

UNC Distribution Workgroup Minutes

Thursday 26 July 2018

at Radcliffe House, Blenheim Court, Warwick Road, Solihull, B91 2AA

Attendees

Bob Fletcher (Chair)	(BF)	Joint Office
Karen Visgarda (Secretary)	(KV)	Joint Office
Andy Miller	(AM)	Xoserve
Carl Whitehouse*	(CWh)	First Utility
David Addison*	(DA)	Xoserve
David Mitchell	(DM)	SGN
Graham Wood*	(GW)	Centrica
John Welch	(JW)	npower
Kirsty Dudley*	(KD)	E.ON
Lesley Bowen*	(LB)	EDF
Mark Jones	(MJ)	SSE
Rachael Mottram*	(RM)	Utilita
Rachel Bird*	(RB)	Gemserve
Rachel Hinsley	(RH)	Xoserve
Shaheeni Vekaria	(SV)	Utility Warehouse
Shanna Key*	(SK)	Northern Gas Networks
Shardul Pandit*	(SP)	Wales & West Utilities
Simon Harris	(SH)	Xoserve
Steve Ladle*	(SL)	Gemserve
Steve Mulinganie	(SM)	Gazprom
Steven Britton*	(SB)	Cornwall Insight

*via teleconference

Copies of all papers are available at: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/dist/260718>

1. Introduction and Status Review

1.1. Approval of Minutes (28 June 2018)

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

1.2. Modification(s) with Ofgem

In the absence of an Ofgem representative there was no update provided.

1.3. Pre-Modification discussion

1.3.1 Improving the information given to Shippers when there is a planned disconnection.
– (RM)

Rachael Mottram (RM) introduced the draft modification and explained the reason for this modification was to improve the information provided to Shippers where Transporters have been requested to undertake a disconnection/isolation of a gas supply. This was to enable Shippers/Suppliers the ability to collect meter assets and aid faster investigation by Shippers to confirm a Supply Point withdrawal, which in turn will improve the accuracy of customer billing and settlements.

RM said she was looking for a view from the Shippers on this topic and that discussions had been taking place with Xoserve with regards to the materiality of the solution, together with discussing the content with Richard Pomroy from Wales & West Utilities.

Shanna Key (SK) said that more detail would be useful to quantify the scale of the issue, as the percentage of numbers within the solution did not provide sufficient guidance as to the impact against the market as a whole. SK wanted to understand why was a modification needed when a new report request could be submitted to Xoserve as a bilateral arrangement.

RM said that the percentages had been used to highlight the scale of the issue to them and that this data needed to be obtained from the Transporters rather than Xoserve as they were undertaking the activity on behalf of consumers, hence this was the requirement for the new modification.

A lengthy general discussion then took place on the responsibility of who should provide this data to the Meter Asset Manager (MAM). Kirsty Dudley (KD) said that this whole topic may sit more appropriately within the MANCOP area, as the overall scope was a little unclear as to the overall impact and why existing processes were not working.

BF suggested that the draft modification needed more detail to aid clarity within the solution section, especially regarding the references to the Shipper/Supplier and RM agreed to update this accordingly and provide greater information on the scope itself. She confirmed that these changes would be completed in time for submission to the August Panel.

Steve Ladle (SL) noted that due the content of the modification that a separate IGT modification might also be required, regarding the responsibility of the Transporter supplying the required data.

2. Workgroups

- 2.1. **0663S - Extending the data comprised under the definition of Supply Point Premises Data (TPD V5.18.1) including iGT Modification 114 - Extending the data available to Suppliers under K24.3(I)**
(Report to Panel 20 September 2018)
<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0663>
- 2.2. **0647 – Opening Class 1 reads to Competition**
(Report to Panel 20 September 2018)
<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0647>
- 2.3. **0649S – Update to UNC to formalise the Data Enquiry Service Permissions Matrix**
(Report to Panel 20 September 2018)
<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0649>
- 2.4. **0657S – Requiring a Meter Reading following a change of Local Distribution Zone or Exit Zone**
(Report to Panel 16 August 2018)
<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0657>
- 2.5. **0660S - Amendment to PARR permissions to allow PAC to update with UNCC approval**
(Report to Panel 20 September 2018)
<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0660>

3. Issues

No new issued raised.

