

Sent: Friday, 11 August 2006 17:13

From: ".Box.UKLINK.Manual"

To:

Subject: NR/649DA - Use of Email Communications in the Event of Gemini Contingency - Pack 1 of 4.

Dear Colleague,

Use of Email Communications in the Event of Gemini Contingency – Pack 1 of 4.

The UK Link Manual does not currently recognise email as a method for code communications. Historically, conventional methods were permitted by code in addition to the use of UKLINK systems. In particular facsimile is used for many code communications as defined in the UK Link Manual.

There are certain specific circumstances in which National Grid feel that in specific circumstances - requiring use of certain Gemini Contingency Arrangements - the use of email, in place of facsimile, would be more efficient and reliable.

The UK Link Manual only currently permits the use of specific methods of code communications e.g. facsimile/telephone/letter. In certain contingency circumstances email is now an accepted communication method. To utilise email for specific code communications would require a change to the UK Link manual. This change – detailed below – is proposed as a Class 1 UKLink Modification.

The proposed change amends Appendix 5a to include an additional “Means of Communication” for email.

The revised text would read as follows (added text in bold):

“Means of Communication

The fifth column specifies the means of communication in terms of which of the means defined in the relevant sections of the Network Code is to be used. The abbreviations used in this column are:

- C Conventional
- T Telephone
- L UKLink
- M Oral presentation at meeting
- D Disk
- E Email communication”**

Detailed proposal

The details of the specific code communications are given below.

Gemini Contingency Arrangements.

The contingency arrangements for loss of the Gemini System are currently to receive data via facsimile. In the event that Gemini is unavailable the volume of facsimiles to be manually entered when the system returned would be significant. The receipt of a file in a specified format via email would be more efficient and a less error prone method of entering the information into Gemini when the system becomes available. This is not time critical data in these circumstances.

There is no commercial advantage for a shipper in using either fax or email methods. Any operationally time critical information would still be required via facsimile and this is not intended to replace such communications. The intention is that the fax method is still available as an alternative for the shipper but a file received via email is National Grid's preferred method in the circumstances described where it is not time critical.

The circumstances in which a file via email would be preferred will be specifically stated in the Gemini Contingency procedure and will only be requested if Gemini is not available at the end of the gas day and should be sent between 04:00 and 06:00 when the Gemini system is normally unavailable for housekeeping. This will be applicable only for input and output renominations and gas trade nominations.

Attached is a process flow diagram which details the proposed process (Appendix 1).

Gemini Contingency Procedure

The contingency procedure proposed to allow email is as follows:

C05/9009 "Gas Trades and Gas Flow Input and Output Nominations/Renominations – Business Associate connection to Gemini Fails."

This procedure uses either the

C008 Renominations Contingency Form

C008F Nom File Format

The formats, as currently published, include the option of the provision of this information via email; therefore the formats themselves will not be updated. They are attached below for information:

Implementation.

As neither of the procedure nor the forms utilised require amendment, it is proposed that the documentation only modification is implemented as soon as possible. Should you wish to provide any comments on this matter, please provide these touklink@xoserve.com no later than Friday 25th August 2006.

Regards

David Addison

Project Manager

Business Projects

xoserve

david.addison@xoserve.com

0121 713 5545

7224 35545