## **UNC Workgroup 0509 Minutes**

# Permission to release Protected Information to Authorised Third Parties

# Wednesday 10 September 2014 via teleconference

#### **Attendees**

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<sup>\*</sup> via teleconference

Copies of all papers are available at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0509/100914

The Workgroup Report is due to be presented at the UNC Modification Panel by 19 March 2015.

#### 1.0 Review of Minutes and Actions

#### 1.1. Minutes

The previous minutes were accepted

#### 1.2. Actions

There were no outstanding actions

#### 2.0 Discussion

CB outlined the need for the modification and explained that it is to allow third parties access to the data needed for the completion of the academic study, supported by the necessary protection that would be required to be put in place.

AC confirmed that Chris Warner had discussed this with Andrew Margan after taking legal advice. He also confirmed that the legal text for this modification was to be provided by Scotia Gas Networks who had been given advice on the matter by National Grid Gas Distribution.

Whilst discussing the "Why Change" Section of the modification, CB agreed to amend this part in line with the views that had been expressed. She went on to ask for opinions on whether this modification was suitable for self-governance. AM noted that as the data in question belonged to parties covered by the Network Code, those parties should be able to make the decision to approve it, so self-governance seemed appropriate. JD said he tended to agree and whilst he had some concerns that there may be some organisations that would object and there was the potential issue of why the data was protected in the first place to consider, he had no strong objections to the modification being classed as

self-governance. He suggested it follow this route as it could always be amended if necessary at a later date.

CB then turned to the amendments that had been suggested by British Gas (A Margan) and these were discussed. One of the main discussion points related to concerns over non-compliance with Section 105 of the Data Protection Act which AM did not think that this was relevant in this case, but advised taking legal advice.

Moving on, AM advised against referencing another modification in the body of the document as this may lead to a situation where approval of this proposal was dependant on approval of another. Thereafter, he suggested dealing with anonymity of data by including a step in the process to reject or refer inappropriate requests.

JD advised that the modification should not go into specific details regarding storage or destruction of data after the study was completed. He said that this was a matter to be dealt with within the scope of the contract for carrying out the work. The modification should only make high-level reference to safeguards being put in place.

It was noted that costs are likely to be incurred by Xoserve in providing the data for the study rather than in implementing the modification itself, as a consequence AM suggested that it could be deemed to be offering a new service and so a User Pays provision could be built around it. JD's opinion was that the requests for data could be addressed via adhoc report provisions. This is to be discussed further with the Transporters and Distribution Networks.

CB said she would discuss the legal text with Scotia Gas Networks and MB advised adding a line explaining which area of the Network Code the legal text would be referring to. He also suggested CB titled the text "Suggested Text" in the document.

MB confirmed the potential timescales for bringing the modification to a conclusion and CB agreed to amend the modification with the primary aim being to provide a Workgroup Report for consideration at the October 2014 Panel meeting. As a consequence, it was agreed that it would be beneficial to seek to develop the (draft) Workgroup Report at the next couple of meeting.

Action 0901: E.ON (CB) to amend the modification in line with discussions.

#### 3.0 Any Other Business

None.

### 4.0 Diary Planning

Further details of planned meetings are available at: <a href="www.gasgovernance.co.uk/Diary">www.gasgovernance.co.uk/Diary</a>

The next meeting will take place on 30 September at the London offices of Energy UK and 01 October 2014 at the ENA London and will be accommodated within the business proceedings of the Performance Assurance Framework Workgroup.

# **Action Table**

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
0901	10/09/14	2.0	To amend the modification in line with discussions.	E.ON UK (CB)	Update to be provided.