

Project Nexus Workgroup Minutes
Tuesday 13 August 2013
via teleconference

Attendees

Bob Fletcher (Chair)	(BF)	Joint Office
Mike Berrisford (Secretary)	(MB)	Joint Office
Alan Raper	(AR)	National Grid Distribution
Andy Miller	(AM)	Xoserve
Andy Watson	(AW)	Xoserve
Angela Love	(AL)	ScottishPower
Chris Warner	(CW)	National Grid Distribution
Colette Baldwin	(CB)	E.ON UK
Ed Hunter	(EH)	RWE npower
Elaine Carr	(EC)	ScottishPower
Gareth Evans	(GE)	Waters Wye Associates
John Edwards	(JE)	Wales & West Utilities
Jonathan Kiddle	(JK)	EDF Energy
Jon Dixon	(JD)	Ofgem
Julie Varney	(JV)	National Grid Transmission
Lorna Lewin	(LL)	DONG Energy
Mark Jones	(MJ)	SSE
Michele Downes	(MD)	Xoserve
Naomi Anderson	(NA)	EDF Energy
Steve Mulinganie	(SM)	Gazprom
Tabish Khan	(TK)	British Gas
Tim Davis	(TD)	Joint Office

1. Introduction

BF welcomed all to the meeting.

1.1 Review of Minutes

JV advised that following offline discussions between herself and Xoserve (MD), National Grid Transmission remain (for the time being) unable to formally sign off the Invoicing BRD until all internal stakeholders have had an opportunity to review the document.

Thereafter, the minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

1.2 Review of Actions

NEX07/01: Reporting - Xoserve (MD) to produce reporting strawman.

Update: MD indicated that she was unclear as to what is actually required for the action. During a brief discussion it was suggested that the 'strawman' should look to provide a solution that includes the current range of reports, plus any additional reporting items identified by industry players as being required in future (including Users accessing and defining their own reports – a data warehouse style approach). However, this should exclude reports already agreed in the other BRDs.

Whilst parties were asked to consider what information they would actually want, MD agreed to look to provide a matrix that seeks to summarises what reports are currently, or could be provided in future for consideration at the next meeting. **Carried Forward**

2. Workgroups

2.1. 0453 – Project Nexus – Demand Estimation

(Report to Panel 19 September 2013) – Papers at:
www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0453/130813

3. Issues and topics for discussion

3.1 High Level Workgroup Issues

3.1.1 Outstanding Areas (Issues) Log

MD confirmed that she had updated ID29 following discussions at the previous meeting, whilst AM suggested that a new issue reflecting concerns voiced during modification 0453 discussions should be added along with another new issue to 'cover' the EU (Industry) Gas Day developments.

3.1.2 Project Plan

UK Link Programme – Update to PNUNC presentation

AW provided a detailed overview of the presentation during which he confirmed that the theoretical 'drop dead date' for an Ofgem decision on the various Project Nexus UNC Modifications is the end of March.

Continuing, AW advised that as far as the DBI sourcing was concerned, three main vendors are currently involved in ongoing architecture workshops, namely TCS, Wipro and CAP Gemini with the aim being to select a preferred vendor by the end of November. Whilst quickly considering the data cleansing requirements, AW suggested that the industry needs a clean data set by this time next year to ensure that integration testing has the best possible data on which to run.

Detailed discussions were then undertaken relating to various parties concerns that the level of detail (granularity) provided by this presentation was insufficient for them to base their respective project change plan management related decisions on (i.e. assessment of critical path requirements, resource allocation, internal project timeline planning, inter-dependency identification and potential industry pinch points etc.). In discussing whether or not provision of a copy of the extremely detailed Xoserve MS Project Plan would be helpful, AM suggested that perhaps something along the lines of the 'DECC Joint Industry Level 1 Plan – Draft'¹ may be more suitable – consensus being that this would provide a sufficient level of detail for interested / impacted parties. With this in mind, AW agreed to a new action to provide a more detailed Project Nexus Industry Level 1 Plan (at this point in time based around indicative dates only) for consideration at the next meeting.

