

Stage 01: Modification

0511:

Introduction of an Enduring Solution for managing Advanced Meters in central systems post Nexus

At what stage is this document in the process?



With the continuing rollout of Advanced Metering across the Non Domestic market and the extension till 2016 of the ability to deploy Advanced Metering it is important to be able to identify the presence of Advanced Metering at customer sites. This is particularly important during Change of Supplier (CoS) events and in particular with proposals to optimise the CoS process. Currently central systems do not hold and identify Advanced Meters and associated Advanced Meter Reading equipment or (AMR) Service Providers (ASP's).

Whilst modification 0487S provides a short term solution prior to NEXUS this proposal looks to introduce an enduring solution to manage advanced meters in central systems post Nexus.



The Proposer recommends that this modification should be:

- assessed by a Workgroup



High Impact:



Medium Impact:



Low Impact:

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About this document:

This modification will be presented by the proposer to the panel on 21 August 2014.

The panel will consider the proposer's recommendation and agree whether this modification should be:

- referred to a workgroup for assessment.

For reference previously this proposal was conjoined with Modification 0487S Introduction of an Advanced Meter Indicator and Advanced Meter Reader (AMR) Service Provider Identifier in advance of Project Nexus Go Live however it was agreed by the modification 0487S workgroup that it would be more expedient to separate a pre Nexus and post solution and thus 0487S is now explicit to providing a pre Nexus solution only.



Any questions?

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1 Summary

Is this a Self-Governance Modification?

The proposer doesn't believe the modification should be subject to self-governance as the changes proposed would have a material impact on the Modification Rules.

Is this a Fast Track Self-Governance Modification?

The proposer doesn't believe the modification should be subject to Fast Track Self Governance as this is not a house-keeping modification.

Why Change?

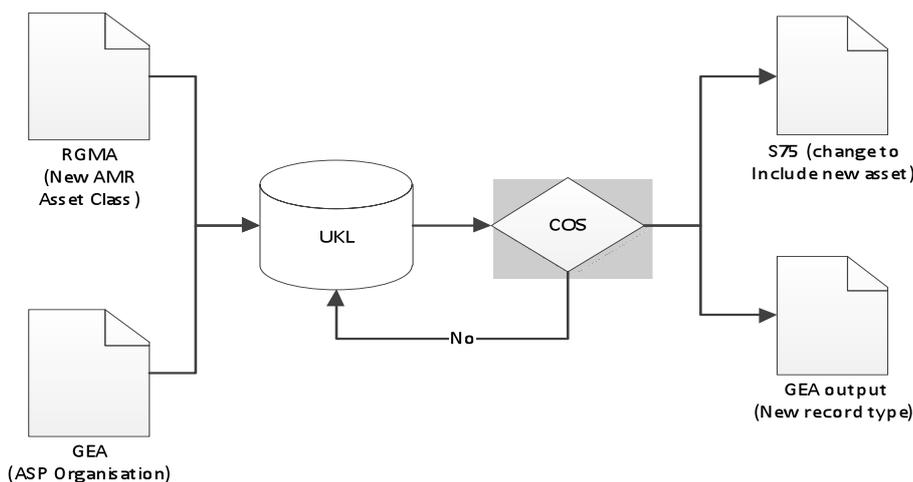
Currently central systems do not identify if the in situ meter is operating in Advanced Mode and if so who the current Advanced Meter Reading Service Provider (ASP) is and what AMR equipment is used. This lack of information creates issues on CoS with the new Shipper & Supplier unable to easily identify if the Meter is advanced and who the current service provider is.

Solution

This solution proposes the development of an enduring solution for managing Advanced Meters in central systems post Nexus.

Based on the work undertaken under Modification 0487S: Introduction of an Advanced Meter Indicator and Advanced Meter Reader (AMR) Service Provider Identifier in advance of Project Nexus Go Live it is proposed to further develop an enduring post Nexus solution for managing Advanced Meters in central systems post Nexus.

It is proposed that the Post Nexus solution communicates the correct organisation, organisation type and relevant AMR asset data at the site without the data having to be derived or assumed (see diagram below)



Relevant Objectives

Post Nexus holding the more comprehensive information in central systems will improve the CoS process even further by avoiding the need for the Shipper & Supplier to derive or assume information. This enables the new Shipper & Supplier to more efficiently make the necessary arrangements in relation to the site, therefore further relevant objective d) by securing effective competition between relevant shippers.

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Implementation

We propose implementation in line with Project Nexus.

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2 Why Change?

Currently central systems do not identify if the in situ meter is operating in Advanced Mode and if so who the current Advanced Meter Reading (AMR) Service Provider (ASP) is. This lack of information creates inefficiencies on Change of Supplier (CoS) with the new Supplier unable to efficiently identify if the Meter is currently advanced and who the current ASP is.

Scenario

In the circumstance that Shipper B transfers a Meter Point into their portfolio from Shipper A. Shipper B has no way of identifying whether Advanced Meter equipment is present at site upon receipt of the Meter Information provided to the incoming Shipper by the Transporter on the Meter Reading Information (MRI) File as this is not held on Transporter System so this cannot be provided

Shipper B may then contract an ASP to install an Advance Meter to their newly registered Meter Point. The ASP visits site to report that an Advanced Meter has already been installed by another ASP on behalf of Shipper A, and therefore Shipper B has incurred the costs associated with an ultimately aborted visit.

