

UK LINK Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday 14 July 2016

via teleconference

Attendees

Bob Fletcher (Chair)	(BF)	Joint Office	
Mike Berrisford (Secretary)	(MB)	Joint Office	
Alison Nield	(AN)	Gazprom	Member
Andrew Margan	(AM)	British Gas	Alternate
Bob Broadhurst	(BH)	British Gas	
Colette Baldwin	(CB)	E.ON	Member
Daniel Griffiths	(DG)	ENGIE	
Dave Addison	(DA)	Xoserve	Alternate (Transporter)
Dave Hipwell	(DH)	British Gas	
Mike Fensome	(MF)	RWE npower	
Naomi Nathanael	(NN)	Plus Shipping	
Rachel Hinsley	(RH)	Xoserve	
Sharon Eaton	(SE)	RWE npower	Member
Simon Power	(SP)	EDF Energy	Member

Copies of meeting papers are available at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/uklc/140716>

1. Introduction and Status Review

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

1.1. Approval of Minutes (09 and 29 June 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

A further version of the 'DRAFT Industry Testing Approach' document was published for consideration at the 12 July 2016 meeting, and is currently still out for review. Parties are encouraged to review the document and provide comments where appropriate.

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

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

Hopefully a recommendation on this modification will be made at the either this, or the August Panel meeting.

3. Issues referred from UKLIEF and MTWG

In noting that future UKLIEF meetings have now been cancelled, UKLC members agreed to replace reference to 'UKLIEF' with one for Project Nexus Delivery Group (PNDG) going forwards.

4. Xoserve Reporting Updates

4.1. UK Link Modification Implementation Plan

4.1.1. Current UK Link Changes Awaiting Scheduling – In Analysis

COR3143 – 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 Project Nexus Implementation Date (PNID), could potentially change this date.

COR3143 – File Transfer Guide V12FA

DA explained that this administration tidy up related change (involving changes to the definition for disaster recovery contingency elements and some UKL Standards Guide removals into the File Transfer Guide), is currently out for approval.

4.1.2. Current Project Nexus Changes Awaiting Scheduling – In Analysis

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

DA explained that Market Trials had identified some incorrect descriptions and Xoserve is currently investigating – a communication relating to this matter is expected in due course.

When asked how soon the changes could be incorporated back into the Market Trials, DA advised that he was unsure at this time.

COR1154.15.54 – Gas Act Owner – Allowable Value ‘U’ File Format Description Change

DA explained that analysis remains ongoing.

When asked about the use of the 01/01/11 change raised date, DA explained that this is the product of the change being ‘tied in’ to the PNID aspects.

RH advised that this change (and COR1154.15.55) is almost ready to be incorporated into the next change pack.

COR1154.15.50 – UKLP Including Nexus requirement – RGMA Rejection codes v1.3

DA pointed out that this is a simple change.

COR1154.15.48 – Leading Zero – File Format and Appendix

DA explained that having agreed the principles previously, a new Appendix 2B is to be added within the Standards Guide.

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

DA advised that following consideration, a previously ‘retired’ rejection code has been reintroduced.

COR1154.15.53 – Transformation Rules

MF advised that the latest version of the transformation rules had completed the approvals process.

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.

COR1154.15.41 – ERR and FRJ Numbering

DA explained that several concerns had been voiced at a previous SDG meeting that resulted in a communication being issued in the previous change pack – please note that the response window for this change closes-out 19 July 2016.

DA went on to highlight the potential impact on approval of this change by the cancellation of the 27 July 2016 (UKLC Accelerated Governance) meeting, and how this could possibly result in a need to approach the Uniform Network Code Committee (UNCC) for a decision on implementing (or not) for this change. DA accepted that depending upon the UNCC decisions, Xoserve might be faced with implementing the change as all other options would have been exhausted by this point.

When challenged, DA explained that it is not Xoserve's intention to circumvent due governance and they (Xoserve) are fully aware and mindful of the concerns voiced regarding this change. DA then suggested that even if the UKLC were to reject the change, sooner rather than later, at least he would be able to subsequently engage in discussions with his Xoserve colleagues and support teams.

When asked, DA tabled a possible timeline for this change by suggesting that we could look to have responses by close of business on 19 July 2016, whereupon Xoserve would issue a follow up communication by 26 July 2016.

The UKLC members then agreed to set up an extraordinary accelerated governance teleconference meeting, to consider approval of this change, commencing at 15:00 on Tuesday 02 August 2016.

