

UK LINK Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday 08 September 2016
via teleconference

Attendees

Chris Shanley (Chair)	(CS)	Joint Office	
Mike Berrisford (Secretary)	(MB)	Joint Office	
Alex Cebo	(AC)	EDF Energy	Alternate
Alison Nield	(AN)	Gazprom	Member
Bob Broadhurst	(BB)	British Gas	
Bob Fletcher	(BF)	Joint Office	
Colette Baldwin	(CB)	E.ON	Member
Dave Addison	(DA)	Xoserve	
Dave Hipwell	(DH)	British Gas	
Graham Wood	(GW)	British Gas	Member
Lee Harrison	(LH)	Xoserve	
Maitrayee Bhowmick-Jewkes	(MBJ)	RWE npower	
Mark Jones	(MJ)	SSE	
Mike Fensome	(MF)	npower	
Rachel Hinsley	(RH)	Xoserve	
Sharon Eaton	(SE)	RWE npower	Member
Simon Power	(SP)	EDF Energy	Member
Steve Nunnington	(SN)	Xoserve	Member (Transporter)

Copies of meeting papers are available at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/uklc/080916>

1. Introduction and Status Review

BF welcomed all to the meeting, confirming its quorate status and introducing the new Chair, C Shanley of the Joint Office.

1.1. Approval of Minutes (11 August 2016)

The minutes of the previous meetings were approved.

2. Overview of Modifications Impacting UK Link Systems

DA gave a brief overview on recently raised and 'in flight' modifications, as follows:

0593 – Provision of access to data for Price Comparison Websites and Third Party Intermediaries

The modification is not expected to have any UK Link system implications.

0594R – Meter Reading Submission for Advanced & Smart Metering

The review proposal is not expected to have any direct UK Link system implications at this time.

0595 – Amendment to the Arrangements between National Grid NTS and GNI at the Moffat IP to provide for Interruption of Virtual Reverse Flow

The modification is not expected to have any UK Link system implications.

3. Issues referred from PNDG and MTWG

PNDG

DA advised that there are a couple of items cascading out of the recent PNDG meeting which would be covered under consideration of item 4.1 below, such as a 'DUC' update.

MTWG

DA advised that this group is now meeting on a weekly basis and are currently considering / discussing the trials environment and testing requirements.

4. Xoserve Reporting Updates

4.1. UK Link Modification Implementation Plan

4.1.1. Current UK Link Changes Awaiting Scheduling – In Analysis

0576 – Generation of an estimated meter reading at the code cut off date in the absence of an actual read – Enduring solution

DA explained that change is still in analysis and the proposed implementation date is now April 2018.

4.1.2. Current Project Nexus Changes Awaiting Scheduling – In Analysis

COR1154.15.52.2 – Gas Act Owner – Allowable Value 'U' File Format Description Change (TAP Record)

DA explained that this change has been held up in analysis and it is hoped that a communication relating to this matter would be provided in the forthcoming Change Pack scheduled for release on 14 September 2016.

COR1154.15.59 – Change number of occurrences for K13 record for SSMP

As per COR1154.15.52.2 above.

COR1154.15.55 – DM SOQ and SHQ Conditionality within File Formats for NTS sites

As per COR1154.15.52.2 above.

DA also added that whilst the DM SOQ and SHQ items appear on a significant number of file formats, not all of them have an impact. A communication will be issued within the forthcoming Change Pack release.

COR1154.15.64 – Meter Read Types Mapping

DA advised that a communication relating to this matter had already been issued with the closeout for representations ending shortly.

COR1154.15.27 – UKLP Including Nexus Requirements – RTO File Format & Hierarchy

DA apologised and explained that the proposed PNID implementation date was incorrect and that it is expected that a different implementation date would be identified via a UNC Modification to be raised in due course – it is envisaged that this could be part of a 'retro mop up' exercise, possible 12 months after Project Nexus Implementation Date (PNID).

