

UK LINK Committee Minutes
Thursday 11 March 2010
via Teleconference

Attendees

Mike Berrisford (Chair)	(MiB)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Lorna Dupont (Secretary)	(LD)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Andy Simpson	(AS)	xoserve
Ashley Collins	(AC)	EDF Energy
Danielle King	(DK)	E.ON UK
Dave Harris	(DH)	Total Gas & Power
David Watson	(DW)	Centrica
Lewis Plummer	(LP)	xoserve
Louise Williams	(LW)	RWE npower
Mark Cockayne	(MC)	xoserve
Martin Brandt	(MB)	SSE
Sean McGoldrick	(SM)	National Grid NTS
Stephanie Shepherd	(SS)	RWE npower

Apologies

Dave Addison	xoserve
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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 1164 – xoserve (MC) informed members that discussions with British Gas are still ongoing.

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

Action UKL 1164: Carried Forward

UKL 1175 – xoserve (MC) informed members that the analysis work had been completed and the functionality was working correctly in the system. The Shipper perceived problem has been tabled as an agenda item at the next xoserve Operational Billing Forum, to give an update and offer additional training and support where requested. Portfolio reports were issued to Shippers in January for sites with missing MAM IDs.

MB asked for clarification of xoserve's view that all was 'working correctly'. MC responded that the MAM ID is actually being carried forward correctly and is consistent with the functionality (no blanking was taking place other than on change of Supplier) and the reconfirmation process was working correctly. The MAM IDs were not being populated when the initial submission was made. If Shippers believed the problem to be manifested differently, then xoserve would be happy to receive examples for further investigation.

AC and MB believed that there was no need to raise this topic at the xoserve Operational Billing Forum as it had been raised at SPAA, the presumption being a system fault, but other reasons may be identified and Shippers will approach xoserve with examples as appropriate.

Shippers may approach xoserve with a portfolio request later this year. MC noted this.

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

Action UKL 1175: Carried Forward

UKL 1182 – xoserve (AS) informed members that an update on the COR1360 NTS Exit Reform Phases 1 & 2 would be provided under item 3.5 below.

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

Action UKL 1182: Carried Forward

UKL 1183: xoserve (LP) thanked members for their responses, based on which it was xoserve's intention to de-scope and go for the enquiry file.

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

Action UKL 1183: Closed

UKL1184: xoserve (MC) reported that the number of users allowed to participate in the ConQuest UAT scheduled for August 2010 and any potential constraints remained under discussion and would be progressed via the Conquest Workgroup meeting on 12/04/10.

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

Action UKL 1184: Carried Forward

UKL1185: xoserve (MC) reported that internal discussions were taking place in relation to the rationale of raising the profile of the ConQuest system replacement with the Smart Metering Forum, and there may also be potential opportunity to provide updates through the User Pays User Committee (UPUC).

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

Action UKL 1185: Carried Forward

UKL1186: xoserve (MC) reported that users are still utilising the Market Domain Data Product i.d. codes, and that a greater understanding of the impacts of using the field was required. AC wanted to know what DA was receiving them on; what the existing blanks were, and what the population opportunities were; and thought that there was also a need to understand whether there were cost associations or whether it would be carried out free of charge. MC noted this and AC will confer with DA offline.

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

Action UKL 1186: Carried Forward

2. Other Industry Fora

MiB reported on the recently "closed" UNC Modification Proposals that potentially have system impacts.

- 0263 "Enabling the Assignment of a Partial Quantity of Registered NTS Exit (Flat Capacity)". The Authority rejected this on 02/03/10, and
- 0276 "Alternative User Pays approach to – UNC Modification 0263 – Enabling the Assignment of a Partial Quantity of Registered NTS Exit (Flat Capacity)". The

Authority directed on 02/03/10 that this be implemented. Currently awaiting confirmation of an appropriate implementation date.

