

**UNC Demand Estimation Sub-committee Minutes**  
**Wednesday 30 July 2014**  
**31 Homer Road, Solihull B91 3LT**

**Attendees**

Bob Fletcher (Chair)	(BF)	Joint Office
Lorna Dupont (Secretary)	(LD)	Joint Office
Ceirán Sheehan	(CS)	Total Gas & Power
Christian Ivaha	(CI)	British Gas
Fiona Cottam	(FC)	Xoserve
Ian Hollington	(IH)	Joint Office
James Hanks	(JH)	EDF Energy
Joseph Lloyd	(JL)	Xoserve
Mandeep Pangli	(MPa)	Xoserve
Mark Perry	(MPe)	Xoserve
Martin Attwood	(MA)	Xoserve
Rob Nickerson	(RN)	National Grid NTS
Sallyann Blackett	(SB)	E.ON

Copies of papers are available at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/DESC/300714>

**1. Introduction and Confirmation of membership and apologies for absence**

The meeting was declared quorate.

**1.1. Apologies for absence**

C Warner (National Grid Distribution) and R Pomroy (Wales & West Utilities).

**1.2. Note of Alternates**

FC (Xoserve) for C Warner (National Grid Distribution) and R Pomroy (Wales & West Utilities).

**2. Review of Minutes from previous meeting (09 July 2014)****2.1. Minutes**

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

**2.2. Actions**

**DTW0501:** To review the E.ON 'Within-day Shape Analysis' paper.

**Update:** SB gave an overview of the paper. The table on page 2 was reviewed; the results appeared to be in line with the current weightings used in the daily temperature element of the Composite Weather Variable (CWV) calculation. The results were discussed and DESC agreed the current weightings should be retained for the next CWV review cycle. SB then described the second element of analysis which concluded that using 06:00 - 06:00 data for 05:00 - 05:00 profiles will not make a significant difference. It was concluded that trying to change/adjust for the 5am Gas Day start would cause more problems rather than continuing 'as is'. DESC agreed it would be acceptable to use sample data from 06:00 – 06:00 for deriving 05:00 – 05:00 profiles until the measuring equipment was amended to reflect the new gas day arrangements. MPe raised the point that the current CWV calculation uses 12 two hourly time slots for temperature observations, starting at 07:00 and ending at 05:00 and asked if these should be kept for the new gas day or changed to 05:00 – 03:00? DESC had previously agreed to leave on the 'odd hours' and following further discussion DESC

---

agreed that effective from the new gas day arrangements in October 2015 the 12 two hourly timeslots for temperature will start at 05:00 and end at 03:00. JL asked if this should be reflected in the CWV optimisation work straight away, and SB agreed that it probably should, if possible. This was briefly discussed. DESC also agreed that the timeslots for windspeed would remain unchanged. It had previously been acknowledged that it would not be possible to restate NDM aggregate demands to a 05:00 to 05:00 basis. It was recognised there would be a greater element of approximation in the profiles for 2015, due to the Gas Day change. Xoserve will look at what is feasible in terms of the CWV trial phase (whether the revised within-day temperature weightings can be used at this stage). **Closed**

**NEW ACTION DE0701: *Within Day Shape Analysis* - Xoserve to look at what is feasible in terms of the CWV trial phase (whether the revised within-day temperature weightings can be used at this stage).**

**DTW0502:**

a) DESC and Xoserve to work together to look at ways to enhance the current data sets with a target to have additional data for October.

**Update:** Work is continuing. **Part a) Carried forward**

b) Xoserve to provide the DESC members with a specification by the end of July.

**Update:** MA gave a brief overview of the sample data file specification document provided in response to this action part (b). All shippers were encouraged to provide data items for analysis on a frequent basis (Band 02 and above). 12 months historic consumption data is required by October '14 to assist with the Autumn analysis. However, FC suggested it might be set up as a fortnightly process, explaining that appropriate action could then be taken if discrepancies with the data were identified, in order to maintain continuity. At the time of the Spring analysis (March/April) a quicker data turnaround time would be needed. FC pointed out the need for data from the same sites for a 12-month period, as it would not be possible to 'knit together' data from two sites (i.e. two 6 month periods). Details of the data to be provided were discussed, Shippers will provide as appropriate, and any further questions or concerns would be directed to MA. **Part b) Completed**

**3. Review of 2014/2015 NDM Algorithms Representations**

FC confirmed that no representations had been received. She had written out last week to confirm that DESC members were happy to progress the algorithms; no adverse comments had been received. Xoserve, on behalf of Transporters, will publish the final proposals to industry (no later than 15 August) and submit interface files to key systems. The industry will be formally notified by email.

It was confirmed that the DESC's responsibilities in this area have been concluded for this year.

**4. 0451AV Draft Pre Payment Meter (PPM) Profile**

MPa gave a presentation outlining the background to Modification 0451AV. To supplement the data provided by Utilita for SO LDZ, British Gas and E.ON had also provided sample data for analysis. MPa described how the data had been cleansed, validated and interpolated before being used to create a profile. The challenge will be to transpose the profile across all LDZs.

BF advised that a new Modification 0507 had now been raised by Winchester Gas to change the effective date of Modification 0451AV. This had been sent to Workgroup for assessment and a report was due to the UNC Modification Panel on 21 August 2014; the earliest date for an Authority decision on Modification 0507 was

probably October. If approved the impact will be to either delete the 0451AV implementation date entirely or to put it back to October 2014.

Results of the analysis were reviewed and discussed. It suggested that not all PP customers behave in the same way and their use of gas can be very different.