In briefly discussing potential delivery of the iGT functionality aspects, AM advised that preparation for SMART Metering delivery seems to have potentially addressed the key supplier identification provision issue – the current Xoserve view is that data can be input without asking the iGTs to provide the information therefore negating one potentially major area of concern.

When asked whether or not Xoserve intended sharing their selection criteria with the industry, AW responded by advising that at the moment it is not anticipated that any interface changes would be required. However, should this view change then engagement with the industry would be initiated. Furthermore, as far as the (project) transitional arrangements were concerned, subject to the proposed vendor(s)

¹ Xoserve issued an email containing a copy of the 'DECC Joint Industry Level 1 Plan – Draft' for consideration immediately following the meeting and a copy of the plan has been published along side these minutes .

solution(s) being available, discussions involving the UK Link Committee (UKLC) would be started sooner, rather than later – it has not yet been decided whether a phased or big bang approach would be adopted. It goes without saying that any decisions would involve the necessary supporting risk evaluations. Some concerns were voiced that the UKLC may not be the best positioned body for undertaking commercial considerations as it is predominately a technical forum and that perhaps they would concentrate on matters such as file formats etc., whilst the Project Nexus Workgroup would focus on the more commercial aspects. It was recognised that engagement with the UNCC may also prove beneficial – the setting up of a suitable Steering Committee by Ofgem was not discounted at this time either. It was also confirmed that project ‘Go/No Go’ criteria would be provided in due course.

Moving on to look more closely at the build phase, AW advised that based on early vendor indications, this appears to be on track at this time.

When considering the ‘Indicative Path: Test’ slide, AW confirmed that where possible Xoserve would endeavour to provide the system (technical) specifications as early as possible to enable parties to resource the project adequately and to be in a position to plan their requirements efficiently. When asked whether or not the test environment would remain available post the project ‘Go Live’ date, AW advised that this was intended to be the case and the respective vendors have been requested to include this provision within their bids.

Moving on to consider the ‘Indicative Path: Stakeholder Engagement’ slide, AW advised that in recognising Users thirst for the provision of more information, Xoserve are waiting for the (DBI) vendors to provide them with information so that they can then focus their attention on the critical areas of development and project rollout.

In summing up, AW highlighted some of the more important aspects as being:

- Project delivery target remains September 2015 and the proposed plan works back from this date;
- Base case is expected to be ready by the end of October / early November;
- UNC Modification sign off in a timely manner remains imperative (including consideration of any system development ‘freeze’ requirements);
- Data cleansing exercise (including alignment of Project Nexus with the wider industry initiatives) is a crucial requirement – communication due within the next few days, and
- Market testing (including consideration of the opt in / opt out aspects) expected to commence from Q1 2015.

3.1.3 BRD Updates

Executive Summary of Business Requirements document

MD advised that a marked up version (v2.1 dated 30/07/2013) had now been published with a view to formally ‘base lining’ the document at the 10 September meeting.

3.1.4 Funding Arrangements

Discussion deferred.

3.1.5 Transitional Arrangements

Discussion deferred.

3.1.6 Performance Assurance

Discussion deferred.

3.1.7 Reporting

Discussion deferred.

3.2 New Issues

None raised.

4. Any Other BusinessInclusion of Gemini Costs within Project Nexus

When asked, AM confirmed that he would double check whether or not Gemini costs had been included in the HLE for Project Nexus.

5. Diary Planning

The following meetings are scheduled to take place during 2013:

Meeting	Date	Location
Project Nexus Workgroup (including 0432, 0434 and 0453 Workgroups)	10/09/2013	To be confirmed.
Project Nexus Workgroup (including 0432, 0434 and 0453 Workgroups)	30/09/2013	To be confirmed.
Project Nexus Workgroup (including 0432, 0434 and 0453 Workgroups)	22/10/2013	To be confirmed.

Action Table

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
NEX07/01	09/07/13	3.1.7	<i>Reporting</i> - Produce reporting strawman.	Xoserve (MD)	Update due for 10 September 2013.