

**UK LINK Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday 14 April 2016**  
**31 Homer Road, Solihull B91 3LT**

**Attendees**

Bob Fletcher (Chair)	(BF)	Joint Office	
Mike Berrisford (Secretary)	(MB)	Joint Office	
Alison Nield	(AN)	Gazprom	<b>Member</b>
Blanka Caen	(BC)	British Gas	
Bryan Hale	(BH)	EDF Energy	<b>Member</b>
Colette Baldwin	(CB)	E.ON	<b>Member</b>
Colin Bezant	(CBe)	PwC	
Dave Addison	(DA)	Xoserve	<b>Member (Transporter)</b>
Dave Hipwell*	(DH)	British Gas	
Daniel Griffiths*	(DG)	ENGIE	
Lee Harrison	(LH)	Xoserve	
Lorna Lewin	(LL)	DONG Energy	<b>Member</b>
Mark Jones	(MJ)	SSE	<b>Alternate</b>
Paul Carman	(PC)	ScottishPower	<b>Alternate</b>
Rachel Hinsley	(RH)	Xoserve	
Sharon Eaton	(SE)	RWE npower	<b>Alternate</b>
Simon Power	(SP)	EDF Energy	
Stephanie Shepherd	(SS)	RWE npower	
Steve Nunnington	(SN)	Xoserve	
Sue Cropper	(SC)	British Gas	<b>Alternate</b>

\*via teleconference

Copies of meeting papers are available at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/uklc/140416>

**1. Introduction and Status Review**

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

**1.1. Approval of Minutes (10 & 23 March 2016)**

The minutes of the previous meetings were approved.

**2. Overview of Modifications Impacting UK Link Systems**

RH and DA gave a brief overview on recently raised modifications:

**0579 - Updating code to reflect the correct 'Designated Person'**

No UK Link impacts anticipated.

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

Early indications suggest that this modification constitutes prudent planning. Some UK Link impacts are anticipated.

**0581 - Amending the Oxygen content limit specified in the Network Entry Agreements at Grain LNG**

An enabling modification with no anticipated UK Link impacts at this time.

### 3. Issues referred from UKLIEF and MTWG

BF introduced and welcomed CBe to the meeting and explained the possible future changes to the role of the UKLC in regards to delivery of Project Nexus system functionality. He pointed out that the governance arrangements around Project Nexus (PN) implementation aspects would be moving to the Project Nexus Delivery Group (PNDG) shortly, with the UKLC becoming purely a decision making body, rather than a detailed technical solutions based forum – parties are asked to look at the various presentation materials available on the PNSG web site pages at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/NexusSG>.

In giving a brief overview of his role going forwards, CBe explained that he is working closely with Ofgem looking at the wider issue of PN governance considerations.

### 4. Approval of RTO

DA asked for this to be rolled over to the 12 May UK Link meeting as he had yet to complete his action as agreed to update the expample documents.

### 5. Xoserve Reporting Updates

#### 5.1. UK Link Modification Implementation Plan

##### 5.1.1. Current UK Link Changes Awaiting Scheduling – In Analysis

###### ***COR3852 – Maintaining the efficacy of the NTS optional commodity (“shorthaul”) tariff at Bacton entry points***

SN explained that the intention is to implement this change on 20 April 2016 unless anyone highlights any concerns, in which case, the date would be put back until 27 April. Closeout for responses is 19 April 2016.

###### ***Modification 0518S - Shipper Verification of meter and address details following system meter removals – Enduring solution***

DA explained that following the issue of the communication relating to this matter, responses back have questioned how the two fields will be clarified.

More information relating to this matter would be issued in next week’s change pack.

##### 5.1.2. Current Project Nexus Changes Awaiting Scheduling – In Analysis

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

DA explained that this change relates to a small number of instances that occurred during 2015.

When further scenarios were identified at SDG, Xoserve agreed to investigate (volumetrics). However, Xoserve have focussed resources on getting the RGMA code into market trials. This has delayed commencement of their investigations that are now due to start in a weeks time – at present there is no view on when this work will be completed.

