

Stage 01: Modification

0487:

Introduction of Advanced Meter Indicator and Advanced Meter Reader (AMR) Service Provider Identifier

At what stage is this document in the process?

- 01 Modification
- 02 Workgroup Report
- 03 Draft Modification Report
- 04 Final Modification Report

With the continuing rollout of Advanced Metering across the Non Domestic market and the extension till 2016 of the ability to deploy Advanced Metering it is important to be able to identify the presence of Advanced Metering at customer sites. This is particularly important during Change of Supplier (CoS) events and in particular with proposals to optimise the CoS process. Currently central systems do not hold and identify Advanced Meters and associated Advanced Meter Reading (AMR) Service Providers (ASP's). This proposal looks to introduce these details within the central system



The Proposer recommends that this modification should be:

- assessed by a Workgroup



High Impact:



Medium Impact:



Low Impact:

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About this document:			 Steve.mulinganie@gazprom-mt.com
This modification will be presented by the proposer to the panel on 20 March 2014.			 telephone 0845 873 2284
The panel will consider the proposer's recommendation and agree whether this modification should be:			Transporter: Northern Gas Networks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • subject to self-governance • issued for consultation or • referred to a workgroup for assessment. 			 jferguson@northerngas.co.uk
			 0113 397 5323
			Systems Provider: Xoserve
			 commercial.enquiries@xoserve.com

Summary

Is this a Self-Governance Modification?

Yes – this modification is not likely to have a material impact on consumer and competition and therefore suitable for Self Governance. This modification is only proposing to provide additional information at a CoS event to the benefit those involved.

Is this a Fast Track Self-Governance Modification?

No – this modification is not properly a housekeeping modification required as a result of some error or factual change, therefore Fast Track Self Governance would not be suitable.

Why Change?

Currently central systems do not identify if the in situ meter is operating in Advanced Mode and if so who the current Advanced Meter Reading Service Provider (ASP) is. This lack of information creates issue on CoS with the new Supplier unable to easily identify if the Meter is advanced and who the current service provider is.

Solution

It is proposed that we introduce an Advanced Meter Indicator and Advanced Meter Reader (AMR) Service Provider Identifier

Relevant Objectives

We believe that centralising the relevant information will improve the CoS process by ensuring the new Supplier has ready access to the status of the MPRN and the relevant Service Provider. This enables the new Supplier to efficiently make the necessary arrangements in relation to the site, therefore further relevant objective d) by securing effective competition between relevant shippers

Implementation

No implementation timescales are proposed. However, it would be desirable if implementation was as soon as reasonably practicable to support proposed improvements in change of supplier (CoS) process.

Why Change?

Currently central systems do not identify if the in situ meter is operating in Advanced Mode and if so who the current Advanced Meter Reading (AMR) Service Provider (ASP) is. This lack of information creates inefficiencies on Change of Supplier (CoS) with the new Supplier unable to efficiently identify if the Meter is currently advanced and who the current ASP is.

Scenario

In the circumstance that Shipper B transfers a Meter Point into their portfolio from Shipper A. Shipper B has no way of identifying whether Advanced Meter equipment is present at site upon receipt of the Meter Information provided to the incoming Shipper by the Transporter on the Meter Reading Information (MRI) File as this is not held on Transporter System so this cannot be provided

Shipper B may then contract an ASP to install an Advance Meter to their newly registered Meter Point. The ASP visits site to report that an Advanced Meter has already been installed by another ASP on behalf of Shipper A, and therefore Shipper B has incurred the costs associated with an ultimately aborted visit.

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This lack of centralised information also inhibits the ability to appoint service providers in a timely and efficient manner and thus the introduction of this information will support and compliment improvements being sought through Change of Supplier process reviews and associated modifications.

Solution

It is proposed to introduce an Advanced Meter status indicator and Advanced Meter Reader (AMR) Service Provider (ASP) identifier into central systems so they can be maintained and provided to relevant parties during the Change of Supplier (CoS) process.

We are open to the best fit solution which minimises changes to system and file flows and would see the solution being developed further within a workgroup

User Pays

Classification of the modification as User Pays, or not, and the justification for such classification.

This is a User Pays modification as it proposes to change or amend central systems.

Identification of Users of the service, the proposed split of the recovery between Gas Transporters and Users for User Pays costs and the justification for such view.

To be confirmed as this will be dependant on the solution to be implemented.

Proposed charge(s) for application of User Pays charges to Shippers.

To be confirmed

Proposed charge for inclusion in the Agency Charging Statement (ACS) – to be completed upon receipt of a cost estimate from Xoserve.

To be confirmed

Relevant Objectives

Impact of the modification on the Relevant Objectives:	
Relevant Objective	Identified impact
a) Efficient and economic operation of the pipe-line system.	None
b) Coordinated, efficient and economic operation of (i) the combined pipe-line system, and/ or (ii) the pipe-line system of one or more other relevant gas transporters.	None
c) Efficient discharge of the licensee's obligations.	None
d) Securing of effective competition: (i) between relevant shippers; (ii) between relevant suppliers; and/or (iii) between DN operators (who have entered into transportation arrangements with other relevant gas transporters) and relevant shippers.	Positive
e) Provision of reasonable economic incentives for relevant suppliers to secure that the domestic customer supply security standards... are satisfied as respects the availability of gas to their domestic customers.	None
f) Promotion of efficiency in the implementation and administration of the Code.	None
g) Compliance with the Regulation and any relevant legally binding decisions of the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Co-operation of Energy Regulators.	None

Centralising the relevant information will improve the CoS process by ensuring the new Supplier has ready access to the status of the MPRN and the relevant Service Provider. This enables the new Supplier to efficiently make the necessary arrangements in relation to the site and will therefore further relevant object d) securing of effective competition.

Implementation

No implementation timescales are proposed. However, it would be desirable if this modification were implemented as soon as reasonably practicable to allow as much time as possible for the benefits to be gained prior to the implementation of Project Nexus.

Legal Text

To be provided

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Recommendation

The Proposer invites the Panel to Determine that this modification should:

- be subject to self-governance; and
- Progress to Workgroup assessment.