

UNC Project Nexus Workgroup Minutes

Tuesday 10 November 2015

31 Homer Road, Solihull B91 3LT

Attendees

Bob Fletcher (Chair)	(BF)	Joint Office
Helen Cuin (Secretary)	(HCu)	Joint Office
Blanka Caen	(BC)	British Gas
Bobbie Gallacher*	(BG)	Scottish Power
Chris Warner	(CW)	National Grid Distribution
Colette Baldwin	(CB)	E.ON
David Addison	(DA)	Xoserve
Emma Lyndon	(EL)	Xoserve
Emma Smith	(ES)	Xoserve
Huw Comerford	(HCo)	Utilita
James Hill	(JH)	EDF Energy
Jaimie Simpson*	(JS)	GDF Suez Energy
Leigh Chapman	(LC)	First Utility
Lorna Lewin	(LL)	DONG Energy
Mark Jones	(MJ)	SSE
Michele Downes	(MD)	Xoserve
Mike Fensome	(MF)	RWE npower
Rachel Duke*	(RD)	EDF Energy
Steve Mulinganie	(SM)	Gazprom
Sue Cropper	(SC)	British Gas

*via teleconference

Copies of all papers are available at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/nexus/101115>

1. Introduction and Status Review

1.1. Approval of Minutes (13 October 2015)

MD provided further clarity to the last paragraph within item 9.1.

The Workgroup briefly discussed each of the issues and agreed [that the three principles should remain and the requirements not changed. The Workgroup agreed](#) to consider these ~~for~~ further [and if necessary](#) discussion at the next Workgroup meeting.

Amended minutes have been published at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/nexus/131015>

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

1.2. Actions

0606: Xoserve to confirm when the User Pays Charges for the iGT smart metering data migrations, Modification 0467, will be advised.

Update: MD confirmed that the User Pays invoices would be issued in February 2016.

Closed.

0902: CW to provide an in-depth explanation for the high number of “not sub-deduct” sites which are assumed to be check read meters.

Update: CW confirmed they had reviewed surveys dating back to 2009 and found a significant number of sub-deduct sites had been re-engineered or sites demolished before the sub-deduct project started, which resulted in the category on the report. **Closed.**

1001: DA to discuss the way forward, to engage Shippers to provide expected volume usage/system demand with the Xoserve Project Nexus Steering Group representative.

Update: See item 3.0. **Closed.**

1002: All to review and consider the SSMP guide for UNCC approval.

Update: See item 5.0. It was agreed to close this action and have an agenda item to complete next month. **Closed.**

1003: Shippers to provide Xoserve confirmation of how Shippers systems have been built for each of the Read Validation scenarios and a view on their preferred option

Update: See item 4.0. **Closed.**

1.3. Pre-Modification discussions

None.

2. Workgroups

2.1. 0531 – Provision and Development of Industry Testing Prior to Nexus Go-live

(Report to Panel 18 February 2016)

www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0531

2.2. 0532 – Implementation of Non-Effective Days (Project Nexus transitional modification)

(Report to Panel 17 December 2015)

www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0532

3. Volumetric Update

DA confirmed a presentation was made to the Project Nexus Steering Group. Since the last meeting two responses had been received, however he was keen to receive more responses to ensure they get a balanced view of likely volumes.

MF believed Price Waterhouse Coopers (PwC) was expected to add a request seeking further information on their industry portal, however this had not yet been updated. CW confirmed an action was taken by PwC, it was suggested that Shipper representatives should remind PwC to update the portal and encourage a response from their organisations.

CB explained that due to the commercial sensitivity surrounding the information, parties might be reluctant to divulge the percentage of customers they plan to move to particular categories in an open forum. However, DA was keen to understand Shipper intentions particularly if parties were likely to hold back certain aspects for optimisation as this would enable Xoserve to establish any potential system impacts during the implementation process.

As previously highlighted, DA explained that within the UK Link manual there were system impact considerations that required parties to highlight potential impacts on the system. The intention will be to update the UK Link manual with so that volumetric information is a consideration to be updated on a regular basis. DA confirmed if there is anything that has changed following responses from the industry these would be reported back.

CB asked Xoserve for reassurance that the volume limits were not going to be hit. However Xoserve were unable to provide immediate reassurance without some input from Shippers on their planned activity for go-live. SM suggested there was a 'route to market' to test the assumptions. SM believed that there was a debate on large shipper take-up and scaling to the curve, however he reiterated that shippers with smaller portfolios had previously been given assurance that they would have no impact on volumes and their submissions would be unrestricted.