When asked, SN/DA agreed to confirm whether or not the bulk of the RGMA functionality would be included within the following Monday’s (18 April) Market Trials.<sup>1</sup> Presentation materials issued accordingly.

###### ***COR1154.15.14 UKLP Including Nexus requirement – Amendments to Baselined File Formats (October) – U01, U12 & U14***

DA explained that this change relates to the provision of AMR readings where a convertor is fitted and that Xoserve is hoping to provide a view within the forthcoming change pack communication.

<sup>1</sup> Please note: following the UKLC meeting it has been confirmed (after PNSG approval) that RGMA will be included within the Market Trials due to start on Monday 18 April 2016.

Also an update will hopefully be provided at next Monday's SDG meeting.

***COR1154.15.31 UKLP Including Nexus Requirements – Shipper Rejection Codes V2.6***

DA explained that this change relates to both some cosmetic changes, plus a couple of RGMA related codes and a communication on the matter would be issued in the forthcoming change pack.

***COR1154.15.34 UKLP Including Nexus Requirements – N95 File Record***

DA explained that this had been the subject of discussion at the previous day's SPAA meeting, following previous discussion at an SDG meeting.

In short, this change relates to the existing UK Link System creating fictitious work dates in order to process.

Whilst DA expects to provide more detailed scenarios at Monday's SDG meeting, should anyone wish to discuss the matter in more detail, especially how their systems work, please feel free to contact him direct.

It was noted that AQ date impacts could be an issue.

***COR1154.15.37 UK Link Standards Guide Amendment to deal with Leading Zero's***

DA explained that more information relating to the change would be provided at Monday's SDG meeting – Xoserve is planning to publish the impacted fields list prior to the meeting.

It was noted that whilst legacy testing and SAP system testing remains ongoing, this had already thrown up some anomalies and as a consequence Xoserve are trying to identify some consistent rules to apply going forward.

**5.1.3. Current UK Link Changes Awaiting Scheduling – Awaiting Approval**

***Treatment of Rejection of RGMA Transaction***

DA advised that this change had already been issued for comments and to date one supporting response had been provided.

When asked, DA confirmed that there are no potential transaction response duplication concerns across different response files.

When asked, there were no adverse comments to the approval of the change order - **Approved**

***UK Link Standards Guide Amendment to deal with integers in decimal fields and the treatment of decimal values***

DA explained that a number of responses had been received in regards to this change, the majority of which are positive in nature. He also explained that the 'leading zero's' issue has now been teased out and is the subject of separate treatment. When asked, DA advised that the leading zero issue potentially impacts every field with a decimal value involved.

When it was pointed out that some parties believed that this change was due to be approved at the 27 April meeting, RH provided a brief response highlighting how the intricacies around Xoserve communications work in reality, and how as a consequence, this minor confusion may have arisen.

When asked, there were no adverse comments to the approval of the change order - **Approved**

DA confirmed that now the change had been approved, the associated Standards Guide would be published.

#### 5.1.4. **Current Project Nexus Changes Awaiting Scheduling – Awaiting Approval**

##### ***COR1154.15.34 UKLP Including Nexus Requirement – Treatment of ERR/FRJ***

DA explained that this matter had been the subject of both extraordinary and SDG meeting discussions in the past (*Ref: communication 1150 for more details*).

Moving on, DA provided a brief explanation of the features that sit behind the proposed (initial) six month Helpdesk Service Provision. He highlighted that this would NOT be controlled to specified Authorised Representatives. He pointed out that in order for User to access the service that they require, information would be controlled via IX Box protocols.

When asked, DA confirmed that Xoserve would look to review the service provision towards the end of the initial six month period, and consider options. When pressed he elaborated that it was not the intention to remove access to this information, but solution options could be considered, for example, depending on how much the industry has utilised the service, could look to absorb it within existing Helpdesk provisions. Xoserve anticipates discussing the enduring approach with the UKLC in due course.

