

Project Nexus
AMR 19 Workgroup Minutes
Monday 14 March 2011

at the National Grid Office, 31 Homer Road, Solihull.

Attendees

Bob Fletcher (Chair)	(BF)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Mike Berrisford (Secretary)	(MiB)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Alex Travell	(AT)	E.ON Energy
Cesar Coelho	(CC)	Ofgem
Chris Warner	(CW)	National Grid Distribution
Elaine Carr*	(EC)	ScottishPower
Fiona Cottam	(FC)	Xoserve
Joanna Ferguson	(JF)	Northern Gas Networks
Jonathan Wisdom	(JW)	npower
Lisa Harris	(LH)	Shell
Lorna Lewin	(LL)	Shell
Martin Brandt	(MB)	SSE
Michael Payley	(MP)	Xoserve
Michele Downes	(MD)	Xoserve
Peter Thompson	(PT)	Customer Representative
Sean McGoldrick	(SMc)	National Grid NTS
Simon Trivella	(ST)	Wales & West Utilities
Steve Mulliganie	(SM)	Gazprom
Steve Nunnington	(SN)	Xoserve

* denotes via a teleconference link

1. Introduction

BF welcomed all to the meeting.

1.1 Review of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

1.2 Review of actions

Action AMR029: National Grid Distribution (CW) Investigate the provision of drift related information (DM resynch frequencies and volume data).

Update: CW confirmed work has now commenced and a report will be provided in due course.

Carried Forward

Action AMR035: Shippers to examine their sites where validation failures have taken place and consider if the 'strawman' validation proposals would/could work.

Update: SM confirmed that work within Gazprom is ongoing with early findings mirroring those presented at the AMR18 meeting by Shell. He went on to suggest that a report was unlikely to be ready in time for the AMR20 meeting on 05 April 2011, but he expects to be able to provide information at the next AMR meeting on 04 May 2011.

Carried Forward

Action AMR045: Gazprom (SM) to obtain a copy of the Codes of Practice ‘covering’ Drift and provide to the Joint Office for timely publication prior to the next meeting.

Update: SM advised that he was unsure what was required of him for this action. Following a brief update by various parties, he agreed to provide a link to the (ESTA) Codes of Practice to the Joint Office.

Carried Forward

Action AMR046: Xoserve (FC/MD) to prepare a revised Strawman Alternative GT Validations table with fewer bands and displaying kWh values.

Update: MD advised that a revised strawman had now been included within the Business Rules Documentation.

Closed

Action AMR047: All to consider the issue of utilisation of either the outgoing or incoming Shipper reading for all transfer scenarios in time for further consideration at the next meeting.

Update: BF pointed out that this should now have been considered by all parties in attendance. MD added that details had now been added within the BRD.

Closed

Action AMR048: Joint Office (MiB) to ensure that consideration of the possible combining of topic workgroups &/or potential work area overlaps is added to the agenda of the next Project Nexus Workgroup meeting.

Update: BF advised that this action had been completed and further information is available in the Project Nexus Workgroup meeting minutes.

Closed

2. Scope and Deliverables

Copies of the various presentation materials are available to view &/or download from the Joint Office of Gas Transporters web site at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/nexus/140311>.

2.1 Further Consideration of Meter Reading Arrangements

2.1.1 **PNUNC AMR Topic Workgroup Meeting 19 – Meter Reading presentation**

Xoserve (MD) provided a brief overview of the presentation. In looking at the ‘Agreed Approach’ on slide 3, MD advised that consideration of the first four (black) bullet items was now complete with the following red bullet points being in progress.

2.1.2 **AMR Meter Reading Draft To-Be Process Maps v0.7 presentation**

Xoserve (MP), provided a brief overview of the presentation explaining that references to processes 1 through to 4 had now been replaced by ‘full’ titles on their respective process flow map slides. Furthermore, the respective slides had undergone minor changes in response to points raised at the AMR18 meeting.

Thereafter, the following key points were discussed:

Manage AMR Daily Metered Not Time Critical Readings

MP advised that the Timeline diagram at the bottom of the slide had been added for clarity.

Manage AMR CoS Transfer Readings

Parties once again debated whether or not it should be the incoming or outgoing shipper who provides the opening reading. Views ranged from the incumbent (outgoing) shipper taking responsibility for providing a closing reading as they have a commercial incentive to close-out correctly to the incoming shipper providing their opening read as the basis for commencing a new contractual arrangement (a commercial relationship) with their customer – basically it boils down to who has the most incentive to get it right.

PT suggested that from a customer perspective, they are looking to obtain the most accurate starting point for their new relationship with their shipper.

In the end, the consensus was to opt for the incoming shipper to retain the responsibility to submit the reading rather than the outgoing shipper.

