

UK LINK Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday 14 March 2013
via teleconference

Attendees

Mike Berrisford (Chair)	(MiB)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Helen Cuin (Secretary)	(HC)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Andrew Boyton	(AB)	Xoserve
Ashley Collins	(AC)	EDF Energy
Bryan Hale	(BH)	EDF Energy
Claire Hemmens	(CH)	SSE
David Addison	(DA)	Xoserve
Graham Wood	(GW)	British Gas
Joanna Harze	(JH)	Xoserve
Julie Varney	(JV)	National Grid NTS
Lee Chambers	(LC)	Xoserve
Lorna Lewin	(LL)	DONG Energy
Stephanie Shepherd	(SS)	RWE npower
Trevor Clark	(TC)	E.ON UK

Copies of all papers are available at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/uklc/140313

1. Review of Minutes, Action and Modifications

1.1. Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

1.2. Actions

UKL0411: Modification 0403 – 21 day switching: Xoserve to consider the management and receipt of files received on a working day that were preceded by a non-working day.

Update: DA provided an update on the alternative solution consideration. He confirmed that the Distribution Workgroup was unable to agree the revised amendment, the amendment was therefore been withdrawn and Xoserve will be proceeding with the original rules. DA confirmed that a communication regarding the withdrawal had been issued and has been published with today's meetings papers for reference. **Closed**

UKL0201: Telecoms Project - Users to assess file-handling capability, and determine whether they wished to receive all relevant test files.

Update: DA confirmed one user assisted had come forward to assist Xoserve and that they were now engaging with the user to test files. **Closed**

UKL0202: SMIP - Xoserve to obtain view on the availability of data items within the confirmation transfer process.

Update: DA confirmed that the SMSO id is provided as part of the confirmation process, he believed that this was not a stated requirement for Foundation but Xoserve will make the data available for DCC Day One, however it would not be made available for 01 October 2013 implementation. AC enquired about the possibility of a User Pays

report. DA confirmed he would look into this possibility and include an update about the reporting functionality with the change pack. **Closed**

New Action UKL0301: Xoserve (DA) to review possible reporting functionality as an alternative to Smart Meter System Operator (SMSO) data enquiries.

UKL0203: Users to review the European Developments presentation on the Transmission Workgroup 07 February 2013 meeting documentation and consider impacts.

Update: DA flagged to members of UKLC that changes would be required to UK Link systems, so members should consult with Transmission Workgroup representatives.

Carried Forward

1.3. Modifications

MiB confirmed that three new modifications had been raised since last month and were due to be considered at the March UNC Panel:

[0448 - UNC alignment with Transporters' licence requirements for "Network Code and Uniform Network Code" relating to European Regulatory change.](#)

No system impacts expected.

[0449 - Introduction of Interconnection Points and new processes and transparency requirements to facilitate compliance with the EU Congestion Management Procedures](#)
System impacts anticipated.

[0450 - Monthly revision of erroneous SSP AQs outside the User AQ Review Period](#)

Xoserve confirmed system impacts were anticipated. If implemented, it would require a Class 2 Modification. AC asked for an early indication of the likely solution. DA explained that current functionality would need to be examined within the modification assessment process and that it was a little early to provide any further indication. GW enquired about the proposed limit of 400 amendments, DA confirmed that the rationale for the limit proposed by first utility had not yet been discussed at the Workgroup. DA anticipated that this had been set by the proposer on the perception Xoserve would have system constraints.

2. Xoserve Reporting

Copies of all papers are available at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/uklc/140313

2.1. UK Link Modification Implementation Plan

2.1.1 Current UK Link Changes awaiting scheduling – Not Implemented

SUN File Format Change / Generic Organisational Amendment File

DA proposed that Xoserve removed the Generic Organisation Amendment File element from the change request and simply retain the SUN File Format Change. He confirmed the aspiration to withdraw the SUN file as part of DCC Day 1 and that detailed cost analysis and cost assessments were taking place. An update will be provided in due course.

CRN2717.1 and 2717.2 Transporter Invoicing of Disablement of Supply Jobs

DA explained that CRN2717.1 would introduce the new files in the first instance via email. He asked the Committee to note file formats had been issued in the February change pack. No representations had been received. He confirmed that the revised formats would be issued from 01 April 2013. At this stage Xoserve simply wished to draw the Committee's attention to the files having been issued as these were governed via CSS Billing. Notional approval was provided.

DA explained that under CRN2717.2 the new supporting information file would be provided via IX and that this would be consistent with how Xoserve currently issue file

formats. The committee provided formal approval on a notional implementation date of 01 October 2013. DA clarified that the first issue would be after the 01 October 2013.