DA confirmed that this is not a User Pays service line.

When asked, DA agreed to consider whether or not it is appropriate to allow Suppliers to also utilise this service and how any associated confirmation mechanisms would / could be expected to work.

**New Action UKL0401: Reference COR1154.15.34 - Xoserve (DA) to consider whether or not it is appropriate to allow Suppliers to also utilise the proposed (initial) six month Helpdesk Service Provision service, and how any associated confirmation mechanisms would / could be expected to work.**

DH advised that British Gas had earlier in the day, provided some additional comments highlighting concerns around invalid characters and various scenario terminologies (*i.e. missing / deletion of, fields etc.*). Responding, DA advised that Xoserve was investigating options to apply looking to tighten up to invalid character validation and would provide a view on the approach proposed. DH indicated that the response to this did not preclude approval.

When asked, there were no adverse comments to the approval of the change order - **Approved**

##### ***COR1154.15.35 UKLP Including Nexus Requirement – Contact Title Allowable Values***

DA explained that the matter relates to the contact files and that information had been provided in a recent change pack.

To date three (*robust*) responses had been received, all rejecting the proposed change. In response, Xoserve released an amended change summary last Friday (*08 April 2016*), in which it proposes that rather than rejecting a (*contact title*) submission, it would look to 'blank off' the contact title field. DA pointed out that the governance of this process was discussed at the previous day's SPAA meeting where it was agreed that control would be via the UK Link Manual (*i.e. similar to the invoice charge types and the one month change process*). In explaining how the process is expected to work DA also confirmed that this is not a mandatory field within the database.

DA pointed out that in an ideal world, the field would be a free format type.

When asked, DA explained that users would receive the contact title as originally supplied, within Xoserve's response file – some parties questioned whether this would actually work and if not, would it really matter anyway.

Some parties remained nervous about the proposed approach even though DA suggested that really this is a 'by exception only' requirement. He then went on to briefly explain the Xoserve investigations / decisions on the S66 allowable conditionality aspects.

**New Action 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.**

When asked, there were no adverse comments to the approval of the (amended) change summary - **Approved**

***COR1154.15.36 URL for Xoserve Services Portal***

DA explained that no responses had been received in regards to this change.

When asked, there were no adverse comments to the approval of the change order - **Approved**

***COR1154.15.37 iGT Enduring Transformation Rules (Change Pack 3)***

SN explained that the Data Management Group had considered the rules in full. He went on to point out that to date, no responses had been received.

When EDF highlighted their concerns around read performance order and prioritisation issues, SN explained that whilst sympathetic to these points, Xoserve is of the view that the matter has already been sufficiently discussed and therefore would still like to seek UKLC approval at today's meeting.

When asked, UKLC members with the exception of BH (*EDF Energy*), agreed to approve the change order - **Approved**

***COR1154.15.33 Removal of 'Automatic' creation of Converter Models on Receipt of RGMA Transactions***

DA explained that some responses received had requested that Xoserve publishes the allowable convertor model tables, which it is happy to do so, although it has not managed to get around to publishing them as yet. It is hoped that the tables would be published in the next couple of weeks.

A communication relating to this matter would be issued in due course.

When asked, there were no adverse comments to the approval of the change order - **Approved**

***COR1154.15.16 UKLP Including Nexus Requirements – Method of transportation for the Invoicing Supporting Information Files, Compression***

DA explained that this matter relates to the presentation that follows at the end of the review of the Implementation Plan, and as a consequence, Xoserve would not be seeking approval of this change at today's meeting.

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

DA pointed out that as further work is needed on this change, Xoserve would not be seeking approval of this change at today's meeting.

The date on which approval is to be sought will be confirmed in due course.

***COR1154.15.17 Treatment of the Token File***

DA explained that this matter relates to the presentation that follows at the end of the review of the Implementation Plan, and as a consequence, Xoserve would not be seeking approval of this change at today's meeting.

