

UK LINK Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday 11 August 2016

via teleconference

Attendees

Bob Fletcher (Chair)	(BF)	Joint Office	
Mike Berrisford (Secretary)	(MB)	Joint Office	
Alison Nield	(AN)	Gazprom	Member
Bob Broadhurst	(BB)	British Gas	
Bryan Hale	(BH)	British Gas	Alternate
Colette Baldwin	(CB)	E.ON	Member
Daniel Griffiths	(DG)	ENGIE	
Dave Addison	(DA)	Xoserve	
Lee Harrison	(LH)	Xoserve	
Lorna Lewin	(LL)	DONG Energy	Member
Polina Kasatkina	(PK)	Gazprom	
Sharon Eaton	(SE)	RWE npower	Member
Simon Power	(SP)	EDF Energy	Member
Steve Nunnington	(SN)	Xoserve	Alternate (Transporter)

Copies of meeting papers are available at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/uklc/110816>

1. Introduction and Status Review

BF welcomed all to the meeting and confirmed its quorate status.

1.1. Approval of Minutes (14 July and 02 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:

0531 – Provision of an Industry User Test System

Workgroup Report (v4.0) published on 09 August 2016. The final version of the supporting (Industry Testing Approach) document has also been published and will require maintaining via the UKLC going forwards should the modification be implemented.

0580S – Implementation of Non Effective Days to enable Annual AQ Review (independent of Nexus transition)

A variation request was approved at the 21 July 2016 Panel meeting which sought to revert back to the 'original' proposed drafting for the modification, which cited 4 non effective days, rather than latterly proposed 7 non effective days as the industry would have time to adjust to the lower number of days being requested.

Thereafter the Panel approved the modification with an effective implementation date of 05:00 on 12 August 2016.

Communication 1614 - LH - SN - Annual Quantity Review 2016: Notice of Implementation of AQ Non Effective Days (NEDs) relating to this matter was issued on 02 August 2016 and system functionality to support the change was loaded on to the system on Monday 08 August 2016.

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

At this initial stage the modification is not expected to have any UK Link system implications. It is envisaged that a machine to machine based process maybe adopted / developed in due course.

The modification will be considered at the 18 August 2016 Panel meeting where it is expected to be sent to the Distribution Workgroup for assessment.

3. Issues referred from PNDG and MTWG

In referring to outstanding action UKL0601, DA advised that Xoserve had recently issued a related Project Nexus Implementation Date (PNID) change summary, similar in style to the UKL Implementation Plan and that PwC have also recently issued an invite to the workshop scheduled to take place on Friday 12 August 2016.

DA confirmed that Shipper changes would be managed via UKLC and the release dates would be incorporated into Market Trials in due course. Communication 1615.1 – LH – DA – Change Pack 3rd August 2016 included more detailed information relating to the 'Consolidated Nexus Change Log'.

During a brief discussion on whether or not it would be preferable to retain both PNDG and UKLC reporting facilities going forwards, it was noted that provision of the UKLC Implementation Plan (including continuation of the Project Nexus related aspects) would be needed in future, and therefore, it was suggested that there would be benefit in keeping both reporting channels open in order to minimise the risk of losing visibility of any changes coming through. However, it was noted that care needed to be taken to ensure the reports remained aligned.

DA went on to explain that during PNDG discussions on the possible deferral of the (PNID), it was noted that the related communication stated that the 'reporting date' is to be no earlier than 01 April 2017 and that this date is an element by which the industry can assess the RAG status – confirmation of the actual (deferral) date is not expected before 01 September 2016.

DA explained that PwC are currently examining the potential User, Market Trials / Day 1 impacts associated with the deferral of the PNID and had issued a communication relating to this matter on 10 August 2016 – DA urged parties to investigate and consider.

Moving on, DA advised that the next SDG meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday 15 August 2016 and would be considering amongst other things, items such as a change pipeline update. However, he did point out that whilst a Data Update was not on the agenda per se, a communication relating to this matter would be issued in due course.

4. Xoserve Reporting Updates

4.1. UK Link Modification Implementation Plan

4.1.1. Current UK Link Changes Awaiting Scheduling – In Analysis

COR4043 – Network Sales Functional Impacts

DA explained that this change is due to be discussed at the SDG meeting on Monday 15 August 2016 and a supporting communication is due out in the 17 August 2016 Change Pack proposing an invoice based solution (i.e. separation of NGD / NTS elements).