MiB 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:

- 0209 “Rolling AQ”. Allocated to the Project Nexus Workstream, with a report due at the 20/05/10 Panel meeting;
- 0246/0246A/0246B “Quarterly NTS Entry Capacity User Commitment”. Remains with the Authority awaiting a decision;
- 0248 “Meter Reading Replacement”. Allocated to the Distribution Workstream with a report due at the 15/04/10 Panel meeting;
- 0270 “Aggregated Monthly Reconciliation for Smart Meters“. Potential for significant system impacts. Allocated to a Development Work Group, with a report due at the 20/05/10 panel meeting. Both xoserve and the Transporters are keen to utilise existing system functionality to meet requirements;
- 0271 “Amendment to the SSP – Provisional LSP – SSP Amendment Rules“. Referred to the Distribution Workstream with a report date extension until 20/05/10;
- 0272 “Mod 640 Validation Arrangements for when a Change of Shipper has occurred“. System impacts unclear at this time. Allocated to a Review Group, with a report due at the 20/05/10 Panel meeting;
- 0274 “Creation of a National Revenue Protection Service“. Allocated to a Development Work Group, with a report due at the 20/05/10 Panel meeting;
- 0280 “Review of Demand Estimation UNC Section H Processes and Responsibilities“. Allocated to a Review Group, with a report due at the 15/07/10 panel meeting. As the review group progresses it is looking increasingly likely that any potential system impacts are reducing over time;
- 0282 “Introduction of a process to manage Long Term Vacant sites“. Allocated to the Distribution Workstream with a report due at the 20/05/10 Panel meeting. Potential for significant system impacts;
- 0283 “Removal of Bottom Stop SOQ and Changes to the Application of Supply Point Ratchets”; potential system impacts, and
- 0287 “Change System Capacity Transfers Notification Time Limit from 04:00 hours to 03:00 hours” – xoserve’s ROM indicates a zero cost.

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

3.1 COR 962 – Query and Workflow Management (ConQuest Replacement Project) (Communications)

xoserve (MC) informed members that the responses matrix had been published; two responses were received and the preference was to return to the CSV format. AC indicated that bulk queries via ConQuest itself would be the preferred option for EDF Energy, and that he would not be able to agree an approach until this option had at least been looked at. MB questioned why the flow of information could not stay with ConQuest. MC noted these comments and agreed to follow up; he confirmed that no further action would be taken until further discussion had taken place.

Action UKL1187: xoserve (DA/MC) to investigate the feasibility of bulk queries via ConQuest as an option.

3.2 CAR File Removal – Administrative Change

xoserve (MC) informed members that this relates to 'triggering' Emergency Contact Information Updates during an AQ Review and was last utilised in 1997. As this was never formally withdrawn, xoserve are now seeking to withdraw this functionality. A communication (CB/948/DA) was issued as part of the Change Pack on Friday 12/02/10. One response had been received and this was in favour.

MC sought confirmation, and members unanimously approved this proposal as a Class I modification, to be implemented as soon as possible.

3.3 Description and Name Change to "To_Entry_Commodity_Credit" within K25 AND K27 records (ECO.file)

One response had been received and this was in favour. MC sought confirmation, and members unanimously approved this proposal as a Class I modification, to be implemented as soon as possible.

3.4 Change to the Earliest Reads Date used within AQ Review

No responses had been received. AC expressed concern should a much later implementation date be necessary rather than the one indicated, as a delay would detrimentally impact operations. It was MC's understanding, that implementation was likely to be as soon as possible following formal approval. AC would be happy to approve subject to assurance that it would be implemented within the next few weeks, otherwise a much later implementation would adversely impact the spec calcs too greatly.

MC again confirmed that his belief was that implementation was planned asap following agreement of the committee and agreed to communicate to shippers by the end of the day if this were not the case. MC then sought confirmation, and members unanimously approved this proposal as a Class I modification, to be implemented as soon as possible.

3.5 COR1360 – NTS Exit Reform Phase 1

xoserve (AS) provided members with a brief update on the NTS Exit Reform Phases 1 & 2, as follows.

Phase 1 Update

AS reported that the change remained 'on track' for implementation on 23/05/10.

The revised screen pack was issued on 19/02/10, and a response to representations received (ie none) was issued on 09/03/10.

xoserve had noted that minor changes were needed to UAT screens and these would be published tomorrow. Citrix accounts were to be redesigned next week for UAT commencement of User trials on 06/04/10.

A Gemini outage was to take place between 04:00 and 09:00 with potential for expansion to 11:00 as a contingency; AS indicated that a reduction in the outage time might also be possible.

An implementation timeline would be issued at the next UK Link Committee meeting.

Phase 2 Update

AS reported that the analysis was complete and detailed design work had commenced. The delivery date was still to be agreed, potentially April 2011, and

the Implementation Plan will be updated shortly. An email communication would be issued tomorrow.

