

**UNC Demand Estimation Sub-committee Minutes**  
**Wednesday 25 June 2014**  
**31 Homer Road, Solihull B91 3LT**

**Attendees**

Helen Cuin (Chair)	(HC)	Joint Office
Lorna Dupont (Secretary)	(LD)	Joint Office
Ceirán Sheehan*	(CS)	Total Gas & Power
Christian Ivaha	(CI)	British Gas
Colin Thomson*	(CT)	Scotia Gas Networks
Dave Parker*	(DP)	EDF Energy
Ed Pope*	(EP)	Met Office
Fiona Cottam	(FC)	Xoserve
James Hanks	(JH)	EDF Energy
Joseph Lloyd	(JL)	Xoserve
Kate Brown*	(KB)	Met Office
Mandeep Pangli	(MPa)	Xoserve
Mark Perry	(MPe)	Xoserve
Mo Rezvani	(MR)	SSE
Richard Bennett*	(RB)	Met Office
Richard Pomroy	(RP)	Wales & West Utilities
Sallyann Blakett	(SB)	E.ON

\* via teleconference

Copies of papers are available at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/DESC/250614>

**1. Introduction**

The meeting was declared quorate.

**2. Confirmation of membership and apologies for absence**

**2.1. Apologies for absence**

C Warner (National Grid Distribution).

**2.2. Note of Alternates**

FC (Xoserve) for C Warner (National Grid Distribution). R Pomroy nominated Xoserve as his alternate, from the point at which he departed the meeting.

**3. Review of Minutes from previous meeting (11 June 2014)**

**3.1. Minutes**

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

**3.2. Actions**

**DE0202:** All parties to suggest different ways that the EUC Banding might be split, based on consumption levels or customer attributes.

**Update:** SB suggested that this should be considered following the implementation of Project Nexus. FC suggested splitting domestic and I&C profiles post Nexus. It was agreed to capture this on the Xoserve Workplan and to close the action. **Closed**

**Action DE0204:** All parties to look to provide evidence suitable to support Xoserve in completing the analysis for Action DE0203.

**Update:** FC confirmed that Action DE0203 (closed) had related to UNC Modification

0461 (gas Day change) and for Xoserve to look at the key considerations. The committee considered the chart (05:00 – 06:00 % of Daily Flows) depicted at the end of the paper - [Within-day Shape Analysis \(provided by E.ON\)](#). SB explained the graph. FC pointed out that the profiles will be running for a 05:00-05:00 day but using 06:00-06:00 data. SB observed that if there had been a bigger seasonal impact there might be cause for concern. FC noted it was close to the average of 1/24<sup>th</sup> of the Day and a target number. There was no strong week-end effect so it would not be building in any inappropriate profiles. FC commented that had the data for 05:00 to 06:00 been further away from the hourly average, then Tuesday and Wednesday would have been fine, but Monday would pick up some of Sunday, and Sunday some of Saturday, etc. However the data appears to show that the trade-off effect would be expected to be immaterial. There appeared to be no noticeable day-to-day differences or seasonal effects so the 06:00-06:00 data could be used to build the algorithms. The evidence so far supports the view of not making any change. FC will update the Gas Day matrix. **Closed**

**DE0301:** *Climate Change Methodology (Phase 2)* - Confirm output delivery dates.  
**Update:** See Item 4.0 below. **Closed**

**DE0302:** *UNC Modification 0451AV* - Xoserve (FC) to review whether daily data could be obtained from any Shippers submitting lists of Smart meters in Prepayment mode, on which to base a profile.  
**Update:** Data has been provided and Xoserve is working on this. **Closed**

**DE0303:** *UNC Modification 0451AV* - As soon as possible, Shippers to provide Xoserve with at least 12 - 18 months of Pre Payment data (to cover 2 winters - If 3 years' data is available that would be preferred) including prevailing AQs to assist building a profile.  
**Update:** Data has been provided and Xoserve is working on this. **Closed**

**DE0304:** *Changes to Gas Day - Impacts (Weather Data)* - SB to produce and analyse a mix of data to demonstrate how a new set of weightings might improve fit to demand, i.e. perform a regression analysis of daily consumption against two-hourly temperature and four-hourly windspeed.  
**Update:** SB drew attention to the paper provided: [Within-day Shape Analysis \(provided by E.ON\)](#). **Closed**

**DE0305:** *Changes to Gas Day - Impacts (Weather Data)* – Xoserve to explore with the Transporters what they are intending to do with their timings, e.g. forecasting, and whether they are staying on 'odd' hours.  
**Update:** FC confirmed that the Change of the Gas Day table had been updated and published. Implementation details were queried - which day (30 September or 01 October 2015) might be considered to be long or short? It was explained there would be transitional rules to manage the switch-over and this was supposed to be clarified by the Transporters. FC noted the concerns and agreed to seek clarification to understand the impacts of the timing of the implementation. **Carried forward**

**Post Meeting Note:** FC confirmed the following information: “*National Grid Transmission, who proposed the Modification and provided the legal text, have confirmed that the intention of the workgroup was that Gas Day 30 September 2015 would be a 23-hour day, beginning at 06:00 and ending at 05:00. Gas Day 1 October would then be a 24-hour day, beginning and ending at 05:00. National Grid Transmission are satisfied that the implementation notice is correct as it stands.*”

**DE0306:** *Changes to Gas Day- Impacts (Sample Data)* – Xoserve to discuss the datalogger position with the Transporters.