DA expressed that Xoserve needed some assistance, in terms of understanding the aspects that might impact market perspectives, and the take up of certain classes. He was not anticipating a significant take up of Class 2 beyond normal expectations.

BC asked, with the potential difficulties and as an alternative way forward, if Xoserve could provide the system build volumes and assumptions along with some further information on what an increase in volume would cost and time to take to develop. BC suggested a table with associated costs would help Shippers understand the likely impacts of bulk data flows and if the system needed an increase in capacity, the costs of such, to weigh against the benefits of optimising positions.

SM expressed that Shippers need to understand the impact of managing a massive influx of data over a short period, and such an assessment will assist deciding if data submission needs to be smoothed over a longer period against the cost of increasing the capacity for a short period. CB was interested in considering the baselines and possible thresholds.

DA was still keen for Shippers to advise Xoserve of planned activity. CB suggested Xoserve could make reasonable assumptions based on existing operations. BC asked what the maximum baseline volumes were for Project Nexus.

MD suggested that from the volumes provided by Xoserve, Shippers should be able assume there is enough capacity available for existing operations. There was an assumption that Xoserve are not expecting a significant change in behaviours beyond that predicted for Smart Metering roll out. If however, every Shipper planned to move large portfolios to Class 3, Xoserve would need this feedback as soon as possible. CB reiterated that Shippers might not want to provide their intentions in an open forum. SM suggested the best way to move forward would be for Xoserve to provide their assumptions from the baseline. DA suggested the industry need to be mindful that the system should be fit for purpose but not over specified so as to be considered inefficient, in reality the system wouldn't want to be sized to cope with 20 million Class 3 sites. Nevertheless, SM actively encouraged the provision of a breakdown of likely costs based on the DECC baseline curve, with a varying tranche increases of 25%, 50%, 75% and 100% against the curve.

DA in turn asked Shippers to advise Xoserve of any significant changes that they perceive could impact the baseline. BC suggested the scaling illustration would assist decisions on the how Shippers will operate within the parameters of capability based on costs.

DA was still keen to test the assumptions. He was concerned about simply providing a design capability without due consideration of the potential utilisation and an assessment of sufficiency.

Action 1101: Shippers to provide Xoserve the latest DECC Smart Metering roll out figures to ensure the correct baseline curve is being considered for system capacity.

Action 1102: Xoserve to provide a volumetric scale of the proposed system capacity based on the DECC baseline along with the likely costs and development period of providing a stepped increase in capacity beyond that which has been predicted.

Action 1103: Shippers to advise Xoserve of any significant volume changes expected to impact the DECC baseline.

4. Read Validation Rules

SM, SC and MF confirmed there were no concerns with the current plans for the system build.

JH explained that there were still some design questions.

CB explained E.ON might have a potential operational problem where the estimates are provided to meet SC2 requirements. Xoserve agreed to discuss E.ON's concerns offline to ensure these can be alleviated.

The Workgroup collectively agreed to proceed with the options presented.

5. SSMP guidance document

MD confirmed that clean and changed marked versions of the Shared Supply Meter Points (SSMP) guide and procedures had been provided for consideration and approval.

The Workgroup intended to review and approve the changes at the December Workgroup meeting.

6. Prime and Sub-deducts guidance document

MD confirmed a guideline document had been provided for reference and further consideration. The Workgroup intended to review and approve the changes at the December Workgroup meeting.

7. Issues

No new issues raised.

8. Any Other Business

8.1. Retrospective Workshop Issues

MD provided a presentation to summarise the issues with retrospective updates. These were; Reconciliation for the previous Shipper following the replacement of a transfer read and Marking reads as 'Suspect' for all retro updates. MD confirmed that the BRD would need to be updated.

MD explained that when a transfer is replaced by the current Shipper, the current Shipper is warranting that the read has been agreed with the previous Shipper and this will result in reconciliation to the outgoing Shipper. SM challenged that the current Shipper can impact the outgoing Shipper. The Workgroup recognised that there is a licence requirement that exists in relation to transfer reads. SM challenged how control was going to be managed for the outgoing Shipper position. MD emphasised that the current Shipper should only submit a read that has been agreed with the previous Shipper however SM expressed concern about re-opening energy smearing factors.

MD provided two options where the reconciliation will either calculate from the transfer read to the previous read which will be marked as 'Suspect' (Option 1) or calculate from the Transfer Read to the previous valid read (Option 2). The Workgroup collectively agreed a preference for Option 2.