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

xoserve (LP) informed members that the change remains 'on track' for 21/11/10 implementation.

DME Notification (CB/949/LP) - LP reported (in response to Action UKL1183) that the feedback received indicated that the TRF file will not be used or will require system changes to receive, and xoserve will therefore de-scope this option. Pre-notification of a site's current GNT code will be obtained by submission of an Enquiry (via NOM file) and the responding NMR file.

Transfer Read Requirements Workshop (CB/949/LP) - A workshop will take place on 15/03/10 at 31 Homer Road, Solihull, and LP reported that Shipper attendance is looking encouraging and LP thanked members for their support.

Post meeting note: Attendance at the meeting can be confirmed via email to: 'xoserve.dmelective@xoserve.com'.

In response to a question from MB, LP apologised for the lateness of the publication, and confirmed that the documentation for the meeting would be published on Friday.

File Formats - Following receipt of responses relating to the RPA file, analysis had commenced and LP pointed out that a different file extension might be necessary.

3.7 COR 1617 – Change to Pulse Value Format

xoserve (MC) informed members that this was implemented on 26/02/10, and the new formats were available early on Tuesday 02/03/10. No issues had been reported.

AC commented that it had come to his attention that possibly a EEC code band length changes communication had been issued identifying that the codes were being exhausted/changing length from 4 to 5 and queried if this was being discussed anywhere, presumably changes would be required through the UK Link Committee route. He would forward the communication to xoserve for following up.

4. Review of Topics Status Report

ConQuest Replacement – The next meeting was to be held on 12/04/10. MC reported that the detailed modelling stage had been reached and that plans were still on course for implementation September/October 2010. Any intention to attend the meeting should be communicated direct to DA.

Telecomms Replacement Programme – It was the intention to reroute the IX away from the National Grid Hub and direct to the Shipper. It was believed there would be no impact on the Shippers, but this was to be confirmed. By November the files will be rerouted and go direct.

Project Nexus – A brief overview of meetings that had taken place since the last UK Link Committee meeting and those planned during March was provided, the group were then guided towards accessing more detailed information via the Joint Office website.

5. Performance Reporting

xoserve (MC) reviewed the xoserve Report Pack by exception.

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

None.

9. Next Meeting

The April 2010 UK Link Committee meeting will be a teleconference meeting and is scheduled to commence at 10:00 am on Thursday 08 April 2010.

APPENDIX A

ACTION LOG: UK Link Committee 11 March 2010

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref (original ref)	Action	Owner*	Status Update
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 MAM activity).	xoserve (DA)	Update due at April 2010 meeting. Carried Forward
UKL 1175	12/11/09	1.2 (8.)	Provide an update on the feasibility of amending the current coding to resolve the Sites & Meters blank i.d. problem.	xoserve (DA)	Update due at April 2010 meeting. Carried Forward
UKL 1182	14/01/10	3.4 (3.4)	Provide a progress update on COR1630 (Exit Reform - Phase 2) progress and content along with a likely delivery date.	xoserve (AS)	Update due at April 2010 meeting. Carried Forward
UKL 1183	11/02/10	3.5	Re-issue DME Regime comms within the 12/02/10 Change Pack, seeking users views on whether or not they believe they would be impacted by utilisation of the TRF File option, or in fact, would like to utilise it going forward.	xoserve (LP)	Closed
UKL 1184	11/02/10	4.	Investigate if there are any constraints on the number of users allowed to participate in the ConQuest UAT scheduled for August 2010.	xoserve (DA)	Update due at April 2010 meeting. Carried Forward
UKL 1185	11/02/10	4.	Raise the profile of the ConQuest system replacement with the Smart Metering Forum.	xoserve (DA)	Update due at April 2010 meeting. Carried Forward
UKL 1186	11/02/10	8.	Investigate whether or not users are still utilising the Market Domain Data Product i.d. codes.	xoserve (DA)	Update due at April 2010 meeting. Carried Forward
UKL 1187	11/03/09	3.1	Investigate the feasibility of bulk queries via ConQuest as an option.	xoserve (DA/MC)	Update asap

*** Key to action owner**

AS Andy Simpson, xoserve

DA David Addison, xoserve

LP Lewis Plummer, xoserve