CRN2449 Reduce Instances of Blank MAM id

DA confirmed that Modification 0437S Retention of MAM Id in Transporter Systems at Change of Shipper is currently out for consultation. He explained that Xoserve are looking at an alternative implementation approach, opposed to using the SMSO updates, smart switching foundation stage. This is a Class 3 Change however Xoserve may ask the Committee to treat this as a Class 1 for the purposes of implementation dependant upon the implementation approach as this may need short notice.

CRN 2446 Confirm a Supply Point into Shipper Portfolio

DA confirmed an update solution would be provided at the next UK Link Committee meeting.

CRN2563 Implementation of LDZ System Entry Commodity Charge

DA provided a presentation on the Implementation of LDZ System Entry Commodity Charge, Modification 0391. He confirmed that a communication would be issued within the change pack and Xoserve would be seeking approval for a new supporting information file at the April UK Link Committee.

Thereafter, DA provided a presentation under item 3.0 Strategic Update below.

CRN2528 Smart Metering UNC Mod 0430 Foundation Stage

DA reported a notional implementation date of 01 October 2013, he explained that following the Xoserve communication no representations had been received. It was flagged that the allowable 3-character code had been brought into question with regards to the consistency with electricity and gas file formats. DA had hoped to seek approval however AC was requested that Xoserve assess whether the 3-character code could be made consistent with electricity allowable values as a 4 character field.

Xoserve were asked why a 'generic' organisation update file had been created, that only allowed update of a single organisation type (i.e. SMSO Id), DA explained that this was the first of many organisation types – e.g. Other Smart Organisations, and the potential for migration of MAM and Supplier notification. It was acknowledged that previous committees talked about inadequacy of the Supplier Update Notification file. It was originally hoped to change file to introduce an effective date. The intention was to introduce a generic organisation file as part of Foundation and then after DCC Day 1 other relevant organisational types would be introduced to expand the allowable values taking an incremental approach. DA confirmed further clarity would be provided on the file formats. DA explained at the moment Xoserve only hold a three character code for organisation and cannot commit to extending this as this would change the solution.

AC asked if the effective date can allow retrospective updates so historical updates can be made as well as future ones.

DA agreed to bring back discussions to next UK Link committee and asked members for a shortened notice period for the implementation date 01 October 2013. He agreed to amend the communication to be clear about the context of field. The committee approved a shortened notice period with an approval for 01 October 2013.

BH asked about the impacts to DEV and SMSO. DA confirmed that in terms of data on SMSO clarity needed to be added to the change pack. DA didn't anticipate these being significant changes.

GW raised some concern about rejection codes, and whether these were exhaustive. DA responded that other 'standard' UK Link rejection codes could also be provided as a result of the process. The committee noted there will be an implementation date 01 October and that there will be a reduced notification on a notional implementation date of 01 October 2013.

2.1.2 Current UK Link Changes Approved – Scheduled for Implementation

CRN1000.9 - IX Upgrade (IX Kit Replacement)

DA provided an update (as part of the 'COR1000 Telecoms Project' presentation) under item 3.0 Strategic Update below.

CRN2807 Data Enquiry Address Structure

DA provided a tentative implementation date of 19 April 2013, he explained that this could change at short notice. BH asked about early provision of User Guides and hoped Xoserve would be able to provide a week in advance of implementation.

CRN1001.1 Introduction of Enhanced File Transfer (EFT)

DA provided an update (as part of the 'COR1000 Telecoms Project' presentation) under item 3.0 Strategic Update below.

CRN2609 Removal of Shipper Information Service

DA confirmed that the physical decommissioning of SIS will take place at end of March.

CRN2528 Smart Metering Effective Switching UNC Mod 0430 Foundation Stage

DA confirmed that the file formats had been issued in last months' change pack and that no representation had been received. The implementation date had been approved for scheduling. DA requested formal approval and the committee approved the change

CRN962.13, 962.16, 962.9, 962.10 & 962.20 - Q&WM

AC asked about the approval caveat on the erroneous confirmation (ECO) letters as he believed that this had not been resolved. DA confirmed that a revised ECO letter had been issued and he believed that the revision had addressed the issues. AC advised that he had sent back a redraft of the warranty letters back in January to Xoserve who had previously provided a version 2.0 of the letter. The main concern EDF have relates to the fact that by signing the statement/agreement a Shipper irrevocably and unconditionally indemnify Xoserve from all liabilities (any cost, loss, liability damage, claim or expense whatsoever) and instead would want to acknowledge liabilities set under UNC TPD Section V8.1 to which we would be classed as the "User". AC then confirmed that the revised letter was currently being considered by legal representatives and if there were any further concerns these would be communicated. AC expressed concern that this change request had only been accepted with a caveat on parties accepting the amended letter, and if the letter could not be agreed he could no longer support the change. DA confirmed that Xoserve would work with individual parties to address individual organisation concerns with the ECO letter. Xoserve confirmed that EDF Energy would not be materially disadvantaged and an appropriate work around would be considered, he confirmed he would work with relevant parties to ensure that the legal challenges were resolved in advance of the scheduled release.

