Climate Change Methodology

Validation of Datasets – Advance Notification of Publication

28 May 2014

Dear Colleagues

You should be aware that UNC Modification 0330 introduced the concept of a Climate Change Methodology (CCM) into UNC. There is a requirement for the Gas Transporters to procure:

> "a methodology suitable for use in adjusting historical data in relation to wind speeds and temperatures at weather stations so that Composite Weather Variables (assuming the Composite Weather Variables were determined taking into account the Weather Station Substitution Methodology) take into account climate change trends"

There is also a requirement in UNC to procure associated files of adjusted historical datasets.

To meet the Gas Transporters' obligations, Xoserve appointed the Met Office to develop the Methodology and associated datasets. A small "Stakeholder Group" of experts from the gas industry has supported the Met Office in the development of the Methodology on behalf of the Demand Estimation Sub-Committee of UNCC (DESC). DESC signed off the Methodology in March (as required by UNC).

The project has now moved on to the data preparation phase. Due to the potential interest in the outputs of the project, the Stakeholder Group feels it is now more appropriate to make the draft datasets available to all industry parties at the same time. The datasets will be published in early June for industry review, prior to a formal decision at DESC, scheduled for June 25th.

Overview of material to be published

WHAT	Draft datasets produced by the Met Office, conforming to the Climate Change Methodology and to DESC's Technical Requirements or subsequent amendments, consisting of: 1) An adjusted view of the historic hourly weather datasets derived from the Weather Station Substitution Methodology phase, reflecting the estimated impacts of climate change based on results from base year of 2011/12 2a) Predicted hourly climatological average values for the period 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2025 based on the predicted impact of climate change trends for the future period 2b) Predicted hourly increment values – difference between predicted hourly climatological average values and base year averages (2011/12) This will take the form of 3 files for each of 5 weather variables, for each of 25 weather stations, i.e. 375 files. A "Readme" guidance file will be provided in the same folder to explain the content and layout of each of the files. A further email message will be issued to advise users of the exact date of publication.

WHEN	Early in week commencing 2 June for 24 weather stations and 5 variables (temperature, windspeed, precipitation, relative humidity and solar radiation). The remaining weather station (Hawarden) will be provided later in the review cycle and an update message issued accordingly.
WHERE	Published on Xoserve's secure UKLink Documentation website, under: - Folder 18 (NDM Profiling and Capacity Estimation Algorithms) - Climate Change Methodology folder - Final Datasets folder *(to be created when data is published)* Filepath for website: https://www.xoserveextranet.com/uklinkdocs/default.asp All UNC parties are entitled to have access. If you do not already have a User ID and password, the contact details to obtain this are shown on the above screen. Alternatively you may have a colleague who already has access.
WHY	For review by DESC members or any other interested parties, prior to a meeting of DESC where a vote will be taken on the acceptance of the datasets.

Timetable for review

Early in week commencing 2nd June:	Publication of the datasets, accompanied by a further industry notification.
Weeks commencing 2nd and 9th June:	Industry Review. Early notification of any questions or concerns would be greatly appreciated.
Wednesday 11th June 2014:	Meeting of DESC via teleconference to provide feedback to the Met Office on the draft datasets. The Met Office will be on the call to answer questions.
Week commencing 16th June:	Met Office considers feedback and make any amendments required or provide additional information as necessary.
Wednesday 25 June 2014:	Meeting of DESC to approve the datasets, if possible.

Details of meetings can be found on the Joint Office of Gas Transporters' website:
http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/Diary

Future use of the Datasets

Once approved, the datasets developed by this project will be used as an input to the derivation of a new Seasonal Normal view of the Composite Weather Variable (CWV), which will be used in NDM Demand Estimation from Gas Year 2015 onwards. This process will be overseen by DESC and will take place over the

remainder of this year. New values for the seasonal normal CWV are needed by the end of 2014 at the latest. It is important to note that the datasets produced by the Met Office are not the only input to the seasonal normal calculations. This will be reiterated over the coming months, with more detailed explanations, to ensure that the data is not misinterpreted.

Do I need to review the datasets?

We are aware that there will be a considerable volume of data available for review. However, only two of the weather data items (Temperature and Wind Speed). and only 10 of the weather stations are currently used in the Gas Industry. The list of weather stations in use can be found in Appendix 12 of the current NDM Algorithms booklet, also available in Folder 18 on the UKLink documentation website.

DESC members (or their nominated alternates) will be asked to vote on acceptance of the datasets in due course. There is no requirement on other parties to review and comment on the files, although you are welcome to do so.

If you have any questions about this communication, please contact your representative at DESC, if appropriate, or the Xoserve Demand Estimation team via our email address:
xoserve.demand.estimation@xoserve.com

Yours faithfully

Fiona Cottam
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