Moving on, SM suggested that further consideration of the status of opening / existing / estimated read validation requirements would be needed. PT voiced concern surrounding derived readings at the point of transfer. It was concluded that this matter would need further consideration under the forthcoming resynchronisation discussions along with change of shipper mid resynch periods etc.

In closing, MP agreed to take a new action to revise the various slides to reflect the discussions and the adoption of the incoming shipper reading.

2.1.3 PNUNC AMR Topic Workgroup Meeting 19: Transfer Scenarios presentation

MD opened by explaining that the presentation is basically the same as that provided at the AMR18 meeting with some of the detail removed for clarity. She went on to add that in all slides the reference to the transfer reads being obtained by the outgoing shipper will be amended to read as the incoming shipper in-line with previous discussions elsewhere in the meeting.

Change in Shipper, no change in Regime Agreed for AMR Processes 1 & 2

Parties debated whether or not estimated reads should be sent in place of an actual read provided within the appropriate window, but after the 10:00am deadline. FC reminded people that care is needed to avoid undermining the allocation (& settlement) requirements. Questions were asked about what would happen where an estimated reading had been utilised and a subsequent submitted actual reading were different.

SM suggested that one possible solution could be to send an estimated reading at 05:59am on the day after the 'original' 10:00am estimation, thereby giving in effect, 4 days to correct and submit the actual reading. FC acknowledged that there may not be a single answer to the problem and we may need to find a common sense solution that is neither, too simple, or too complex.

MB questioned whether or not you would really need a confirmation for ALL submissions (passed or failed), believing that an exceptions based solution would be preferable. It was suggested that confirmation of receipt would be needed at file level but not record level.

Change in Shipper, no change in Regime Agreed for AMR Processes 3 & 4

When asked if the opening read could be included within a batch submission, MD confirmed that the assumption is based on the opening (transfer) read being a separate reading. CW pointed out that this maybe different to the current Code requirement. SM felt that you could envisage a solution whereby the transfer read is assumed to be the 1st reading in a batch.

Change in Regime & Shipper – AMR to NDM

When asked parties indicated that they believe that AMR and NDM will co-exist in a future interim period.

In considering the 'NDM Transfer Read Submission Window', CW clarified that the timescale for submitting the opening read was actually D+7 however, he went on to acknowledge that they (the Transporters) do allow up to D+10 to assist parties. LH pointed out that the current DME to NDM requirement is based on D+5 to enable allocation close-out to take place. SM felt that the real issue relates to obtaining a physical read, rather than whether or not it is a NDM site. All agreed that the current NDM opening read timescales (D+10) should be retained for transfers to the NDM regime.

In closing, MD agreed to take a new action to amend the Transfer Scenario presentation in line with the above points raised.

2.1.4 Business Requirements Document for AMR Meter Reading document discussions and review

Following on from the detailed discussions undertaken elsewhere in the meeting, MD provided a brief overview of the changes made to the BRD in light of comments / suggestions provided at the previous (AMR18) meeting.

She went on to point out the inclusion of a Timeline diagram in support of paragraph 5.2.4 amongst other notable amendments, including changing the references from outgoing to incoming shipper in paragraph 5.6.

Parties moved on to discuss and review the lists in paragraph 5.9 and FC agreed to consider whether the estimated consumption should be based on kWh, ft³ or m³.

Moving on to discuss paragraph 5.10 – Read Validation, parties debated at some length what percentage tolerances would be appropriate in the example tables, including whether or not AQ is preferable to SOQ in the first 3 bands in the table for 5.10.1.

In examining the table in 5.10.2 (process 4), consensus was to mirror the existing rules but revisit the actual details once work commences on the reconciliation area.

In considering 5.10.3, ST pointed out that the GT validation should / is only there to protect the industry. FC believes that realistically, some form of filter failure process will be required in future although the aim should be to reduce these where ever possible. SN added that the aim should be to try to avoid advancing to the billing stage(s) before any issues are raised.

In considering paragraph 5.11 – Check Reads, it was concluded that these really take the form of a re-synchronisation read, especially when they are derived readings. AT suggested that the frequency of

when these take place for the various bands would require further consideration. CW felt that the AMR service providers should have access to this type of information within their data banks.

In closing the discussion, Xoserve agreed to undertake two new actions, the first being to revise the BRD in-line with discussions and the second to prepare revised daily read table(s) to provide to parties for consideration in time for the next meeting. Accordingly, a new action is placed upon ALL parties to consider the style and content of the revised daily read table(s) in time to present their views at the next meeting. Finally, CW agreed to expand his outstanding AMR029 action to include analysis of current AMR drift/resynchronisations.

2.2 Alignment of IRR requirements

Not considered.

2.3 Transitional Arrangements

Not considered.