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 there is an expectation that as far as the enduring solution (effective implementation date of April 17) is concerned, any delay to the PNID, could potentially change this date. Current thinking suggests that the implementation date will be 01 April 2018 and the Implementation Plan will be update in due course.

In short, the first utilisation of the functionality is a post PNID 'line in the sand' activity.

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 is the subject of an internal Xoserve assessment and it is hoped that a communication relating to this matter would be provided in the forthcoming Change Pack.

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

DA explained that treatment of this change is similar to COR1154.15.52.2 above.

DA went on to explain that there remains a significant issue relating to Users (SPA) File Formats, although I&C Users are less likely to be impacted to the same degree.

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

DA explained that Xoserve are currently considering mandatory (functional) change impacts and it is hoped that a communication on this matter would be provided in the forthcoming Change Pack.

COR1154.15.32 – UKLP Including Nexus Requirements – Data Update Code (DUC) – JOB File

DA reminded everyone that this matter has been the subject of a great deal of debate at previous UKLC meetings, culminating with Xoserve agreeing to issue an extraordinary communication at the July meeting.

DA felt that the Workshop undertaken on Friday 05 August 2016 had been very fruitful resulting in a proposed change to the previous solution – more information on which will be included within a forthcoming communication to be issued within the next few days.

When asked, DA explained that Xoserve is considering potentially splitting the issue into two component parts (i.e. ignore non billing attributes for removed assets and/or reported assets where non billing attributes are different and the data update code is present). He went on to advise that Xoserve's proposal will include seeking views on the removal of DUC &/or removal of DUC in light of either of the two parts being adopted and would be looking for a reduced consultation period in order to get the change request back on track.

DA then went on to explain the Xoserve are still hoping to avoid escalating the change to the UNCC for a decision, although if rejected by the UKLC members, that will become the only viable option left open to them. Ultimately, Xoserve remains concerned that should both the UKLC and UNCC reject the change then potentially this could jeopardise both the PNID and the changes to UK Link due to the SMART Metering rollout programme. He asked members to note that both of the two proposed solutions have a potential impact on the Project Nexus baseline system requirements, potentially involving a large functional change spread across several processes. This was not necessarily a universally supported concern as some parties believe that in the event that both the UKLC and the UNCC reject the change, it may be possible to look to the development of alternative functionality solutions. Responding, DA highlighted that Xoserve might struggle to identify information for any alternative solutions, should the need arise.

DA explained that more detail would be provided in a forthcoming communication that he hoped would be issued on Friday 12 August 2016, with

a reduced closeout date of circa 19 August 2016. Some parties challenged this proposal on the grounds that the holiday period would / could potentially 'limit' the industry visibility and participation. Responding, DA pointed out that the matter had been considered at a recent MAMCoP meeting where four or five Shipper organisations were in attendance.

When asked whether or not UKLC members felt that they could make an informed decision on this change request at this meeting, several members continued to voice concerns – in short the concerns stem from whether members believe that they are able to undertake a suitable impact assessment under such tight timescales. When asked, BF indicated that whilst an 'ad-hoc' UNCC meeting would be feasible in principle, its success would hinge around being able to communicate sufficiently and effectively with UNCC members, and suggested that providing them with an early 'heads up' would be beneficial.

BF also commented that it is somewhat challenging that we need a decision at this time, when we do not even have an effective PNID available.

Recognising the concerns around the timescales, it was agreed to issue a communication proposing a consultation closeout of 31 August 2016 and follow this up with (hopefully) a UKLC decision at an 08 September 2016 UKLC teleconference meeting.

Concluding, DA advised that he would look to provide a 'warm up' briefing to UNCC members at the August UNCC meeting before then asked parties to provide an indicative view as soon as possible on how they might vote at a UNCC meeting, so that he could include these within the change pack communication.

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

DA explained that whilst this change remains 'on hold' there is a working assumption that any 'go-live' date would be 12 months after PNID.

4.1.3. Current UK Link Changes Awaiting Scheduling – Awaiting Approval

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

DA explained that Xoserve is initially proposing adopting a single batch run to satisfy this change requirement, although it recognises that more might be need over the course of time.

DA provided a brief overview of the 1x response received (EDF Energy) against this change and outlined the subsequent response from Xoserve.

Once again, DA requested that parties provide a view on their possible number of file formats.

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

COR3143 – File Transfer Guide V12FA V12.1FA

DA explained that this change had invoked a significant number of User responses that had been collated and included in subsequent communication 1611 - LH – DA - Representation Matrices for UK Link Change Pack dated 06/07/2016, as issued on 27 July 2016.

