

Distribution Workstream Minutes 22 September 2005

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Thursday 22 September 2005

Novotel, B-ham International Airport

Attendees (AM)

Julian Majdanski (Chair)	JM	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Helen Cuin (Secretary)	HC	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Adam Frak	AF	SSE
Brian Durber	AT	E.On Energy
Bryony Sheldon	BS	Ofgem
Chris Warner	CW	National Grid (UKD)
Gareth Evans	GE	Total
Heidi Martin	HM	RWE Npower
Melanie Pilkington	MP	xoserve
Mick Curtis	MC	E=mc ²
Pete Ratledge	PR	Npower Business
Phil Lucas	PL	National Grid (UKD)
Richard Pomroy	RP	Wales and West Utilities
Robert Cameron-Higgs	RCH	Northern Gas Networks
Steve Courtney	SC	Scotia Gas Networks
Steve Mulinganie	SM	BP
Steve Nunnington	SN	xoserve

Apologies

Alex Travell	E.On Energy
George Donoghue	Scottish Power
Graham Wood	British Gas Trading
Simon Howe	RWE NPower

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1. Status Review

- 1.1. Minutes from August Distribution Workstream
No comments received. Minutes approved.
- 1.2. Review of Actions from August Distribution Workstream meeting.
See Action Table Appendix for updates.
- 1.3. Review of Live Modification Proposals and Topics Log
JM reviewed Live Modification Proposals and Topics Log.
GE and HM highlighted concerns with some of the Legal Text for the Credit Modifications. GE sought clarification on the process to amend Legal Text and whether re-consultation will occur. JM confirmed that the Modification Panel is able to vote for re-consultation, therefore the Modification Panel to be aware of the concerns raised. GE will raise with a Panel member.
Topic 008Dis – MC requested Transporters consider bringing forward development. Priority changed to Medium.
Topic 009Dis – National Grid (UKD) will provide an update in November.

2. Modification Proposals

None

3. Topics on Agenda

- 3.1. 002Dis – Isolation of Prime & Sub-deducts
CW gave a presentation on Primary & Sub-deduct metering – Isolation of analytical meters (attached). CW stated Transco may be prepared to assume responsibility for ongoing provision and maintenance of a Primary 'check' meter (where the meter is owned by the Transporter). However Transco would need to be able to recover allowable costs.
Transco is considering the possibility of a UNC Modification Proposal to:
 - Permit a User to Withdraw without removing the Primary meter from the Transporter's network.
 - The Relevant Transporter would then assume an ongoing obligation to provide and maintain the Primary 'check' meter.
 - A User would be required to re-register if the Primary meter assumes an independent load in the future.xoserve were requested to consider in this case of an isolation and withdrawal of a Prime Meter, that the Prime Meter should not become available on the Electronic Notice Board as a Shipper-less site.
RP highlighted the long-term aim to remove all Prime and sub-deduct meter configurations from the WWU Network and suggested solutions including disallowing further connections to Primary Meters. A discussion evolved around the prevention of future Prime configurations and only allowing direct Network Connections. National Grid (UKD) confirmed no new Prime and Sub-

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deduct configurations are allowed. However, existing Prime and Sub-deduct sites can be re-configured.

Attendees discussed a solution to prevent a check meter being re-configured as a Prime meter.

Action Dis0901: All to consider solution that once a prime meter has become a check meter it cannot be re-configured back to a Prime Meter

CW requested information from all on the number of analytical meters in situ, to allow an assessment of the exposure to Transporters. (See Post Meeting Note provided by National Grid.)

Action Dis0902: Shippers to assess how many analytical meters are present within their portfolio.

CW confirmed cost implications would be included within the price-control review. However the costs need to be assessed.

Action Dis0903: National Grid (UKD) to formally request xoserve to undertake cost implication analysis for Prime Meter Isolations

Action Dis0904: xoserve to review National Grid (UKD) proposal, assess system impacts and assist with establishing associated costs of prime isolations for next Workstream meeting.

SN provided the number of Prime & Sub-deducts per Network (attached).

Clarification was provided that currently analytical meters transfer into the xoserve TRE Account.

RP suggested an alternative to this would be to use an existing process for creating Shared Meter Points. SN confirmed this would be more costly due to having to create unique sites (removing site from S&M and transferring to an offline system).

CW presented differentiated prices for Sub-deducts (attached).

MC questioned how the pricing differs to a CSEP.

Attendees discussed Transporters' obligations.

GE raised concern regarding the maintenance of Network pipes and the differing view of ownership beyond the ECV. GE sought guidance from Ofgem, seeking clarification on the Transporters' position. (see Post Meeting Note provided by National Grid)

Action Dis0905: BS, Ofgem to provide view of Prime and Sub-deduct Network ownership and Network Licence Conditions.