**Update:** Datalogger polling had been discussed and it was not possible to change the NDM dataloggers at/to an earlier date/time than DM dataloggers; the matrix had been updated. **Closed.**

**DE0601:** *Climate Change Datasets* - Met Office to examine the Heathrow data and winter warming trends.

**Update:** The Met Office provided a paper in response to the action publication on website [Consideration of Climate Change Datasets: Responses to Industry Questions](#). **Closed**

#### 4. Approve Climate Change Data Sets

The participants from the Met Office were present for this agenda item only.

FC gave a brief presentation [Consideration of Climate Change Datasets](#) outlining the background, datasets and the objectives of today's meeting and referred to the Met Office paper provided in response to Action DE0601. It was noted that the Met Office had responded not only to its action but also to other industry queries raised. These were discussed.

Datasets - DP expressed overall satisfaction with the numbers coming out for the high level items, but added that he did have some concerns with annual change described. He believed that the level of variation did not look quite right and was not appropriate for a climatology, and commented on the amount of 'noise' at a daily level. JH handed out a wave graph (provided by EDF Energy) illustrating concerns that 'noise' could be misinterpreted as a signal.

DP also expressed concern regarding solar radiation daylight levels at night – this did not give confidence, but rather a negative impression. He believed that the datasets would benefit from a little more refinement and quality control. EP offered to 'tidy up' the data if this would help to dispel any reservations. DP welcomed this if the DESC wished to agree its undertaking. He reiterated he was happy to approve the data sets as they are, having made his reservations known.

DP's understanding had been that a climatology would be provided, rather than the raw data which would then have to be smoothed by DESC. EP explained his understanding of what was required and FC recapped on discussions at previous meetings. It was more of a projection to give some idea of the trend and the variability, which could be used to derive a climatology and a model. FC observed that the shape of CWVs would be expected to be smoothed to the same degree as currently and again referred to previous discussions where it was considered and recognised that it was better not to include smoothing too early on so as to avoid problems if it was necessary to remove it later. This dataset had been specifically designed for a purpose, and parties were in effect doing two slightly different things with it so this was perhaps slightly out of kilter?

DP made reference to the wording in the modification and FC clarified this. DP still had concerns regarding the perceived lack of refinement, commenting that an objective had been to provide every party with an identical set so that all started from the same basis, rather than each party having to make individual adjustments; he was not sure that that was progress. FC reminded that it was essential to get to a CWV so adjustments would have to be made; it will have one value over 5 years. SB asked over how many years was it to be averaged? DP was not sure that averaging would get rid of it; daily increments will take out annual noise. FC described how the single value increments would be applied, averaged, and smoothed to get to the shape with the Buchan Spells in it. MR commented that he understood DP's reservations regarding the lack of refinement but did not perceive that to be a problem for DESC.

FC was keen to ensure that DESC were happy with the data sets. DP reiterated he was happy to approve the data sets as they are, having made his reservations known.

The DESC then approved the data sets, noting that there would be a further exercise to

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approve the Hawarden datasets currently under production.

## 5. 0451AV Draft Profile

MPa gave a presentation on the [Modification 0451AV Draft PPM Profile \(provided by Xoserve\)](#), outlining the background to the modification and the basis of and approach to the analysis. The results of the analysis were reviewed and compared to the previous indicative profile. FC observed that the previous profile was very strong in weekend effects, but this new one is more consistent with standard ALPs and this is reassuring. The sample size is now improved in numbers and is using more upto date data and so a more appropriate algorithm can now be built (although still for LDZ SO only).

Periodic Pre-payment meter data has been provided by British Gas and EDF Energy and is being validated and analysed. Referring to Ofgem's keenness in respect of the timely creation of a suitable profile, FC explained the timescales that Xoserve was working towards to achieve this.

## 6. Any Other Business

### 6.1 SSE Staff Changes

MR announced his retirement and that his replacement for DESC would be his standing alternate, Tony Davey, who was also the representative for DESC TWG. MR will formalise the position with an email to the Joint Office.

The Joint Office noted the changes required to the memberships published at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/desc> and <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/DESC/TWGRepresentatives>.

Those present thanked MR for his valued contributions to the work of the DESC and wished him well in his retirement.