4.1.3. Current UK Link Changes Awaiting Scheduling – Awaiting Approval

COR4043 – Network Sales Functional Impacts

Whilst explaining that a change summary had been provided within a recent change pack, DA also advised that consultation closed out on 31 August 2016.

In providing a brief summary of the two responses received and Xoserve's subsequent replies to them, DA also highlighted that UNC Modification 0592S

had been discussed and approved during a Panel teleconference meeting earlier in the day and that as a consequence, the change request would now be (re)aligned to the proposed 0592S implementation date of 30 September 2016.

A brief debate ensued during which several parties voiced their concerns relating to the 20 business day notice window provision and the impact that this might have on their systems. Responding, DA indicated that he believes that it is highly unlikely that Xoserve would be able to implement the change request in 20 business days, and they (Xoserve) would be looking to provide sufficient notice via an early 'heads up' on an indicative implementation date (relating to the first invoice provision) – a communication relating to this matter would be issued via the UKL distribution listing in due course.

DA then went on to provide a quick explanation around the invoicing cycle and how Xoserve has utilised 'notional' implementation dates for past change requests – the expectation is to follow a similar pattern for this change request. BF pointed out that an update would also be provided within the Distribution Workgroup meeting(s) in due course.

When asked, RH advised that the implementation date for 0592S cannot fall in line with the PNID because it relates to the National Grid Distribution sale which is expected to conclude circa January/February 2017.

When asked, UKLC members approved the change order - **Approved**

4.1.4. Current Project Nexus Changes Awaiting Scheduling – Awaiting Approval

COR1154.15.64 – UKLP Including Nexus Require – Contact Title Allowable Values

Opening, DA explained that this change request is in response to an outstanding action on Xoserve, and as such, they (Xoserve) are not seeking formal approval at this meeting.

In explaining that Xoserve is unable to retrospectively access data in order to generate the supporting report, DA advised that the previously suggested 'null' value option remains their preferred solution.

In providing a brief summary of the two responses received and Xoserve's subsequent replies to them, DA explained that from PNID Xoserve would look validate contact titles based on the information provided to them. In other words where a user provides an invalid value, this would be 'mirrored' back in Xoserve's response. From a given (sub implementation) date yet to be determined Xoserve would then start to utilise a 'null' value within their response file.

It was noted that Xoserve is unable to provide a confirmed release date for this change request or PNID at this time.

Concerns were voiced around change request administration and impact assessment transparency, especially provision of supporting historical communication related information. Some parties remain concerned that it is unclear as to whether or not this change request would be implemented before, on or after PNID, which in turn impacts on their ability to ensure their systems are in order ahead of implementation of the change request. Responding, DA apologised and acknowledged that the original change pack communication could / should have been more informative and explained that Xoserve had taken the criticism on board and would look to improve the quality within communications going forwards.

DA then noted that whilst a post PNID is to be expected, the actual change request release (implementation) date is yet to be defined (one suggestion being 6 months + after PNID). However, more information relating to a

proposed CR implementation date would be provided in a future Change Pack.

DA advised that the change request would remain on the Implementation Plan for information purposes only.

Concluding, UKLC members agreed that the explanation satisfies the requirement of outstanding action UKL0402.

COR1154.15.61 – Treatment of Non Measuring Assets – Confirmation of Treatment when an Asset Status Code is not provided

DA provided a brief explanation of the background to this change request explaining that it relates to what is stated within the Conditionality / Guidance documentation which currently define a mandatory Asset Status Code (ASC) field. However, legacy testing has revealed that in some instances the 'no measurement asset codes' have gone through processing without the mandatory asset status field being populated.

In providing a brief summary of the two responses received and Xoserve's subsequent replies to them, DA explained that after further consideration Xoserve have decided that they would no longer be mandating IHD segments for Smart Meters and as a consequence, would be looking to amend their response summaries accordingly.

Referring to the previous concerns voiced around administration and information transparency, DA confirmed that Xoserve would be looking to publish an updated table for the allowable ASC values in the UK Link Manual in due course.