AC believed that EDF were not the only party with the issue, and that the change had only been agreed on the caveat, he was disappointed that Xoserve appeared to be pressing ahead with the change without addressing the issue. He was concerned Xoserve would implement CMS, when EDF were not able to use the ECO process due to the warranty letter. Xoserve was keen to implement CMS for the majority and if EDF Energy were not able to use the ECO process due to concerns with the warranty letter Xoserve would work with EDF Energy to establish an appropriate workaround to ensure that they are not materially affected. He explained this approach would allow CMS to be globally implemented, and would investigate whether a workaround was appropriate for the ECO warranty process.

AC was concerned about the approach with only a caveated approval and stated that in future EDF Energy would not be able to provide caveat approvals. DA explained the advantage of caveat approvals and didn't want to jeopardise future caveated approvals. He was keen to work with organisations offline to ensure any concerns were addressed and resolved. He reassured the committee that if EDF Energy's concerns could not be addressed in this instance it would be brought back to the UK Link Committee.

AC confirmed that EDF Energy wished to withdraw their entire approval for CMS implementation until Xoserve were able to demonstrate an alternative solution for the ECO warranty issue. AC agreed to work with Xoserve to address the issues and work towards enabling approval. DA explained the consequences to the industry by the removal of the approval at this stage and that it would be better to continue to work with EDF's caveat approval and establish a workaround to address the issues. However AC was not able to support this approach, he preferred to withdraw the approval now.

If the root cause of EDF's withdraw approval could be resolved approval would be granted. EDF Energy clarified that the concerns with the warranty letter is based around the liabilities.

DA was confident that Xoserve would be able to find a resolution with EDF and he didn't want to jeopardise the implementation of CMS and training programs when it was envisaged a work around could be achieved. He believed that EDF's withdrawn approval would significantly impact the industry. AC officially confirmed that the approval had to be withdrawn until Xoserve were able to demonstrate an alternative workaround.

TC supported AC and believed it was worth establishing a manual work around for raising ECO forms to address the warranty letter concerns as other parties may find themselves in a similar position to EDF Energy. DA suggested the industry could revert back to the original process until E.ON's legal team can provide a response on the amended ECO warranty letter.

The committee agreed to approve implementation of CMS but exclude the ECO process at this stage and re-examine this element of the implementation plan separately. The committee approved implementation of CMS excluding the ECO process.

It was agreed to schedule an additional UK Link Committee on 19 March to allow members to be updated on progress made with the issue and consider if a report on the issue needed to be made to the UNC Committee on 21 March 2013.

CRN0984 Gemini Re-platforming

AB reported that some technical problems had been encountered but these are being addressed. He explained that some organisations are not ready for GRP and therefore are not in a position to undertake testing. He confirmed that Xoserve are engaging with these parties. A further update on the data migration and cut-over activities will be provided at next month's meeting. It was anticipated there might be a change to the outage window following a dress rehearsal of data migration.

CRN2151 CSEPs Migration

DA reported that this Class 1 UK Link Modification remains on track as shown within the implementation plan.

CRN2479 EU 3 Week Switching

DA provided a presentation on the EU Third Package: 21 day switching with flexible objection period. Within the presentation DA proposed a minor change to the objection window to allow earlier communication to Shippers of when they will be losing site ownership.

Minor Amendment to NTS Exit Flat Capacity Invoice File to include End of Line (EOL) Character

DA confirmed the first invoice was issued 06 March 2013.

2.1.3 UK Link Changes – Implemented since last UK Link Committee Meeting

DA advised no changes had been implemented since the last UK Link Meeting.

2.2. Performance Reporting – Monthly Report

All Reports were accepted.

2.3. File Format and Urgent Communications (Xoserve Report D)

The report was accepted.

2.4. Planned Outages

AB provided an update on an extended outage window before exit reform on 08 April 2013. Xoserve noted the change and confirmed the outage would be updated on the planned outage report.

The report was accepted.

3. Xoserve Strategic Initiatives

Implementation of LDZ System Entry Commodity Charge (UNC MOD0391)

DA advised that this presentation relates to change request CR2563 before going on to provide a brief overview of the presentation.

EU Third Package: 21 day switching with flexibility objection period – MOD 0403

DA provided a brief overview of the presentation.

Smart Metering Portfolio DCC Day 1 – UKLC & SPAA Update

DA advised that this presentation relates to change request CR2831 before going on to provide a brief overview of the presentation.

During discussions, Xoserve (LC) confirmed that they are working to version 1.0 of the document. In considering the focus group aspects, it was acknowledged that the timescales involved are extremely challenging and that a list of available workshop dates can be found on the Xoserve web site.