MD explained the BRD is still in design and it was anticipated that Option 2 would be proposed in the amended BRD. Xoserve will update the BRD and notify the industry of the agreed change to build to Option 2. JH questioned which BRD would be considered as the valid version for system build as Modification 0434 references a different version. MD advised that an amended version would be published but the modification couldn't be amended. BF reiterated that this is not a recognised governance process for this workgroup.

The Workgroup considered marking 'Suspect' reads, where a retro update is submitted. MD explained certain updates submitted are not necessarily correcting something wrong, for example reads are still valid if the meter model, meter mechanism, manufacturer or meter serial number has been updated. Where the update may impact the consumption Xoserve provided two options to allow the marking of 'Suspect' reads and to allow consideration for these to be updated, where the Shipper can submit a retrospective billable asset update.

SM was concerned about any impacts to energy for billable asset updates (non-cosmetic updates). SC suggested where there is no billable impact (a cosmetic update) the reads should not be marked. However, MF questioned if the industry would prefer consistency and where any retro update is made all reads are marked as 'Suspect' for consideration and replacement. SC challenged that Shippers wouldn't want to be forced to re-submit reads for non-billable updates.

The Workgroup agreed that reads should only be marked as 'Suspect' where there would be an impact to consumption ie. the top 5 data items listed on page 7 of the presentation (meter indicator, read factor, read units, meter status and dials) but not for the 4 data item listed in the bottom half of the table (meter model, meter mechanism, manufacturer & year, meter serial number). MD enquired about marking post retro update reads as 'Suspect' for all retro updates for consideration. The Workgroup agreed to use the same principle for pre and post reads.

CB asked about round the clock indicators and replacing a read with a round the clock indicator. The Workgroup considered the notification required when marking round the clock counts (RTCs). Xoserve agreed to consider the notification of marked 'Suspect' reads and RTCs. MD indicated that this was previously considered and advised as not possible for the go-live date. She explained that the solution would have to be updated as a post Nexus development, this had been noted in Requirement Log - Request 53.

SC requested that the BRD is updated as soon as possible rather than waiting for an update to include other anticipated changes.

SM requested clarity on the ability to change certain aspects of the build. MD explained that the suggested changes are not a change to the build for read submissions, this change is how the system will recognise reads submitted as 'Suspect' or not when a retro update has been provided.

HCo enquired about replacement reads and the use of the RTO file; and Correction factors. MD confirmed these have or will be considered by RAASP.

9. Requirements Log

MD summarised the updates made to the requirements log.

10. Diary Planning

Further details of planned meetings are available at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/Diary

Workgroup meetings will take place as follows:

Time/Date	Venue	Workgroup Programme
10:30 Tuesday 08 December 2015	31 Homer Road, Solihull. B91 3LT.	Nexus Workgroup including: Workgroups 0531 and 0532 Volumetric Update Approval of SSMP guidance document Approval of Prime and Sub-deducts guidance document Requirements Log
10:30 Tuesday 12 January 2015	31 Homer Road, Solihull. B91 3LT.	Nexus Workgroup including: Workgroup 0531 and 0531 Volumetric Update Requirements

Action Table

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
0606	08/06/15	12.2	Xoserve to confirm when the User Pays Charges for the iGT smart metering data migrations, Modification 0467, will be advised.	Xoserve (MD)	Closed
0902	08/09/15	6.0	National Grid Distribution (CW) to provide an in-depth explanation for the high number of "not sub-deduct" sites which are assumed	National Grid Distribution	Closed

Action Table

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
			to be check read meters.	(CW)	
1001	13/10/15	3.0	DA to discuss the way forward, to engage Shippers to provide expected volume usage/system demand with the Xoserve Project Nexus Steering Group representative.	Xoserve (MD)	Closed
1002	13/10/15	4.0	All to review and consider the SSMP guide for UNCC approval.	All	Closed
1003	13/10/15	5.0	Shippers to provide Xoserve confirmation of how Shippers systems have been built for each of the Read Validation scenarios and a view on their preferred option.	Shippers	Closed
1101	04/11/15	3.0	Shippers to provide Xoserve the latest DECC Smart Metering roll out figures to ensure the correct baseline curve is being considered for system capacity.	Shippers	Pending
1102	04/11/15	3.0	Xoserve to provide a volumetric scale of the proposed system capacity based on the DECC baseline along with the likely costs and development period of providing a stepped increase in capacity beyond that which has been predicted.	Xoserve (DA)	Pending
1103	04/11/15	3.0	Shippers to advise Xoserve of any significant volume changes expected to impact the DECC baseline.	Shippers	Pending