New Action UKL0901: Reference COR1154.15.61 – Treatment of Non Measuring Assets – Confirmation of Treatment when an Asset Status Code is not provided - Xoserve (DA) to confirm when the Allowable Asset Status Code table contained within the UK Link Manual would be / had been updated.

In referring to the British Gas challenge that this change should really be seen as a Class 2 Change Request, DA explained that Xoserve are happy to support this view on the grounds that the change is related to the Project Nexus Implementation Date.

When asked, UKLC members approved the change order - **Approved**

COR1154.15.62 – UKLP Including Nexus Requirements – Shipper Rejection Codes V2.11FA

In providing a brief summary of the three responses received and Xoserve's subsequent replies to them, DA explained that parties have requested that Xoserve limits the audience number for rejection code change notifications.

DA went on to point out that Xoserve would endeavour to avoid removing rejection codes and that the matter had also been discussed at the recent SDG meeting, under the consideration of another change request.

DA then apologised for errors in both the change pack communication and also their representation response back to British Gas.

DA explained that British Gas had also highlighted a 'missing' zero issue (i.e. three rather than four zeros being present) and that this error had now been corrected.

When asked, UKLC members approved the change order - **Approved**

COR1154.15.63 – Transformation Rules (Pack Seven)

SN advised that this matter had been discussed at a recent DMG meeting and that two responses had been received, both supporting the change request proposals.

When asked, UKLC members approved the change order - **Approved**

COR1154.15.53 – Transformation Rules (Pack Five)

SN advised that this matter relates to subtly different invoicing rules for multiple live assets against MPRN. Xoserve analysis revealed that the split rule option is too difficult to implement, so the proposals have since been returned to the DMG who have agreed to go back to the original 'single rule' solution – please refer to communication 1633.1 (Removing the one Transformation Rule that was split) for more details.

When asked, UKLC members approved the change order - **Approved**

COR1154.15.58 – Transformation Rules (Pack Six)

SN advised that no formal representations had been received in regards to this change request.

When asked, UKLC members approved the change order - **Approved**

4.1.5. Current UK Link Changes Approved - Scheduled for Implementation

TBC

Proposed Datafix to Meter Link Code

DA advised that an implementation date has not been defined at this time.

COR3413.1 Removal of 'Automatic' Creation of Meter Models on Receipt of RGMA Transactions – Revised Implementation Date

DA advised that an implementation date has not been defined at this time.

October 2016

Temporary Suspension of M3.3.4b Validation on Shipper Provided ('Unbundled') Meter Reading

DA advised that an implementation date has not been defined at this time.

From this point onwards, the remainder of the Implementation Plan items were taken as read, as provided or discussed by exception only.

Project Nexus Implementation Date

The majority of these changes relate to Project Nexus and are all still in development for implementation on the Project Nexus Implementation Date.

COR1154.15.54 – ERR and FRJ File Formats and Hierarchies

DA explained that a previous response had sought clarification on how the ERR file is created. He then directed parties towards communication 1124.2 which had recently been issued relating to this matter.

DA reminded everyone that the change request had been approved at the previous UKLC meeting and is now retained on the Implementation Plan for information purposes only.

4.1.6. UK Link Changes – Implemented since the last UK Link Committee Meeting

COR3143 – File Transfer Guide V12FA V12.1FA

This change request was implemented on 12 August 2016.

0568 - COR3997: Security requirement and invoice payment cycle for the Trading System Clearer

This change request relates only to the Trading Clearer (ICE) and was implemented on 01 August 2016.

4.1.7. UK Link Changes – Updated since the last UK Link Committee Meeting
COR1154.15.32 – UKLP Including Nexus Requirements – Data Update Code (DUC) – JOB File

DA explained that this change request had been the subject of a discussion at the (Monday) 05 September 2016 SDG meeting, where thereafter, a communication had been issued in the following day's change pack.