4. Review of Outstanding Action(s)

0601: Shippers to provide an assessment of the number of instances of Supply Meter Points sending converted and unconverted indexes

Update: Rachel Hinsley (RHi) agreed this action could now be closed, as it had been agreed that this process should stay as is currently executed. **Closed**

5. Any Other Business

5.1. UNCVR – Change to Outer Tolerance

BF confirmed this topic had been discussed in the previous meeting and so could be taken off the agenda.

5.2. Construction of a Meter Reading

RHi confirmed that an update had been supplied and the overall decision was to the Meter Reading process as it was currently. BF then confirmed this topic could be taken off the agenda.

5.3. SEC Modification and potential impacts (SV)

Shaheeni Vekaria (SV) explained that she wanted to provide an overview of the SEC Modification from an information exchange perspective and that this might be discussed again within the Distribution Workgroup at a later date.

She said that under the Smart Energy Code, SECMP0006 'Specifying the number of digits for device display' was due to be implemented on 30/09/2018 and would introduce changes to SMETS to require the Electricity Smart Metering Equipment (ESME) and Gas Smart Metering Equipment (GSME) devices to display a specified subset of digits for their consumption registers, through their User Interfaces. This was introduced to prevent confusion for consumers during a Change of Supplier and/or Change of Tenancy event.

She went on to explain that the agreed solution would require:

- A Single Element or Twin Element ESME (not relevant to the SPAA but included for completeness) to display 5 decimal digits (representing whole kWh)
- A Polyphase ESME (not relevant to the SPAA but included for completeness) to display 6 decimal digits (representing whole kWh)
- A GSME to display 8 decimal digits (representing 1/1000th m3)

SV then explained as this change was only relevant to the information displayed on the User Interface, remotely retrieved meter readings will not necessarily follow the same convention and may differ to those retrieved visually via the User Interface (e.g. by the customer / meter reader). e.g. a Gas Smart Meter Equipment (GSME display register may "clock" over from 99999.999 to 00012.123 but the remotely collected register internal reading would be 100012.123.

She further explained that there was no requirement for Supplier's to adopt the same convention as the device UI when retrieving readings remotely. Therefore, there was a risk that the reading being used for billing/settlement by the Supplier will not match the reading being provided by the customer where the meter has 'clocked' over. She added that there was also a risk that different Supplier's may use different methods (e.g. some convert the reading to match the reading on the UI and some don't).

SV said that if the Shippers wanted to be included within the Request For Information (RFI) then this could be supplied. Steve Mulinganie (SM) said that regarding the RFI this would also depend how engaged the Transporters were as they held the records centrally, and prior the Shippers making a comments. He also questioned the need for the change to flow through to UNC as the systems were established to support fiscal reads based on a specific number of dials. He offered the opinion that this change could be managed through Supplier interfaces only and did not need to be mirrored with Shippers.

5.4. SPAA Open Forum Change Proposal 0443

SM requested that further detail and information need to be supplied in relation to the SPAA Open Forum Change Proposal 0443 in respect of allowing the sharing of customer class details in times of an emergency for the Transporters, via the Shippers. He said he knew Richard Pomroy had information on this matter, and he was presently on annual leave and so he would like Richard Pomroy to provide an update on this matter at the next meeting.

New Action 0701: Wales & West Utilities (RP) to provide an update on the status of the SPAA Open Forum Change Proposal 0443.

6. Diary Planning

Further details of planned meetings are available at: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/events-calendar/month>

Workgroup meetings will take place as follows:

Time / Date	Venue	Workgroup Programme
10:30 Thursday 23 August 2018	Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London NW1 3AW	Standard Agenda
10:30 Thursday 27 September 2018	Radcliffe House, Blenheim Court, Warwick Road, Solihull, B91 2AA	Standard Agenda
10:30 Thursday 25 October 2018	Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London NW1 3AW	Standard Agenda
10:30 Thursday 22 November 2018	Radcliffe House, Blenheim Court, Warwick Road, Solihull, B91 2AA	Standard Agenda

Action Table (as at 26 July 2018)

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
0601	28/06/2018	5.3	Shipper to provide an assessment of the number of instances of Supply Meter Points sending converted and unconverted indexes.	Shippers	Closed
0701	26/07/18	5.4	Wales & West Utilities (RP) to provide an update on the status of the SPAA Open Forum Change Proposal 0443.	Wales & West Utilities (RP)	Pending