

**UNC Workgroup 0430 Minutes  
Inclusion of data items relevant to smart metering into  
existing industry systems**

**Wednesday 08 August 2012**

**at 31 Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3LT**

**Attendees**

Bob Fletcher (Chair)	(BF)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Mike Berrisford (Secretary)	(MiB)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Andy Clasper	(AC)	National Grid Distribution
Alex Ross	(ARo)	Northern Gas Networks
Alison Chamberlain	(ACh)	National Grid Distribution
Anne Jackson	(AJ)	SSE
Andrew Margan	(AM)	British Gas
Brendan Murphy	(BM)	Waters Wye Associates
Brian Durber	(BD)	E.ON UK
Cesar Coehlo*	(CC)	Ofgem
Darren Lond	(DL)	National Grid NTS
David Addison	(DA)	Xoserve
David Mitchell	(DM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Edward Hunter	(EH)	RWE npower
Elaine Carr	(EC)	ScottishPower
Erika Melèn	(EM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Joanna Ferguson	(JF)	Northern Gas Networks
Lorna Lewin	(LL)	DONG
Marie Clark	(MC)	ScottishPower
Robert Cameron-Higgs	(RCH)	Wales & West Utilities
Stefan Leedham	(SL)	EDF Energy
Steve Mulinganie	(SM)	Gazprom
Steve Nunnington	(SN)	Xoserve

*\*via teleconference*

Copies of all papers are available at: [www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0430/080812](http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0430/080812)

**1.0 Outline of Modification and initial discussion**

JF introduced the modification, by explaining that it seeks to obligate shippers to provide information from their suppliers that will be required for the implementation of the DECC programme for Smart Metering.

**2.0 Initial Discussion**

Modification Overview presentation

Opening discussions, JF provided a quick review of the presentation.

In considering the 'Xoserve ROM' slide, JF explained that should the IHD Install Status (data items) elements be excluded from the requirements, the impact

upon the proposed costing figures would be minimal. Furthermore, current thinking would suggest that the UPRN (which relates to field creation) is not required at this stage.

It is envisaged that further discussion around the User Pays aspects would be needed in due course and that DCC licence aspects are likely to be addressed via inclusion of new annexes in the appropriate sections of the Code. Presently, DECC and Ofgem are considering the most appropriate route for progressing this requirement, with the options being either via a UNC modification or Secretary of State Direction.

JF advised that a DCA request had been placed early in the process to ensure that the systems delivery aligns with both DECC requirements (whether or not all data items are confirmed as being required is still being considered and IHD may be excluded in due course) and timeframes. Currently, Northern Gas Networks (as proposer) are targeting submitting the Workgroup report to the October Panel, recommending the modification go out to consultation, in the hope that the Final Modification Report may be considered at short notice at the November Panel. It may be necessary to utilise teleconference style meetings to successfully achieve these aggressive timescales.

Moving on, JF suggested that the modification possibly presented a unique implementation in terms of details, whilst SN advised that as far as Xoserve are concerned, industry testing and training is proposed for April 2014.

All parties acknowledged the benefit of early engagement with the UKLink Committee, especially when a decision around SUN file aspects is so important.

SN explained that the ROM states that a 50% change in data items would have little effect on costs and went on to add that the DCA costs usually equate to between 10 and 20% of the project cost.

Some parties voiced concern around funding aspects to which JF responded by advising that she is working closely with Ofgem and DECC to ensure that all aspects are covered. She went on to point out that it is theoretically possible for the Transporters to raise an Agency Charging Statement (ACS) without the existence of a UNC modification, even though this had not been done before.

Concern was voiced around legal issues associated with the use of an SMS based flag.

When asked, SN confirmed that it is intended that Xoserve would collate all iGT information and forward this to the DCC, however, he acknowledged that further consideration of this matter is required. He went on to add that feedback on the proposed solution (file formats, data items etc.) would be welcomed.

It was agreed to consider the modification further at the 23 August meeting, especially the User Pays, DCA and impacted File Format and File Flow (SPA etc) consideration.

### **3.0 Consider Terms of Reference**

The Workgroup raised no issues regarding the Terms of Reference.

### **4.0 Any Other Business**

None.

### **5.0 Diary Planning for Review Group**

*Further details of planned meetings are available at: [www.gasgovernance.co.uk/Diary](http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/Diary)*

It is anticipated that the Workgroup meetings will take place within the Distribution Workgroup on:

Thursday 23 August 2012, at 10:30, ENA, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P  
2AF

Wednesday 05 September 2012, 10:30, 31 Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3LT