DA went on to explain that the data update code was clearly defined within the change summary (ref: communication 1635) and that no adverse comments have been received. He then provided a brief background update relating to this change request before explaining that Ofgem (via PwC) have now directed that the original DUC solution proposals should now be implemented, including the element(s) previously rejected by the UKLC.

Referring to UKLC governance aspects, DA explained that Xoserve would not be looking for any form of (follow up) approval and would now be looking to implement the change request as per PwC instruction (i.e. based upon the original change pack proposals) – in essence, this is simply a courtesy notification.

When an error in the MS Word document contained within the recent change pack communication was highlighted, DA apologised on behalf of Xoserve colleagues.

When asked, DA confirmed that the 'original' DUC solution proposals (including the Unique File Number element as previously rejected by the UKLC) are now in analysis / development and would be moving through to implementation in due course.

Some parties voiced their concerns that PwC has been involved from the start feeling that UKLC due governance has been circumvented. It was also suggested that this potentially brings in to question the process relating to approval of PNID related change requests and whether or not there remains any value in seeking UKLC approval for these going forwards. Acknowledging the points raised DA responded indicating that he still believes that there is benefit in bringing PNID related change requests to the UKLC for formal approval, on the grounds that it is the correct governance route, even if in practise it ends up being 'for information purposes only'. Supporting these views, SN advised that Ofgem has stated that it believes that it has sufficiently canvassed industry views on the DUC matter.

When BF enquired as to how (and under what formal governance mechanisms) the Ofgem direction had been facilitated, DA explained that Xoserve has now tabled an SPAA Expert Group agenda item in order to discuss the DUC implementation and the potential impacts upon SPAA related documentation – any changes would be managed through the SPAA process.

New Action UKL0902: Reference *COR1154.15.32 – UKLP Including Nexus Requirements – Data Update Code (DUC) – JOB File – Xoserve (DA) to examine the DUC Transactions JOB Field description and GT Field Status aspects (i.e. irrelevant data fields etc.) and provide a view.*

4.2. Xoserve Report

SN focused attention on the 'UKLP Including Nexus Requirement – Outage', 'Gemini and Gemini Exit systems' and the 'CSEP, CMS, DE, EFT, IP & UK LINK Gemini, Gemini Exit & Gemini EU' outages.

In considering the 'Gemini and Gemini Exit systems' 04/09/2016 outage, SN made reference to communication 1629 (post implementation deployment).

In considering the 'Gemini and Gemini Exit systems' 18/09/2016 outage, SN explained that the date should read as being 11/09/2016 and that the 'End Time' is more likely to be 5am, but could be adjusted to 6am on the day should the need arise.

When asked, SN confirmed that whilst this outage does not resolve the allocation issues, as these would be fixed at a later date, it does relate to the feed into Gemini that is causing the allocation problems in the first place. He suggested that further discussions around this matter would be taking place within the Transmission Workgroup in due course.

New Action UKL0903: Reference Gemini and Gemini Exit systems outage - Xoserve (SN) to double check the status of the outage and provide an update.

Thereafter, reports A, B, C, D and E were accepted.

4.3. Review of 'pipeline of change'

During a brief discussion where it was recognised that publication of the Xoserve Control Log, each and every Friday could possibly result in this item being redundant, it was suggested and agreed, to change the title to read as 'Review of Change Log' going forwards.

4.4. RGMA Treatment following Project Nexus Implementation Date

As the documentation and information appertaining to this matter is published and made available elsewhere, it was agreed that this standing agenda item could now be removed going forwards.

5. Review of Actions

UKL0402: Reference COR1154.15.35 - Xoserve (DA) to clarify how Xoserve would respond to contact title submissions, how it expects to treat these files and how any null values would be communicated via the UKLC going forwards.