SB queried what was the difference between the Utilita WAALP and the Standard WAALP in SO LDZ.

CI suggested looking at other LDZs. FC pointed out this would not include data from Utilita who mainly operated their business in SO LDZ, and therefore had no further sample data to provide across other LDZs.

FC indicated that in other LDZs Band 01 WAALP might have to be used to reach a result.

It was suggested that Xoserve should carry out further analysis across other LDZs to give a wider view on consistency and whether a different shape(s) might be identified. It was also suggested that additional analysis on the SO LDZ using Band 01 WAALP be performed. There was a discussion as to whether sites which recorded reads less frequently (e.g. fewer than 50 reads p.a.) should be excluded from the analysis. It was concluded that these customers were part of the overall population and should be retained. If possible, additional data would be obtained from E.ON to match the British Gas data more closely.

It was agreed that Xoserve would carry out the analysis on WM, NT, SC and SO LDZs against Band 01 WAALPs, using all available PPM meter points.

**Action DE0702: 0451AV Draft Pre Payment Meter (PPM) Profile – Xoserve to carry out the analysis on WM, NT, SC and SO LDZs against Band 01 WAALPs, using all available PPM meter points.**

The urgency of this work was noted, and it was agreed to take papers at short notice at the meeting on 18 August 2014, and to communicate by email in the interim if appropriate.

## 5. Ad hoc Work Areas

MPe gave a brief presentation outlining and summarising the areas of work and their current status.

During the discussions SB suggested that the indicators used for assessing the performance of the NDM algorithm post UK Link replacement would need to change, for example Unidentified Gas might be added, as this was likely to be a key measure in the future. It was questioned what should be measured in the future, how would success be judged, and whether collection of appropriate data should be started in advance.

When discussing UK Link replacement, there were other suggestions made relating to potential changes to EUC Profiles, using data items such as the Pre-Payment meter flag or Market Sector Code flag (assignment of a new profile, how to deal with within systems, etc)

The communication of Gemini consequential changes and potential effects were briefly discussed. FC explained the file formats etc would go through the UK Link Committee, but was not certain about the timetable; not much change was anticipated.

In recognition of the significant standard workload for this year it was agreed that only two ad hoc work areas should be accommodated for Autumn/Winter 2014/15,

i.e. 'Process established for using Shipper consumption data' and Xoserve's internal requirement to upgrade to Windows 7 and Microsoft 2010. It was also agreed to shelve the additional run of model smoothing investigation for this year.

## 6. Any Other Business

### 6.1 NDM Demand Estimation Methodology - Updated UNC Related Document

Outlining the background to this document, FC explained she had produced a new version and described the changes made to make this consistent in format with other UNC related documents. No changes had been made to the content.

She confirmed that DESC could make changes to the document and that the route for approval would be through the UNC Committee (UNCC). Comments on the document would be welcomed and should be submitted to FC.

**Action DE0703: NDM Demand Estimation Methodology (UNC related document) – Review and submit comments to FC before the next meeting.**

## 7. Diary Planning

### DESC and DESC Technical Workgroup Meetings 2014

Meetings will take place as follows.

Time/Date	Venue	Meeting	Programme
10:00 Monday 18 August 2014	31 Homer Road, Solihull B91 3LT	<b>DESC and DESC TWG</b>	<i>For DESC:</i> Climate Change Methodology; 0451AV draft PPM Profile; Gas Day Change update; NDM Demand Estimation Methodology document.  <i>For DESC TWG:</i> CWV Optimisation update; Seasonal Normal Review – use of CCM increments
10:00 Monday 22 September 2014	31 Homer Road, Solihull B91 3LT	<b>DESC</b>	<i>Provisional meeting – to be confirmed</i>
10:00 Wednesday 12 November 2014	Energy Networks Association (ENA), 6 <sup>th</sup> Floor, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AF	<b>DESC</b>	Evaluation of Algorithm Performance: Strand 1 – SF and WCF

**Action Table: Demand Estimation Sub-committee**

<b>Action Ref</b>	<b>Meeting Date(s)</b>	<b>Minute Ref</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Status Update</b>
<b>DTW0501</b> <i>transferred in from DESC Technical Workgroup</i>	21/05/14	<i>DESC TWG 2.2</i>	To review the E.ON 'Within-day Shape Analysis' paper.	All	<b>Closed</b>
<b>DTW0502</b> <i>transferred in from DESC Technical Workgroup</i>	21/05/14	<i>DESC TWG 3.0</i>	a) DESC and Xoserve to work together to look at ways to enhance the current data sets with a target to have additional data for October; and b) Xoserve to provide the DESC members with a specification by the end of July.	All	<b>Part a) carried forward</b> <b>Part b) completed</b>
<b>DE0701</b>	30/07/14	2.2	<i>Within Day Shape Analysis</i> - Xoserve to look at what is feasible in terms of the CWV trial phase (whether the revised within-day temperature weightings can be used at this stage).	Xoserve (FC)	<b>Pending</b>
<b>DE0702</b>	30/07/14	4.0	<i>0451AV Draft Pre Payment Meter (PPM) Profile</i> – Xoserve to carry out the analysis on WM, NT, SC and SO LDZs against Band 01 WAALPs, using all available PPM meter points.	Xoserve (FC)	<b>Pending</b>
<b>DE0703</b>	30/07/14	6.1	<i>NDM Demand Estimation Methodology (UNC related document)</i> – Review and submit comments to FC before the next meeting.	ALL parties	<b>Pending</b>