#### 5.1.5. **Current UK Link Changes Approved - Scheduled for Implementation**

##### **TBC**

##### ***Proposed Datafix to Meter Link Code***

SN advised that there have been some technical issues relating to test environments and explained that further information would be provided in due course.

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

SN advised that there have been some technical issues relating to test environments and explained that further information would be provided in due course.

##### **April 2016**

##### ***COR3572 - EU Code Changes Phase 3 Delivery – External Screen changes – updated version***

In directing parties to National Grid Transmissions web site for further information relating to this change, SN advised that National Grid had also already issued some information.

##### ***COR3782 - Address validation & Data Cleansing (PAF)***

SN explained that the service provision had already started and that to date, there is light traffic being seen.

##### ***COR3575 – MNC MPRN creation process***

SN explained that comments had been received regarding the templates and that these had been discussed at a recent Shipperless Forum who confirmed that the process requirements are acceptable.

##### ***COR3572 - EU Code Changes Phase 3 Delivery – Summary of Change***

SN explained that again comments had been received regarding the templates and that these had been discussed at a recent Shipperless Forum who confirmed that the process requirements are acceptable.

##### **September 2016**

##### ***COR1154.15.29 - New Rejection Message (enduring) - FIL00024***

SN pointed out that implementation is scheduled for 23 September 2016.

##### ***Modification 0532 - New Rejection Message - File received during Non-Effective Period***

DA pointed out that implementation is scheduled for 23 September 2016.

#### 5.1.6. **Project Nexus Implementation Date**

It was noted that the majority of these were related to Project Nexus and are all still in development for implementation on the Project Nexus Implementation Date.

#### 5.1.7. **UK Link Changes – Implemented since the last UK Link Committee Meeting**

##### ***Modification – 0466AV Daily Meter Reading Simplification (with improved within day data provision) - File Formats***

Implemented 01 April 2016.

***Modification 0446AV - Daily Meter Reading Simplification (with improved within day data provision)***

Implemented 01 April 2016.

***Move UK Link Documentation and UK Link Programme File to Sharepoint***

When SN advised that the UK Link document had now been moved to Sharepoint. BH highlighted that they had some access issues. RH apologised and explained that this could be easily remedied by Xoserve, if the user had had issues.

For further information / assistance please write to the Xoserve Box account.

Method of transportation for the Invoicing Supporting Information Files Options presentation

RH provided a brief overview of the Xoserve presentation during which discussions focused on the appropriateness of the proposed 400MB file size cap and (subsequent) file compression proposals.

When DA explained that Xoserve's suppliers have suggested that 400MB is the file size limit with which they would be comfortable, various parties in attendance voiced their concerns. Responding, DA pointed out that the matter would be discussed again at Monday's SDG meeting.

Some parties remained concerned that the matter of file compression appears to be being discussed across several industry forums. DA suggested, and parties supported setting up a specific meeting (*following Monday's SDG meeting*) to address these outstanding concerns.

DA asked UKLC members to note that depending upon the timings involved, Xoserve may require to issue an extraordinary change pack to cater for this matter – this approach was not disputed by the members present.

During consideration of the 'I'X Upgrade' slide, SC wondered whether or not order timing would potentially be an issue to which DA responded by indicating that he doubted it would be, and that the only realistic landing issue for other users might be the software compression issue, which should not impact British Gas anyway.

DA reminded everyone that Xoserve recommends getting the IX upgrade. When asked, DA suggested that in the instance where all parties have not upgraded, this should not have a 'ripple' impact on other users who have.

When asked when Xoserve anticipates contacting users to discuss the matters in more detail, DA felt that this would most likely be following Monday's SDG meeting.

Moving on to consider the 'File Splitting' slide, RH confirmed that the inability of Xoserve to complete the logical splitting process for day one of UKLP was down to change congestion related issues. Some parties felt that this was a poor solution anyway.