Update: It was agreed that this action had been sufficiently covered during consideration of item 4.1.4 above. **Closed**

UKL0801: Reference COR3143 File Transfer Guide V12FA V12.1FA – Xoserve (DA) to look to provide a high level process flow map for the Supplier / MAM (non UKL user to non UKL user) aspects and to also consider a suitable publishing location for any supporting documentation.

Update: DA explained that Xoserve consideration of this low priority item remains ongoing and he hopes to provide an update at the next UKLC meeting. **Carried Forward**

UKL0802: Xoserve (SN) to confirm whether or not approval of the two transformation related items proposed for the 24 August 2016 agenda can be deferred until the 08 September 2016 meeting, and therefore the 24 August meeting be cancelled.

Update: SN advised that the action had been completed. **Closed**

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Ofgem / PwC / UKLC Consideration of Adoption of Standard Change Pack Template

It was noted that some parties find the current information release provisions confusing (especially in terms of Impact Assessment process transparency aspects) and would prefer instead to see adoption of more standardised information provisions along the lines of a standard change pack template.

When some parties raised concerns around Xoserve's recent performance when releasing industry communications, DA confirmed that Xoserve already employs an internal review mechanism prior to the release of any information. He also agreed to

consider providing more background (historic) communication information so that it is easier for recipients with varying knowledge levels to understand the information being provided. DA agreed to discuss the matter in more detail with impacted parties offline.

When one party suggested that better traceability (i.e. communication and charge request references) of a subject might be beneficial, DA explained that the majority of these provisions already exist in the form of the Implementation Plan links.

Concluding, DA agreed to consider providing the following:

- change order reference number within change pack communications;
- historical communication references within change pack communications, and
- identification of potential related change packs / communications.

7. Diary Planning

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

Members briefly discussed whether or not consideration of 'read types' scheduled to be undertaken at the next meeting could be deferred – consensus was to CANCEL the proposed UKLC Accelerated Governance meeting scheduled for Wednesday 28 September and consider 'read types' at the 13 October (full) UKLC meeting.

UKLC Meetings will be face-to-face meetings (unless otherwise notified) and will take place as follows:

Time and Date	Venue	Programme
10:00, Thursday 13 October 2016	Teleconference	Standard agenda and other items to be confirmed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of read types

Action Table (as at 08 September 2016)

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status
UKL 0402	14/04/16	5.1.4	<i>Reference COR1154.15.35</i> - Xoserve (DA) to clarify how Xoserve would respond to contact title submissions, how it expects to treat these files and how any null values would be communicated via the UKLC going forwards.	Xoserve (DA)	Update provided. Closed
UKL 0801	11/08/16	4.1.3	<i>Reference COR3143 – File Transfer Guide V12FA V12.1FA</i> - Xoserve (DA) to look to provide a high level process flow map for the Supplier / MAM (non UKL user to non UKL user) aspects and to also consider a suitable publishing location for any supporting documentation.	Xoserve (DA)	Carried Forward
UKL 0802	11/08/16	7.	To confirm whether or not approval of the two transformation related items proposed for the 24 August 2016 agenda can be deferred until the 08 September 2016 meeting, and therefore the 24 August	Xoserve (SN)	Update provided. Closed

			meeting be cancelled.		
UKL 0901	08/09/16	4.1.4	<i>Reference COR1154.15.61 – Treatment of Non Measuring Assets – Confirmation of Treatment when an Asset Status Code is not provided - to confirm when the Allowable Asset Status Code table contained within the UK Link Manual would be / had been updated.</i>	Xoserve (DA)	Pending
UKL 0902	08/09/16	4.1.7	<i>Reference COR1154.15.32 – UKLP Including Nexus Requirements – Data Update Code (DUC) – JOB File – to examine the DUC Transactions JOB Field description and GT Field Status aspects (i.e. irrelevant data fields etc.) and provide a view.</i>	Xoserve (DA)	Pending
UKL 0903	08/09/16	4.2	<i>Reference Gemini and Gemini Exit systems outage - to double check the status of the outage and provide an update.</i>	Xoserve (SN)	Pending