and alternate for S Mulinganie A Love (AL), ScottishPower A Margan (AM), British Gas E Wells (EW), Corona Energy	C Warner (CW), Cadent D Lond (DL), National Grid NTS D Mitchell (DM), SGN S Key (SK), NGN R Pomroy (RP), WWU N Rozier (NR), BUUK Infrastructure	

Non-Voting Members:

Chair	Ofgem Representative	Independent Supplier Representative
P Garner (PG), Chair	R Elliott (RE)	

Also in Attendance:

P Garner (PG), Joint Office; R Fletcher (RFI), Secretary; R Hinsley (RHi), Xoserve and S Britton (SB), Cornwall Insight.

Record of Discussions

Introduction

PG advised that this extraordinary meeting has been arranged to consider two specific agenda items and usual items such as minutes, workgroup reporting dates etc. would be deferred to the 21 December meeting.

216.1 Note of any alternates attending meeting

A Green for S Mulinganie (Gazprom)
D Mitchell for H Chapman (Scotia Gas Networks)
S Key for J Ferguson (Northern Gas Networks)

216.2 Record of Apologies for absence

J Ferguson
H Chapman
S Horne
S Mulinganie

Minutes and Actions of the Last Meeting(s)

Not considered.

216.3 Final Modification Reports

- a) Modification 0633 – Mandate monthly read submission for Smart and AMR sites from 01 December 2017 and Modification 0638 - Mandate monthly read submission for Smart and AMR sites from 01 April 2018.

Both modifications were presented in a combined report.

PG provided a summary of the modifications and the responses received.

When considering the combined Final Modification Report for 0633 and 0638, CW raised a number of concerns around the definitions used in the legal text compared to how the definitions are used in the modification solutions. Specifically, CW stated that there is a conflict as the submission of monthly reads for SMART/AMR meters identifies them as “monthly read” with a potential impact on the Transporter and CDSP “Must Reads” process.

AM challenged that the definition is different, as it is based on meter technology and not meter read submission frequency and should not be confused with the current Must Read process.

EW felt there were sufficient discussions at Workgroup to clarify this point and it wasn't a new issue. Adding that, legal text and current systems specifications were aligned, particularly when 0633 does not mandate Monthly Read meters.

AL felt that the issue had been discussed at Workgroup but that discussions did not provide the required level of clarity.

RHi advised that Xoserve had originally impact assessed these modifications on the basis of the volume considerations as considered for Workgroup 0594R. Xoserve confirmed that no changes are necessary to central systems on this basis.

Within the Workgroup, it was highlighted that M 5.9.2(c) states that the maximum frequency for Annually read sites was 25 days. The proposers for both Modifications 0633 and 0638 confirmed that this was acceptable. Had this not been the case a system change would have been necessary to amend this value.

The legal text as presented, appears to require that the Meter Read Frequency is set to Monthly which would require changes to systems, if application of this obligation is required, although the proposers have not confirmed this as a requirement or intention of the modifications.

RP was concerned that the modifications appeared to be under developed and that these questions should be clarified. Work was required to ensure that the correct definitions are used, alongside ensuring that parties understood whether systems would be impacted.

Members noted that there were likely to be constraints over the Christmas period and in particular the Ofgem moratorium on modification decisions.

RE advised that Ofgem would consider modifications should they be submitted for decision during the moratorium and that they might be able to expedite a decision soon after the moratorium ended.

SK highlighted that due to leave they may not be able to provide legal resources, should the legal text need to be amended after this date. PG noted the concerns raised, however this should not prevent the process from being able to conclude.

PG provide an overview of the likely next steps and timeline, noting that it would be very challenging to get Modification 0633 through the process should it be Varied to amend the effective date to 01 January 2018.

Members voted by majority vote to determine that new issues had been identified during consultation and that Modification 0633 should be returned to Workgroup 0633, with a supplemental report presented to the 21 December Panel.

- b) Modification 0638 - Mandate monthly read submission for Smart and AMR sites from 01 April 2018

See discussion above.

Members voted by majority vote to determine that new issues had been identified during consultation and that Modification 0638 should be issued to Workgroup 0633, with a supplemental report presented to the 21 December Panel.

216.4 Any Other Business

a) None

216.5 Conclusion of Meeting and agreed Date of Next Meeting

- 10:30, Thursday 21 December 2017, at Elexon

Action Table (16 November 2017)

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
			(none)		