When BH requested more time to consider the change following questions raised at a recent internal British Gas meeting (and in the absence of any documentation to assist users to understand Supplier / MAMs information flows), DA advised that Xoserve are proposing to consolidate the file interfaces between Users with password protection to ensure only the relevant areas of access are granted to various parties. DA also reminded those in

attendance that non UKL user to non UKL user flows do not form part of the UK Link Manual. Furthermore, he explained that these flows have 'limited' format requirements (header etc.) around them and also limited supporting documentation on the grounds that these 'normally' fall under access level agreements. DA agreed to discuss the matter with BH offline.

New Action 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.

Subject to subsequent resolution of outstanding action UKL0801, when asked, UKLC members approved the change order – **Approved**

4.1.4. Current Project Nexus Changes Awaiting Scheduling – Awaiting Approval

COR1154.15.48 – Leading Zero – File Format and Appendix

DA explained that a single representation had been received, the summary response for which had been issued in communication 1600.2 – RH – DA - Leading Zero File Formats and Appendix.

A brief discussion ensued during which one party voiced concern that this matter remains unclear, although this was not necessarily a universally supported viewpoint. Responding, DA agreed to provide additional clarity within the Standards Guide (appendices).

Subject to subsequent updating of the Standards Guide, when asked, UKLC members approved the change order – **Approved**

COR1154.15.53 – Transformation Rules (Pack Five)

SN explained that this change had been the subject of discussions at the DMG meeting on the previous day (10 August 2016) where it was confirmed that there are no Transformation Rule changes involved.

When parties indicated that they had had insufficient time to consider the change following the DMG recommendations, SN suggested that DMG members would need to update their respective UKLC members, as there is no formal UKLC Transformation Rules decision process involved.

For the avoidance of doubt, SN pointed out that this matter relates to packs 5 and 6 of the Transformation Rules.

When asked, UKLC members agreed to defer consideration of the change order until the 24 August 2016 meeting.

COR1154.15.56 – Leading Zero – UKLP Including Nexus Requirement – M03 Shipper Reference – Defect 10407

DA explained that Xoserve are proposing to mirror the legacy treatment solution.

In explaining that 1x representation had been received which focused on the interim / enduring solution aspects of the change, DA advised that Xoserve are looking to implement a single (space based) solution. When one party challenged the proposed approach, DA agreed to look to providing a (temporary) non-enduring interim solution, which could then be followed up by an enduring solution post PNID.

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

COR1154.15.57 – Leading Zero – UKLP Including Nexus Requirements – Additional Shipper Rejection Codes V2.10FA

DA apologised for the incorrect additional rejection code (relating to this change) stated in the change pack.

1x representation has been received highlighting a possible missing zero issue at which point DA agreed to confirm via a post meeting note, as to whether or not this change would be included within Market Trials.

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

COR1154.15.58 – Transformation Rules (Pack Six)

DA explained that this is related to COR1154.15.53 – Transformation Rules (Pack Five) above.

When asked, UKLC members agreed to defer consideration of the change order.

COR1154.15.52.1 – Gas Act Owner – Allowable Value ‘U’ File Format Description Change (PAC & MRI)

DA explained that whilst no formal responses had been received for this administration only change which is included within the Market Trials.

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

COR1154.15.50 – UKLP Including Nexus requirement – RGMA Rejection Codes V1.3FA

DA apologised and explained that this had been the subject of an oversight on Xoserve’s part as they forgot to include the RGMA rejection code previously.

DA then provided a brief summary of the 2x responses received and explained that instances where a non-effective date would not be part of a UNC modification are extremely rare.

When asked how the rejection code would be triggered (in system terms), DA explained that from a Project Nexus perspective this is completed at a file level. In suggesting that the concerns relate to the potential levels of risk involved, BH agreed the matter is something that could / should be discussed offline.

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

COR1154.15.49 – UKLP Including Nexus requirement – Shipper Rejection codes v2.9 FA

DA advised that 1x response had been received which focused on the CNF52 issue before providing a brief explanation that the K08 document is being reviewed which has necessitated the reinstatement of the rejection code.

DA also explained that CLS002 had been amended inline with a request for more clarity.

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

COR1154.15.51 – Retention of Expanded Trigger of S98 Record Introduced as part of COR3480 – Implementation of Advanced Meter information (UNC Modification 0487V Interim Solution) following PNID

DA explained that this change proposes retaining the 0487V elements and that Xoserve is proposing to continue to do this.

