UK LINK Committee Minutes Thursday 08 October 2009 Teleconference

Attendees

John Bradley (Chair)	(JB) Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Mike Berrisford (Secretary)	(MiB) Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Ashley Collins	(AC) EDF Energy
Danielle King	(DK) E.ON UK
Dave Addison	(DA) xoserve
David Watson	(DW) Centrica
Martin Brandt	(MB) SSE
Nick Reeves	(NR) National Grid NTS
Sean McGoldrick	(SM) National Grid NTS
Stephanie Shepherd	(SS) RWE npower
Apologies	

Mark Cockayne

xoserve

1. Review of Minutes and Actions

1.1. Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

1.2. Review of actions.

Appendix A contains a tabulated update on actions.

UKL 1159 – DA informed members that APIs are NOT included in Phase II of the High Level (Exit Reform) Release Plan, but will be included in Phase III once all the Daily Activities are in place.

Chair (JB) asked, and members agreed to close the action.

Action UKL 1159: Closed

UKL 1161 – DA informed members that preparation work is scheduled to commence during the next few weeks, which will consider development of the proposed (Exit Reform) training materials. He will provide an update at the November meeting.

Chair (JB) asked, and members agreed to carry forward the action.

Action UKL 1161: Carried Forward

UKL 1164 – DA informed members that he has held discussions with Graham Wood over the proposed British Gas June 2010 system changes to accommodate their MAM activity. DW advised that BG are fully aware of the community's concerns and have therefore, in liaison with xoserve, proposed a phased approach.

DA pointed out that from his perspective, if the changes relate simply to the volumes associated with the MAM activities then he is not too concerned about "traffic issues". However, if the proposed changes include swopping out the

assets, then potential volumes could be an issue. Ultimately, he would need to fully appreciate the scale of the requirements, especially as he is presently unclear as to the maximum volume that could be processed in a day. It may be feasible to accommodate the changes over the course of a weekend. He expects to provide an update in due course.

In closing, DW advised members that the 'original' proposed timetable (by the end of Q1 2010) remains valid.

MB indicated that he would like a reassurance from xoserve that every effort would be made to avoid the problems encountered during the AQ review.

Chair (JB) asked, and members agreed to carry forward the action.

Action UKL 1164: Carried Forward

UKL 1165 – National Grid (SM) informed members that whilst this item would be covered under AOB later in the meeting, no specific presentation is available.

UKL 1168 – xoserve (DA) informed members that this would be covered under item 4, below.

2. Other Industry Fora

JB reported that there had been no recently "closed" UNC modifications with system impacts. He then provided an update (by exception) on the "live" UNC Modifications with a potential impact upon UK Link systems, specifically highlighting the following status changes since the previous meeting:

- 0231 "Changes to the Reasonable Endeavours Scheme to better incentivise the detection of Theft". Allocated to the Distribution Workstream with a report due at the 15/10/09 Panel meeting;
- 0245 "Review of arrangements regarding the detection and investigation of Theft of Gas". Review Group work ongoing with a report to 19/11/09 Panel meeting;
- 0246/0246A/0246B "Quarterly NTS Entry Capacity User Commitment". Currently with the Authority who have recently concluded their Regulatory Impact Assessment;
- 0248 "Meter Reading Replacement". Allocated to the Distribution Workstream with a report now due at the 15/10/09 Panel meeting;
- 0250 "Introduction of the Code Contingency Guidelines Document". With the Authority who have requested provision of legal text before making their decision;
- 0253 "Facilitating a Supply Point Enquiry Service for Large Supply Points". With the Authority who have requested provision of legal text before making their decision;
- 0259 "Removal of Obligations to Install UK Link User Equipment and UK Link User Software for UK Link Users who utilise the services of an UK Link User Agent". Allocated to the Distribution and Transmission Workstreams (both of whom recommend implementation) with a report now due at the 15/10/09 Panel meeting;
- 0263 "Enabling the Assignment of a Partial Quantity of Registered NTS Exit (Flat) Capacity". Allocated to the Transmission Workstream with a report now due at the 17/09/09 Panel meeting, and
- 0264 "Review of Industry Arrangements to Accommodate Reduced Demand at DM Supply Points". Allocated to Review Group with a report now due at the 17/12/09 panel meeting; Terms of Reference have been reviewed.

Moving on, JB informed members that the Operational Forum had not met since the last UK Link meeting.

3. UK Link Modification Implementation Plan (and review of UK Link Modification Status Report)

3.1 COR 1133 – Facilitating the use of AMR in a DM Elective Regime

xoserve (DA) informed members that there is no confirmed implementation date as yet, but once one becomes available he will be seeking the Committee's approval. It should be noted that the request is for implementation prior to October 2010.

3.2 COR 1374 – MIPI Phase II

xoserve (DA) informed members that this Class 1 change is on schedule for implementation this coming weekend (Sat/Sun, 10/11 October) with no visible user impacts involved.

3.3 COR 1353.2 – DNO Failure to Supply Gas Process – Facilitating Compensation Payments to End users on iGt & DNO Networks

xoserve (DA) informed members that this was still on track for a 05/11/09 implementation.

3.4 Changes to UK Link Manual to Amend Gemini Contingency Procedures

xoserve (DA) informed members that this remains 'on track' for a November 2009 implementation.

SM informed members that this is waiting an actual implementation date from xoserve. Chair (JB) pointed out that the associated UNC modification proposal (0250) is currently awaiting a decision from the Authority although this does not exclude changing the manual without approval of the modification. SM supported this view, especially when considering the Gemini related aspects.

DA agreed to undertake an action to investigate if a proposed implementation date is available and provide an update at the November meeting.