DA went on to confirm that each file would contain a header and trailer (footer) content record. He also pointed out that software compression and the I'X Upgrade recommendation are treated separately.

Looking at the 'Other Considerations' slide, some parties suggested that the bulk issuing (*by Xoserve*) of 400MB files would possibly be a concern and feel that timing needs further consideration such as intermittent transmission of these files to allow other traffic on the Network. Responding, DA indicated that he would be more than happy to consider the matter although he doubts he will be able to answer any detailed market flow validation aspects at this time. Having said that, Xoserve does expect to be able to track what files they have generated and sent.

When asked, DA confirmed that at this time, Xoserve has not yet considered any bandwidth and file storage aspects.

When questions were asked about where large files would be placed and how the NRL files would be treated, as there are concerns around how SAP will manage these, DA reminded everyone that this matter was debated at length in January 2015. In explaining that it is mostly March and September where the larger files are expected he agreed to look to provide clarity about what month NRL notifications maybe provided (where a meter reading has been provided).

In closing, Xoserve agreed to amend the presentation to better clarify various items such as treatment of files, when file compression will be invoked, prioritisation and ordering of compression criteria and NRL file treatment etc.

## 5.2. Xoserve Report

SN highlighted that two new outages (*Gemini and Gemini Exit systems*) had been added to the outages in Report E. Reports A, B, C, D and E were accepted.

## 5.3. Review of 'pipeline of change'

SN explained that there was nothing new to report at this time.

## 5.4. RGMA Treatment following Project Nexus Implementation Date

DA explained that this matter had been discussed at the previous day's SPAA meeting. Additionally, he expects to write out to users regarding the 'treatment of reading validation in RGMA' going forwards, in due course.

In short, there is an increased likelihood of validation failures, especially those associated with dial number changes (*i.e. 6 dial down to a 4 dial etc.*).

## 6. Review of Actions

**UKL0104 (amended):** Xoserve (DA/SN) to establish and confirm where all changes approved by the UKLC (i.e. already approved and those in train for next 3 months) are going to appear in Market Trials.

**Update:** DA explained that the release schedule showing the difference between market trials and UKLC baseline versions had now been published. He went on to add that BC had posed a question relating to the change pack which is due to be discussed in more detail elsewhere at which point, BF suggested that the world is changing and that as a consequence, matters such as these may not be discussed in detail under UKLC auspices going forward as these should be picked up in the PNDG. **Closed**

## 7. Any Other Business

### 7.1. K08 Issue

DA advised that this matter would be covered in a forthcoming change pack communication.

### 7.2. AMT Baseline v's Online Version Discrepancies

AN raised an issue around differing versions of information to which DA explained that a change request relating to this matter had been raised and he would try to provide additional clarification in a forthcoming communication.

## 8. Diary Planning

Further details of planned meetings are available at: [www.gasgovernance.co.uk/Diary](http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/Diary)

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 27 April 2016	31 Homer Road, Solihull B91 3LT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval of Change Pack 3</li> <li>Discuss Change Pack 4</li> </ul>
10:00, Thursday 12	31 Homer Road,	Standard agenda; Approval of Change Pack 4;

**Action Table (as at 14 April 2016)**

<b>Action Ref</b>	<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Minute Ref</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Status</b>
UKL 0104	11/02/16 (amended)	5.1.2	SN and DA to establish and confirm where all changes approved by the UKLC (i.e. already approved and those in train for next 3 months) are going to appear in Market Trials.	Xoserve (DA/SN)	Update provided. <b>Closed</b>
UKL 0401	14/04/16	5.1.4	<i>Reference COR1154.15.34</i> - Xoserve (DA) to consider whether or not it is appropriate to allow Suppliers to also utilise the proposed (initial) six month Helpdesk Service Provision service, and how any associated confirmation mechanisms would / could be expected to work.	Xoserve (DA)	<b>Pending</b>
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)	<b>Pending</b>