COR1154.15.52 – ERR and FRJ File Formats and Hierarchies

DA explained that this change was originally flagged as an administration style change only. Furthermore, it should be noted that the previous unlimited ERR rejection level number is now being reset to 50 instances.

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

DA explained that analysis work remains ongoing in regards to this change and that hopefully further information will be made available by the end of next week at which point several parties voiced grave concerns relating to the potential impact on the Market Trials, especially when Shippers have previously highlighted that this is NOT a straightforward solution. Responding, DA explained that conflicting metrics had been published previously which is why Xoserve is adopting a cautious approach, as two organisations out of the 'big 6' have raised issues relating to this change and Xoserve expects to issue a communication shortly.

DA went on to explain that Xoserve do not believe that they have the capability to support the (circa 1200 instances in 2015) split files based approach, especially when bearing in mind that for the vast majority of Users, with domestic sites with a single asset associated to them, it should not be an issue. DA further indicated that the principles in the DUC processing were at odds with some of the Project Nexus requirements and Xoserve will issue a communication shortly as stated above.

When asked which delivery group is responsible for planning this change into the programme plan (as some parties feel they do not have suitable 'buy in' to the actual decision making process surrounding this change), DA explained that all change orders are contained within the Xoserve change logs and when discussing planning requirements, it is to these logs that are referred too. For the avoidance of any doubt, governance of this (and all other change orders) is via the UKL change approval process, supported by regular reporting updates to both the PNSG and PNDG bodies (especially for Market Trials scheduling related change orders etc.).

When additional concerns were voiced around whether or not PNDG discussions are at a sufficient level to consider matters of this nature, MF advised that he has been previously feeding back industry concerns and would also inform A Ackroyd of these latest concerns.

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

DA explained that this change remains in analysis.

4.1.3. Current UK Link Changes Awaiting Scheduling – Awaiting Approval

0583 – UNC Modification 0583: Requiring an Opening Meter Reading at same User Confirmation – Enduring Solution

DA advised that the Workgroup Report recommending that the modification now goes out for consultation, is due to be considered at the 21 July 2016 Panel meeting.

During a brief review of the two responses received against this change order, discussions highlighted issues / questions from respondents regarding the enduring solution, data update scenarios (i.e. read reconfiguration usage etc. which Xoserve believes may reduce over time), and suppression transfer reading window. DA confirmed that the transfer reading (FNIT / OPNT) would be issued to users in due course.

When asked, DA suggested that the enduring solution annual (01 April) update was in fact a reference to Npower's modification 0576 response, and not 0583.

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

0583 – UNC Modification 0583: Requiring an Opening Meter Reading at same User Confirmation – Interim Solution

Once again DA undertook a brief review of the three responses received against this change order before confirming that the 'line in the sand' and the 'Code cut off date' are one and the same. As far as provision of either a spreadsheet or CSV based interim solution is concerned, Xoserve would prefer to avoid directly mimicking the file format layout (i.e. header and footer provisions etc.) – S Eaton indicated that she was happy with the proposals.

When asked, DA confirmed that the information would be available on the Data Enquiry System (DES) post PNID and would also be utilised within testing in due course.

DA explained that in short, Xoserve would apply a reading where the last confirmation is a read confirmation, and this would apply on the Code cut off date.

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

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

DA advised that the Final Modification Report is being considered at the 21 July 2016 Panel meeting and would be sent to Ofgem for a decision in due course.

DA explained that whilst Xoserve is proposing to run specific (discrete) batch jobs to enable users to submit historic readings, it is not looking to force the change in over the summer period.

During a brief review of the responses received against this change order, DA advised that a copy of the representations matrix had been provided in a previous change pack communication.

Looking at a potential timeline, DA suggested the following:

- Shippers to submit files (historic readings via UMR file emailed to Xoserve) by 30 September 2016;
- Readings loaded onto system by Xoserve by 22 October 2016, and
- Thereafter Xoserve to calculate how many of these readings are needed for 0576 purposes (this provides Xoserve with a three week window of opportunity to run any 'fix on fail' requirements).

It was noted that care would be needed around file numbering and that hopefully the industry is looking at a one off exercise (although it is recognised that there might be a need for a subsequent follow up run)– a communication relating to this change order and its associated proposals would be issued in due course.

Presently there are nationally circa 17k expected sets of Meter Points that are subject to Modification 0576, and it is hoped that the majority of these would 'fall away' after the exercise.