This lack of centralised information also inhibits the ability to appoint service providers in a timely and efficient manner and thus the introduction of this information will support and compliment improvements being sought through Change of Supplier process reviews and associated modifications.

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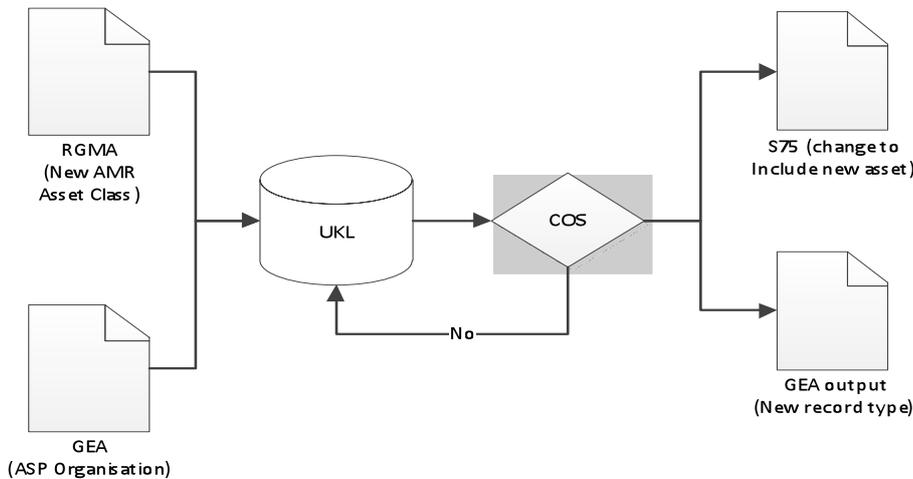
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3 Solution

This modification proposes the development of an enduring solution for managing Advanced Meters in central systems post Nexus.

Based on the work undertaken under Modification 0487S: Introduction of an Advanced Meter Indicator and Advanced Meter Reader (AMR) Service Provider Identifier in advance of Project Nexus Go Live it is proposed to further develop an enduring post Nexus solution for managing Advanced Meters in central systems post Nexus.

It is proposed that the Post Nexus solution communicates the correct organisation, organisation type and relevant AMR asset data at the site without the data having to be derived or assumed (see diagram below)



User Pays

Classification of the modification as User Pays, or not, and the justification for such classification.

This is a User Pays modification as it proposes to change or amend central systems.

Identification of Users of the service, the proposed split of the recovery between Gas Transporters and Users for User Pays costs and the justification for such view.

It is proposed that charging would utilize the Meter Sector Flag to determine the allocation of costs. Those MPRN's populated with an "I" representing non domestic sites would be used to determine the population used to determine the Shippers relevant market share and thus the relevant share of the costs based on that market share.

Proposed charge(s) for application of User Pays charges to Shippers.

To be confirmed.

Proposed charge for inclusion in the Agency Charging Statement (ACS) – to be completed upon receipt of a cost estimate from Xoserve.

To be confirmed.

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4 Relevant Objectives

Impact of the modification on the Relevant Objectives:

Relevant Objective	Identified impact
a) Efficient and economic operation of the pipe-line system.	None
b) Coordinated, efficient and economic operation of (i) the combined pipe-line system, and/ or (ii) the pipe-line system of one or more other relevant gas transporters.	None
c) Efficient discharge of the licensee's obligations.	None
d) Securing of effective competition: (i) between relevant shippers; (ii) between relevant suppliers; and/or (iii) between DN operators (who have entered into transportation arrangements with other relevant gas transporters) and relevant shippers.	Positive
e) Provision of reasonable economic incentives for relevant suppliers to secure that the domestic customer supply security standards... are satisfied as respects the availability of gas to their domestic customers.	None
f) Promotion of efficiency in the implementation and administration of the Code.	None
g) Compliance with the Regulation and any relevant legally binding decisions of the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Co-operation of Energy Regulators.	None

Centralising the relevant information will improve the CoS process by ensuring the new Shipper & Supplier has ready access to the status of the MPRN and the relevant AMR Service Provider and associated information. This enables the new Shipper & Supplier to efficiently make the necessary arrangements in relation to the site and will therefore further relevant object d) securing of effective competition.

5 Implementation

We propose implementation in line with Project Nexus.

6 Legal Text

To be provided by Northern Gas Networks.

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7 Recommendation

The Proposer invites the Panel to:

- Determine that this modification should not be subject to self-governance; and
- Should progress to Workgroup assessment.

We would like this proposal considered at short notice by the panel as it has been produced as part of the development of Modification 0487S Introduction of an Advanced Meter Indicator and Advanced Meter Reader (AMR) Service Provider Identifier in advance of Project Nexus Go Live which it is hoped will shortly be issued for consultation.

So no delay occurs to introducing a pre Nexus solution it was felt that it was expedient to separate the Pre Nexus and Post Nexus solutions.

A significant amount of development for this modification has already been undertaken as part of 0487S and time pressures for system changes require certainty around the post Nexus solution as soon as reasonably practicable.