Introduction

Following the recent Spring sample data collection and the further reduction in sample numbers available for modelling purposes it was agreed that DESC and Xoserve should work together to look at ways to enhance the current data sets with a target to have additional data for October 2014 (to support Algorithm performance).

This document addresses the Action DTW0502 (b) which was on Xoserve to provide DESC and TWG members with a specification of the data required.

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Timings

Background
Currently Xoserve receives sample data on a daily basis from Transporters NDM sample service provider; the files are loaded daily with high level validation checks performed on each file. The data is then stored until it is required for modelling and analysis in the Spring and Autumn each year. By receiving the data on a frequent basis we are able to report on the NDM sample size and therefore have an appreciation for overall sample numbers at any point in time.

Spring Modelling
The Spring data collection is crucial as it is required to develop the EUC profiles for the forthcoming gas year. Each Spring the data required depends on when Easter falls in the previous 12 months. The normal period is April to March but should this not include a full 2 week Easter period, then we also require the preceding March.

Due to data 'fill-in' rules followed during the validation process Xoserve would actually require data for gas days D-7 from official start date (e.g. 25th March when start date is 1st April) and D+7 from official end date (i.e. 7th April).

The targets for a number of the activities in the Spring analysis are very tight and so Xoserve would require data to 7th April each year at the latest by the end of the second working day from 7th April.

Autumn Analysis
The Autumn data collection and subsequent analysis is used to assess the algorithm 'performance' in the recent gas year. This is not as critical as the Spring collection as the results are not used for deriving new profiles etc, however it does help to provide reassurance that the previous gas year's models were robust and fit for purpose – this analysis also provides some guidance on the latest sample numbers prior to the next Spring collection.

The analysis period in the Autumn is from 1st October to 30th September and so Xoserve require daily consumption data from 24th September (previous year) to 7th October (this year) – there are similar data 'fill-in' rules applied in the Autumn too.

The timescales in the Autumn are more relaxed and so Xoserve can be supplied with this data within 2 working weeks from 7th October.

Data Items required and Supply point criteria

Supply Point criteria

Xoserve require consumption data for each gas day for a specified period from supply points meeting the following criteria:

- The supply point must exist on the Sites and Meters system
- The supply point status must be NDM and Firm only – we cannot accept any DM sites or Mixed sites (DM and NDM)
- The supply point must be Live (LI)
- Multi-metered supply points are acceptable and, although not essential, ideally all meter points on a supply point should be provided
- They must be randomly selected, covering Band 02 and above
- As a guide, a maximum of 100 meter points per EUC, per LDZ, per shipper is suggested

Data Items required

Xoserve require the following mandatory data items to take forward to Spring modelling and Autumn analysis:

- Meter Point Reference
- Local Distribution Zone
- Read Date (Gas Day)
- Meter Serial Number
- Uncorrected Volume/Consumption
- Corrected Volume/Consumption (if applicable)
- Volume Units (i.e. Cubic Meters or Cubic Feet)

Points to note and other considerations:

- Where consumption is zero we shall assume these are genuine zero consumptions

- Where records are not provided for a gas day in the defined period we shall assume these days should be treated as 'missing data' – we would accept a small number of missing records within the defined period as we appreciate is not always possible to generate a consumption record for every gas day

- It would also be useful if participating shippers could provide Xoserve with contact details in case of queries (e.g. relating to file format and content, or on individual site set-ups or consumptions). Details can be sent to the following box account:
  - **xoserve.demand.estimation@xoserve.com**

File Format

The file should be a comma delimited file (such as .csv or .txt).

The file should be made up of:

- Detail record(s) and field headings

The table below defines the expected format of each of the data items within each read file.

Note 1:

OPT – Optional, Mandatory

DOM – Domain i.e. Text, Numeric, Date, M Timestamp

LNG – Number of character

DEC – Number of decimal places

Note 2:

All text fields **should not** be enclosed in "double quotes".

Where:

RECORD/FIELD NAME	OPT	DOM	LNG	DEC	DESCRIPTION
METER_POINT_REFERENCE_NUMBER	M	N	10	0	A unique numeric reference associated to the meter point
LDZ_INDICATOR	M	T	2	0	Identifies the local distribution zone to which the supply point is associated
METER_READ_DATE	M	D	8	0	The date that the meter and corrector/converter (where fitted) read relates to (i.e.the date of the read relevant to the end of the gas day or Gas Flow Day +1) **FORMAT: DDMMYYYY**
METER_SERIAL_NUMBER	M	T	14	0	The manufacturers meter serial number from which the meter read/consumption was taken
UNCORRECTED_VOLUME	M	N	12	0	The uncorrected metered volume calculated for the relevant gas day
CORRECTED_VOLUME	O	N	12	0	The corrector (converter) volume calculated for the relavant gas day
VOLUME_UNITS	M	T	2	0	Indicator identifying the unit of measurement of the stated uncorrected / uncorrected volume. Allowable values: **CM = Cubic Meters** **CF = Cubic Feet**

Example file:

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METER_POINT_REFERENCE_NUMBER,LDZ_INDICATOR,METER_READ_DATE,METER_SERI
AL_NUMBER,UNCORRECTED_VOLUME,CORRECTED_VOLUME,VOLUME_UNITS
12345678,SO,19072014,G67354,55,56,CM
567891234,WM,19072014,H12345,25,,CF
```

File Name Construction

The file name should be constructed as follows:

- **SM01_SSC _yyyymmddvv.csv**

   where the shipper short code is 'SSC'

Where:

VALUE	DESCRIPTION	DOM	LNG	VARIABLE(S)
SM01	Unique identifier	T	4	SM01
SSC	Identifies the file provider (shipper short code)	T	3	-
yyyy	Year (relevant to date the file is generated)	N	4	-
mm	Month (relevant to date the file is generated)	N	2	'01' to '12'
dd	Day of the month (relevant to date the file is generated)	N	2	'01' to '31'
vv	The in-day file version	N	2	Start at '01'
.csv	File extension	T	4	'.csv'

File Submission

Our preference is to receive the data file from shippers periodically (e.g. fortnightly) via email. Emails should be titled "SM01: Sample Data" and should be emailed to the following box account:

- **xoserve.demand.estimation@xoserve.com**