When DA explained that the readings would be derived inline with post PNID provisions, some concerns were voiced around submission of subsequent readings following a previous estimated reading – in essence, the issue relates to potentially failing tolerance checks post an estimation, and the additional impact of extended timescales between readings. DA pointed out that Xoserve's deeming (estimation) would align with commodity and if this was incorrect then Users would need to consider an AQ Correction in order to input any subsequent reading into the UK Link system.

When asked whether or not Users would be able to have early visibility of Xoserve's proposed estimations in order to review them prior to loading on the system (i.e. a portfolio refresh view supporting an AQ recalculation exercise to resolve potential issues), DA indicated that there was little benefit in this as Users had already been unable to provide readings, so Users would be unable to inform such estimates further – this point was accepted.

When asked if Xoserve has a view on the potential volume of UMRs, DA explained that where any issues are identified these are considered at the Data Management Group meetings – there is currently no analysis to hand.

Moving on, DA advised that Xoserve were expecting to receive greater than the 17k readings defined in the 0576 exercise (i.e. no read for 6+ years), as the DMG group were seeking readings for meter points where a reading had not been received for 2+ years.

Concluding, DA advised that a communication relating to the enduring solution would be provided within a forthcoming change pack.

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

4.1.4. Current Project Nexus Changes Awaiting Scheduling – Awaiting Approval

COR1154.15.47 UKLP Including Nexus requirement – CSO Organisation Code

DA explained that this matter had been the subject of a previous communication (1605) within which it was identified that the U74 record is also found in the MMR, NRF and TRF files. However, it was also pointed out in responses that the U74 file can also found in the Interconnector templates. As a consequence, a revised change pack communication has been issued (1605.1).

DA went on to explain that the CSO organisation short code list is not available, as currently CSO's are not registered on the UKL system. However,

in future these will be included within the organisation listing post go-live and Xoserve have written to the CSO organisations requesting that they register at the earliest opportunity.

It was confirmed that the provisions would be included within the 31 August 2016 Market Trials drop.

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

COR1154.15.46 UKLP Including Nexus requirement – RGMA Rejection codes v1.2 FA

DA explained that this is a simple change order looking to make use of more generic rejection descriptions.

During a brief review of the responses to the change order it was noted that from PNID, convertor model information must match the information contained within the UKL convertor tables.

It was confirmed that this change order is already incorporated within the Market Trials.

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 following experiencing a significant volume of rejections associated with this change, Xoserve 'backed out' the solution. Subsequent retesting has also invoked more rejections due in part, to issues around UK Link Code management aspects (i.e. relating to the virtual point from where software code was not successfully backed out from).

Whilst apologising for the problem, DA pointed out that Xoserve would now be asking parties to resubmit their files and a communication outlining this requirement (and identifying when implementation would now take place), would be issued in due course.

Some parties voiced concern about the problems experienced and sought reassurance that lessons had been learnt by Xoserve in order to avoid a repeat of this (or similar) problems in future. Responding, DA acknowledged the concerns put forward before moving on to explain that Xoserve had undertaken an internal review, and as a consequence, amended some of its internal code management processes (inc. inter service team communications).

Proposed Datafix to Meter Link Code

DA advised that he did not have a specific update on this change, but did reiterate that it remains 'on hold' due to Xoserve resources working on other areas such as Meter Models etc.

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

4.1.6. 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.

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

4.3. Review of 'pipeline of change'

No new information to be considered at this time.

4.4. RGMA Treatment following Project Nexus Implementation Date

This is now the subject of an SPAA (Electralink) review and was also discussed at the 13 July 2016 SPAA Expert Group meeting. DA proposed, and those in attendance accepted, that a brief paper would be provided detailing the differences between Legacy and New UK Link Systems, rather than rewriting the document at this time.

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 remains ongoing and a progress update will be provided in due course. **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: Whilst DA explained that following discussions at the recent PNDG meeting, it is proposed to merge two documents ready for publication shortly, MF added that the release date is scheduled for 31 August 2016 to enable incorporation within regression testing.

Carried Forward

6. Any Other Business

6.1. K08 Progression Update

RH advised that she would double check progress on this matter and respond directly (offline) to EDF Energy (SP) in due course.

7. Diary Planning

Further details of planned meetings are available at: 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
15:00, Tuesday 02 August 2016	Teleconference	Consideration of New Change Pack(s) and required approval
10:00, Thursday 11 August 2016	Teleconference	Standard agenda and other items to be confirmed

Action Table (as at 14 July 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)	Carried Forward