DA advised that 1x response had been received questioning whether or not the S98 record is needed going forwards to which Xoserve has responded proposing retaining both triggers (meter mechanism and SMSO). Moving on, DA explained that the bottom line is that Xoserve have not proposed removal of either SMART meter indicators and do not expect to be issuing dual flows either. When asked whether an accompanying Transformation Rule would be

provided, DA confirmed that his colleague E Lyndon was currently working on the matter.

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

COR1154.15.54 – ERR and FRJ File Formats and Hierarchies

DA explained that 1x response had been received focusing on the fact that E01 responses are being limited to 50, rather than previously being unlimited in number. He went on to point out that the 'legacy' was previously 10 and that upgrading this to 50 should be seen as a positive step.

DA advised that the Standards Guide would be updated in due course, as part of a consolidated updated version and would be supported by an industry communication on the matter.

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

4.1.5. Current UK Link Changes Approved - Scheduled for Implementation

TBC

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

DA advised that having experiencing a 'staging area' issues, Xoserve would be happy to work with Users on a one-to-one basis to ensure everything runs smoothly going forwards – the target implementation date is now 02 September 2016.

Proposed Datafix to Meter Link Code

DA advised that change is dependant upon COR3413.1 Removal of 'Automatic' Creation of Meter Models on Receipt of RGMA Transactions – Revised Implementation Date going in, as it requires the involvement of the same group of resources to action.

August 2016

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

SN reminded everyone that this change only impacts ICE.

From this point onwards, the remainder of the Implementation Plan items were taken as read, as provided.

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.

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

There have been no changes implemented since the last UKLC meeting.

4.2. Xoserve Report

DA focused attention on the 'Gemini Summer Release' and the 'Gemini and Gemini Exit systems' outages. Thereafter, reports A, B, C, D and E were accepted.

4.3. Review of 'pipeline of change'

In pointing out that the SDG would be discussing matters in due course, DA believed that the bulk of topic items had already been discussed elsewhere in this meeting. He then advised parties that a summary of the SDG discussion items (inc. three invoice types) would be included in a future change pack communication.

SN pointed out that the change log also highlights early 'heads up' items. It was noted that one party has highlighted issues relating to the NRS files with Xoserve, which would / could be added to the change log in due course.

When asked, UKLC members did not raise any major objections to the SDG meeting still going ahead, although one party voiced concerns around potentially industry resourcing related impacts.

4.4. RGMA Treatment following Project Nexus Implementation Date

DA explained that Xoserve would be looking to provide a summary document once the DUC file (*COR1154.15.32 – UKLP Including Nexus Requirements – Data Update Code (DUC) – JOB File*) related issues had been resolved.

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: DA explained that work has focused on a reduced contact title list elements and a communication (*highlighting that Xoserve have considered nulling the field (by way of a default), or providing a subsequent report, plus a recommendation for a post PNID implementation*) relating to this matter would be provided in the forthcoming Change Pack scheduled for release on Wednesday 17 August 2016. **Carried Forward**

UKL0601: Reference *COR1154.15.45 UKLP Including Nexus requirement* – Xoserve (DA) to provide a copy of the proposed PNDG paper to UKLC members asap.

Update: It was agreed that this matter had been sufficiently covered under discussion of item 3.0 above. **Closed**

6. Any Other Business

None

7. Diary Planning

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

Members briefly discussed whether or not approval of the new change pack(s) scheduled to take place at the Accelerated Governance meeting on 24 August 2016 meeting could be deferred until the 08 September (full) UKLC – consensus was to await an Xoserve confirmation and aim to keep the 24 August meeting open at this time.

New Action 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.

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

Time and Date	Venue	Programme
10:00, Wednesday 24 August 2016	Teleconference	Consideration of New Change Pack(s) and required approvals
10:00, Thursday 08 September 2016	Teleconference	Standard agenda and other items to be confirmed

Action Table (as at 11 August 2016)

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status
UKL 0402	14/04/16	5.1.4	<i>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.</i>	Xoserve (DA)	Carried Forward
UKL 0601	09/06/16	4.1.4	<i>Reference COR1154.15.45 - Xoserve (DA) to provide a copy of the proposed PNUG paper to UKLC members asap.</i>	Xoserve (DA)	Update provided Closed
UKL 0801	11/08/16	4.1.3	<i>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.</i>	Xoserve (DA)	Pending
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 meeting be cancelled.	Xoserve (SN)	Pending