3.2. Any new topics

HM, RWE Npower, raised a New High Priority Topic, 011Dis. Must Reads - Implementation of Modification 0017 'Amendments to the provisions governing "failure to obtain readings"'. Suggesting consideration of the Meter Read visit being used as a Meter Inspection in reference to Licence Condition 17 obligations. To be discussed at 27/10 Meeting.

GE Total, raised a New Medium Priority Topic 012Dis. Shrinkage Review Group - 2006 Process. Suggesting a possible Sub-group of Distribution Workstream to review process for 2006, as no formal review group has been

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established to review processes and procedures for Shrinkage. To be discussed further at 27/10 Meeting.

GE Total, raised a High Priority Topic 0013Dis. Network Ownership beyond ECV at Prime and Sub-deduct Meter Configuration. Suggesting consideration given to the maintenance of Network pipes and views of Network Ownership beyond the Emergency Control Valve (ECV). To be discussed further at 27/10 Meeting.

4. AOB

CW presented information (attached) on Modification 0029 'Metering Arrangements at Special Metering Supply Points' (Unique Sites). Meter Asset Updates. Legal Text 2.7.4 and 2.7.5. Interpretation of N within the formula needs to be changed.

Action Dis0906: Consent to Modify to be raised by National Grid and issued to Joint Office.

5. Diary Planning for Workstream

Next Meetings:

Thursday 27 October 2005, 10:00, at Elexon, 350 Euston Road.

Thursday 24 November 2005, 10:00, TBA

Thursday 22 December 2005, 10:00, at Elexon, 350 Euston Road

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Action Table (Appendix 1)

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
	23/06/05	4.2	National Grid to consider providing Legal Guidance with regards to the referred Prime and Sub-deduct Agreement. As currently ambiguous.	National Grid (CW)	Action: Closed
	28/07/05	2.2	xoserve to provide number of sub-deduct configurations per Network	xoserve (SN)	Action: Complete (Note issued with minutes)
	25/08/05	3.1	AR to confirm which parties will be able to register for the National Grid Incident Website service.	National Grid (AR)	Action: Complete (See Final Modification Report)
	25/08/05	3.1	Transporters (other than National Grid) to clarify their incident communication procedure.	Transporters	Action: Complete (See Final Modification Report)
	25/08/05	3.2	Transporters agreed to consider performance monitoring as part of operational procedures associated with Modification Proposal 0047.	Transporters	Action: Complete (National Grid will be undertaking internal monitoring – no response provided by other Transporters)
	25/08/05	3.2	National Grid to amend Modification Proposal 0047 in light of comments.	National Grid (AR)	Action: Complete
	25/08/05	4.1	GE to supply Licence reference indicating Transporters are responsible for the Network beyond a primary meter. Reference to be supplied to Joint Office for onward communication.	Total (GE)	Action: Complete (Post meeting note issued)
	25/08/05	4.1	All to inform the Joint Office of the issues they would wish to see addressed in the September presentation.	All	Action: Closed (None received)
	25/08/05	4.1	Chris Warner to consider and present at September Workstream on identified issues, including: proposed UNC changes; processes associated with Primary Meter Isolations and associated paperwork; status of isolated meters on Sites and	National Grid (CW)	Action: Closed (Presentation provided)

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Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
			Meters; status of emergency control valve; and network ownership.		
	25/08/05	4.1	Ofgem to provide further clarity on their views regarding Primary Meter Isolations.	Ofgem (BS)	C/F
	25/08/05	4.2	Transporters to consider a code of practice for Large Scale Service Disconnection, providing a progress update by the November meeting.	Transporters	Action: C/F
Dis0901	22/09/05	3.1	All to consider solution that once a prime meter has become a check meter it cannot be re-configured back to a Prime Meter	All	
Dis0902	22/09/05	3.1	Shippers to assess how many analytical meters are present within their portfolio.	Shippers	(Post Meeting information request issued)
Dis0903	22/09/05	3.1	National Grid (UKD) to formally request xoserve to undertake cost implication analysis for Prime Meter Isolations	National Grid (CW)	
Dis0904	22/09/05	3.1	xoserve to review National Grid (UKD) proposal, assess system impacts and assist with establishing associated costs of prime isolations for next Workstream meeting.	Xoserve (SN)	
Dis0905	22/09/05	3.1	BS, Ofgem to provide view of Prime and Sub-deduct Network ownership and Network Licence Conditions.	Ofgem (BS)	
Dis0906	22/09/05	AOB	Consent to Modify to be raised by National Grid and issued to Joint Office.	National Grid (CW)	Complete (Consent to Modify raised)