3. Progress Tracker (workplan)

3.1 Review of progress to date

Following discussion, parties concluded that further consideration of the meter reading requirements would be needed and that the 04 May 2011 AMR meeting was the most likely 'target' as this gives all concerned more time to provide their comments once the additional drift/resynch analysis had been provided by National Grid (CW).

SM pointed out that the third proposed UNC modification to be raised by Gazprom (G Evans) would be discussed at the forthcoming ICoSS meeting scheduled to take place on Wednesday 16 March 2011 – the current target is to formally raise the modification by the end of the month, following a previous delay due to possible significant code review impacts. CC advised that the Authority are unable to offer a view on any potential Smart / Settlement SCR impacts at this moment in time.

In light of the above statements, parties indicated that they would be happy to incur a further delay in resolving the meter reading (AMR) area.

Post meeting note: Following further discussion of the third potential AMR related UNC modification and 0357 at the 16/03/11 ICoSS meeting it has been proposed that the AMR20 and 0357 meetings scheduled to take place on Tuesday 05 April 2011 should be cancelled – an email has been issued to this end.

4. Workgroup Report

4.1 Preparation of Monthly/Final Report

BF advised that he would provide a verbal report in due course.

5. Workgroup Process

5.1 Agree actions to be completed ahead of the next meeting

The following new actions were discussed and assigned:

New Action AMR049: Xoserve (MP) to revise the Draft To-Be Process maps to reflect the discussions and the adoption of the incoming shipper reading.

New Action AMR050: Xoserve (MD) to amend the Transfer Scenario presentation in line with the discussions.

New Action AMR051: Xoserve (FC/MD) to revise the BRD in-line with discussions in time for the next meeting.

New Action AMR052: Xoserve (FC/MD) to prepare revised daily read table(s) to provide to parties for consideration in time for the next meeting.

New Action AMR053: All parties to consider the style and content of the revised daily read table(s), as per AMR052, in time to present their views at the next meeting.

6. Diary Planning

The following meetings are scheduled to take place during Mar/Apr/May 2011:

Title	Date	Location
SET3	23/03/2011	NG Office, 31 Homer Road, Solihull.
AMR20	05/04/2011	Cancelled.
Workgroup & SET4	19/04/2011	NG Office, 31 Homer Road, Solihull.
AMR20/21	04/05/2011	NG Office, 31 Homer Road, Solihull.
SET5	11/05/2011	NG Office, 31 Homer Road, Solihull.
Workgroup & AMR22	24/05/2011	NG Office, 31 Homer Road, Solihull.

7. Any Other Business

None.

Appendix 1

Action Table

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
AMR029	16.11.10	2.1.2	Investigate the provision of drift related information and analysis of current data (DM resynch frequencies and volume data).	National Grid Distribution (CW)	Update to be provided in due course. Carried Forward
AMR035	14.01.11	2.1.2	Examine their sites where validation failures have taken place and consider if the 'strawman' validation proposals would/could work.	Shippers	Update to be provided in due course. Carried Forward
AMR045	02.02.11	2.1.6	Obtain a copy of the Codes of Practice 'covering' Drift and provide to the Joint Office for timely publication prior to the next meeting.	Gazprom (SM)	Update to be provided in due course. Carried Forward
AMR046	22.02.11	2.1.4	Prepare a revised Strawman Alternative GT Validations table with fewer bands and displaying kWh values.	Xoserve (FC/MD)	Update provided. Closed
AMR047	22.02.11	2.1.5	Consider the issue of utilisation of either the outgoing or incoming Shipper reading for all transfer scenarios in time for further consideration at the next meeting.	All	Update provided. Closed
AMR048	22.02.11	3.1	Ensure that consideration of the possible combining of topic workgroups &/or potential work area overlaps is added to the agenda of the next Project Nexus Workgroup meeting.	Joint Office (MiB)	Update provided. Closed
AMR049	14.03.11	2.1.2	To revise the Draft To-Be Process maps to reflect the discussions and the adoption of the incoming shipper reading.	Xoserve (MP)	Update to be provided in due course.
AMR050	14.03.11	2.1.3	To amend the Transfer Scenario presentation in line with the discussions.	Xoserve (MD)	Update to be provided in due course.

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
AMR051	14.03.11	2.1.4	To revise the BRD in-line with discussions in time for the next meeting.	Xoserve (FC/MD)	Update to be provided in due course.
AMR052	14.03.11	2.1.4	To prepare revised daily read table(s) to provide to parties for consideration in time for the next meeting.	Xoserve (FC/MD)	Update to be provided in due course.
AMR053	14.03.11	2.1.4	To consider the style and content of the revised daily read table(s), as per AMR052, in time to present their views at the next meeting.	All	Update to be provided in due course.