3.5 COR 1617 – Change to Pulse Value Format

xoserve (DA) informed members that this remains 'on track'. Furthermore, should anyone wish to see the number of affected meter points within their portfolio, please request this directly from DA.

3.6 COR 462b – Expiry of Gemini Exit Zones & Downstream Impacts

xoserve (DA) advised members that following approval at the September UKLC meeting, the remains 'on track' for a February 2010 implementation.

3.7 COR1360 – NTS Exit Reform Phase 1

xoserve (DA) informed members that this remains 'on track' and that the indicative dates still apply. An update will be provided in due course.

4. Review of Topics Status Report

xoserve (DA) provided members with a brief update on the xoserve strategic initiatives, as follows:

- <u>Project Nexus</u> update now expected at November UKLC meeting;
- <u>IP Solution (Introduction of a Data Warehouse)</u> progressing on schedule with no anticipated user impact and will provide enhanced reporting facilities, and
- <u>ConQuest Replacement</u> Awareness Workshop held earlier in the week seeking responses from Shipper technical/commercial/operational personnel. Feedback would suggest that whilst it is xoserve's intention to retain the existing system 'look & feel' the community would prefer to see improvements in areas such as system

process flows and changes to the generic file format (to better target query types) and these items will now be included in the design considerations.

xoserve (DA) asked members to contact their respective colleagues to ascertain if there are any other items that would be suitable for consideration. A copy of the presentation materials utilised in the workshop will be provided in due course. Moving on, DA explained that the project to provide a functioning query system is scheduled to commence in a couple of week's time following on from this initial engagement exercise. Training materials in the form of a User Guide, supplemented by a two (2) week shipper trial & training exercise will be provided in due course.

DA went on to add that confirmed implementation plans will not be available until later within the project. However, the Committee were asked to note that the views of the shipper operational personnel had been to make changes to Operational and System Processes – by refined screen flows and format data optionality. Given the project timescales any such changes will probably be notified to the Committee with minimum timescales considering the indicative implementation date of August/September 2010. Following a request from members, DA agreed to take an action to provide an update at the Dec 09 UKLC meeting.

In light of the above, Chair (JB) asked, and members agreed to close the UKL1168 action.

Action UKL 1168: Closed

 <u>Gemini Re-platforming</u> – DA informed members that whilst he had no specific update to provide today he would be happy to provide one in the near future. SM suggested that more information would become available in time for the Dec 09 UKLC meeting.

Action UKL1170: xoserve (DA) to provide a copy of the Awareness Workshop presentation materials for publication on the Joint Office web site.

Action UKL1171: xoserve (DA) to provide an update on the proposed implementation plan details for the ConQuest Replacement.

5. Performance Reporting

xoserve (DA) reviewed the xoserve Report Pack by exception only.

5.1 IS Faults logged by Shippers (xoserve Report A).

This report was accepted.

5.2 UK-Link Business Support Agreement (xoserve Report B)

This report was accepted.

5.3 Liabilities Report (xoserve Report C)

This report was accepted.

5.4 Report on Performance Problems

This report was accepted.

- 6. File Format and Urgent Communications (xoserve Report D) This report was accepted.
- 7. Planned Outages (xoserve Report E) This report was accepted.
- 8. AOB
 - NCORM Update

Chair (JB) provided a brief update as to why the Uniform Network Code Committee (UNCC) look towards the UK Link Committee for approval of changes to the Network Code Operational Reporting Manual (NCORM) – reliance on their technical expertise.

He went on to inform members that Review Group 0140 "Review of Information Provision on National Grid's Information Exchange" had already considered the requirements in detail which resulted in the completion of MIPI Phase I. Currently MIPI Phase II is underway and therefore National Grid have provided an updated NCORM. National Grid (NR) supported this by informing members that the changes made to the manual build on MIPI Phase I and incorporate improvements suggested by RG0140. SM informed members that the go-live date for MIPI Phase II is Nov 09. A Helpline will be available on: 01926 656474.

When asked, members approved the changes to the NCORM.

In light of the above, Chair (JB) asked, and members agreed to close the UKL1165 action.

Action UKL 1165: Closed

9. Next Meeting

The November 2009 UK Link Committee meeting will be via teleconference and is scheduled to commence at 10:00 am on Thursday 12 November 2009.

APPENDIX A

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref (original ref)	Action	Owner*	Status Update
UKL 1159	11/06/09	1.2 (3.4)	Investigate whether or not APIs could be included within Phase 2 of the High Level Release Plan.	xoserve (DA)	Update provided. Closed
UKL 1161	11/06/09	1.2 (3.4)	Consider preparation and delivery of suitable training materials to appropriate timescales.	xoserve (DA)	Update due at November meeting. Carried Forward
UKL 1164	09/07/09	1.2 (1.1)	Contact BG to discuss their specific volume increase requirements for their proposed June 2010 system change (change to the MAN activity).	xoserve (DA)	Update due at November meeting. Carried Forward
UKL 1165	13/08/09	8. (3.2)	Investigate National Grid's progress on changes required to the NCORM to facilitate the implementation of this change request.	National Grid NTS (SM)	Update provided. Closed
UKL 1168	13/08/09	4. (4.)	Consider issuing a communication providing more detail on the proposed ConQuest replacement (BPMS) seeking Users views on what their requirements maybe.	xoserve (DA)	Update provided. Closed
UKL 1170	08/10/09	4.	Provide a copy of the Awareness Workshop presentation materials for publication on the Joint Office web site.	xoserve (DA)	Update due at November meeting.
UKL 1171	08/10/09	4.	Provide an update on the proposed implementation plan details for the ConQuest Replacement.	xoserve (DA)	Update due at December meeting.

ACTION LOG: UK Link Committee 08 October 2009

* Key to action owner

DA David Addison, xoserve