Moving on to consider the progress made to date, LC advised that Xoserve are still considering the dates and would provide an update in due course.

When asked, DA confirmed that the IHD effective from date would be another date that parties would need to manage, especially if it is the 1st Smart meter installation date. A new action was placed upon Xoserve (DA) to provide clarity on whether or not, non SMETS actually constitute implementation of a Smart meter (including consideration of how we may possible solution this) – the issue being what is the 1st SMETS installation date, and therefore the derivation of 'IHD Install Status Date'.

Moving on, LC advised that the next meeting scheduled to discuss iGT047 is next week. In considering the 'Data Items Exchanged on DCC Day 1' table, DA advised that the blue items would be existing by the time DCC Day 1 arrives.

Closing, DA provided a brief overview of the previous days Operational Forum discussions relating to the foundation screen saves.

Action UKL 0302: Xoserve (DA) to provide clarity on whether or not, non SMETS actually constitute implementation of a Smart meter (including consideration of how we may possible solution this) – the issue being what is the 1st SMETS installation date, and therefore the derivation of 'IHD Install Status Date'.

COR1000 Telecoms Project – UK Link Committee Update

DA provided a brief overview of the presentation advising that only 7 sites are now outstanding. As far as these 7 users which have not yet refreshed / migrated, Xoserve may not be able to cut them over in the remaining time – engagement with these parties remains ongoing, but is subject to IX upgrade kit provisions.

4. AOB

Extranet Communications Update

DA provided a presentation on the Extranet Update for the provision of communications.

TC enquired about the search functionality and highlighting that it is sometimes unreliable. DA acknowledged that the search function isn't working as it is intended.

Action UKL 0303: Xoserve to investigate the possible improvement of the Extranet Communications search functionality.

AC enquired about the use of emails to advise the industry about the availability of change pack, rather than issue of all information via email. DA confirmed emails would continue to be issued containing the change pack information. He noted the Committee's view that the documentation could be published, and the email simply provided a link to advise when available however this was a potential option in the future once Xoserve's processes were embedded.

AC enquired if Xoserve also planned to publish representations along side the communications similar to SPAA. DA noted the request and explained that this had not been considered.

GW asked about the numbering convention and whether this can be improved. DA explained the numbering convention process and how it is designed to allow an audit trail of initial enquiries through to an actual change request. This helped members to understand why sequential numbers for change requests were not used.

Extension of Network Code Modification 0613 Change Pack period

DA noted that the close out date for this months change pack had been communicated as Friday 29 March, however as this is actually Good Friday, the close out date would now be extended to Tuesday 02 April 2013 – the day after Bank Holiday Monday.

Modification 0424 Scenarios

AC enquired about the provision of likely scenarios for Modification 0424. DA confirmed Modification 0424 scenarios would only relate to the same meter being found in situ. He suggested that Xoserve and EDF Energy go through the varying scenarios of forced confirmations currently being considered by the industry for the re-establishment of Supply Meter Points to address Shipperless sites. This included Modifications 0410/0410A, 0424, 0425.

5. Diary Planning

Details of all meetings can be found at www.gasgovernance.co.uk/Diary

15:00, 19 March 2013, Teleconference to discuss ECO Warranty Letters

10:00, 11 April 2013, Teleconference

10:00, 09 May 2013, Teleconference

10:00, 13 June 2013, Teleconference

10:00, 11 July 2013, Teleconference

ACTION TABLE

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status
UKL 0411	08/11/12	2.1.1	Modification 0403 – 21 day switching: Xoserve to consider the management and receipt of files received on a working day that were preceded by a non-working day.	Xoserve (DA)	Closed
UKL 0201	13/02/13	3.0	To assess file handling capability, and determine whether they wished to receive all relevant test files.	All	Closed
UKL 0202	13/02/13	4.0	To obtain view on the availability of data items within the confirmation transfer process.	Xoserve (DA)	Closed
UKL 0203	13/02/13	4.0	To review the European Developments presentation on the Transmission Workgroup 07 February 2013 meeting documentation and consider impacts.	All	Carried Forward
UKL 0301	14/03/13	1.2	To review possible reporting functionality as an alternative to Smart Meter System Operator (SMSO) data enquiries.	Xoserve (DA)	Pending
UKL 0302	14/03/13	3.0	To provide clarity on whether or not, non SMETS actually constitute implementation of a Smart meter (including consideration of how we may possible solution this) – the issue being what is the 1 st SMETS installation date, and therefore the derivation of 'IHD Install Status Date'.	Xoserve (DA)	Pending
UKL 0303	14/03/13	4.0	To investigate the possible improvement of the Extranet Communications search functionality.	Xoserve (DA)	Pending