### 6.2 Half Hourly Data

CI reported that British Gas had half hourly data available for provision to Xoserve to assist within day balancing. FC confirmed that within day balancing was no longer under consideration in the Gas Industry, and in terms of daily profiling half hourly data would not be able to be utilised in the foreseeable future; at present there was more interest in the provision of daily data.

### 6.3 Actions transferred from DESC Technical Workgroup

At the DESC Technical Workgroup meeting it was agreed that the following actions should be transferred to the responsibility of DESC. These actions will be reviewed at the DESC meeting on 09 July 2014.

**DTW0501: To review the E.ON 'Within-day Shape Analysis' paper.**

**DTW0502:**

- a) **DESC representatives and Xoserve to work together to look at ways to enhance the current data sets with a target to have additional data for October.**
- b) **Xoserve to provide the DESC/DESC TWG representatives with a specification by the end June.**

## 7 Diary Planning

Following the day's discussions, it was agreed to change the next DESC meeting on 09 July 2014 to a teleconference, commencing at **10:00**.

### DESC and DESC Technical Workgroup Meetings 2014

Meetings will take place as follows.

Time/Date	Venue	Meeting	Programme
<b>10:00</b> Wednesday 09 July 2014	Teleconference	<b>DESC</b>	Review and approval of 2014/15 NDM Algorithms
10:30 Wednesday 30 July 2014	31 Homer Road, Solihull B91 3LT	<b>DESC</b>	Review representations (if any) and consider response  0451AV Draft Profile
10:30 Monday 18 August 2014	31 Homer Road, Solihull B91 3LT	<b>DESC</b>	<i>Provisional meeting – to be confirmed</i>
10:30 Monday 22 September 2014	31 Homer Road, Solihull B91 3LT	<b>DESC</b>	<i>Provisional meeting – to be confirmed</i>
10:30 Wednesday 12 November 2014	Energy Networks Association (ENA), 6 <sup>th</sup> Floor, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AF	<b>DESC</b>	Evaluation of Algorithm Performance: Strand 1 – SF and WCF

### Action Table: Demand Estimation Sub-committee

Action Ref	Meeting Date(s)	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
<b>DE0202</b>	12/02/14	5.	All parties to suggest different ways that the EUC Banding might be split, based on consumption levels or customer attributes.	All	<b>Closed</b>
<b>DE0204</b>	12/02/14	6.1	All parties to look to provide evidence suitable to support Xoserve in completing the analysis for action DE0203.	All	<b>Closed</b>
<b>DE0301</b>	25/03/14	4.	<i>Climate Change Methodology (Phase 2)</i> - Confirm output delivery dates.	Xoserve (FC)	<b>Closed</b>

Action Ref	Meeting Date(s)	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
DE0302	25/03/14	5.	<i>UNC Modification 0451AV</i> - Xoserve (FC) to review whether daily data could be obtained from any Shippers submitting lists of Smart meters in Prepayment mode, on which to base a profile.	Xoserve (FC)	<b>Closed</b>
DE0303	25/03/14	5.	<i>UNC Modification 0451AV</i> - As soon as possible, Shippers to provide Xoserve with at least 12 - 18 months of Pre Payment data (to cover 2 winters - If 3 years' data is available that would be preferred) including prevailing AQs to assist building a profile;	Shippers	<b>Closed</b>
DE0304	25/03/14	6.	<i>Changes to Gas Day - Impacts (Weather Data)</i> - SB to produce and analyse a mix of data to demonstrate how a new set of weightings might slot in, i.e. hourly demand and temperature, weight the hours, regression analysis, etc	E.ON (SB)	<b>Closed</b>
DE0305	25/03/14	6.	<i>Changes to Gas Day - Impacts (Weather Data)</i> – Xoserve to explore with the Transporters what they are intending to do with their timings, e.g. forecasting, and whether they are staying on 'odd' hours.	Xoserve and Transporters	<b>Carried forward</b>
DE0306	25/03/14	6.	<i>Changes to Gas Day - Impacts (Sample Data)</i> – Xoserve to discuss the datalogger position with the Transporters.	Xoserve and Transporters	<b>Closed</b>
DTW0501 (transferred from DESC Technical Workgroup)	21/05/14	(DESC TWG 2.2)	To review the E.ON 'Within-day Shape Analysis' paper	All	<b>Carried forward</b>
DTW0502 (transferred from DESC Technical Workgroup)	21/05/14	(DESC TWG 3.0)	a) DESC and Xoserve to work together to look at ways to enhance the current data sets with a target to have additional data for October;  b) Xoserve to provide the DESC/DESC TWG representatives with a specification by the end of June.	All	<b>Carried forward</b>
DE0601	11/06/14	4.	<i>Climate Change Datasets</i> - Met Office to examine the Heathrow data and winter warming trends.	Met Office (EP)	<b>Closed</b>

