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**UK LINK Committee Minutes**  
**Thursday 08 May 2008**  
**held at Elexon, 350, Euston Road, London**

**Attendees**

John Bradley	(JB)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Mike Berrisford	(MiB)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Colette Baldwin	(CB)	EDF Energy
Caroline Watson	(CW)	xoserve
Dave Addison*	(DA)	xoserve
Martin Brandt	(MB)	SSE
Nicola Rigby	(NR)	National Grid NTS
Simon Trivella	(ST)	WWU
Stephanie Shepherd*	(SS)	RWE Npower

\* *via teleconference link*

**Apologies**

Mitch Donnelly	(MD)	Centrica
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**1. Review of Minutes and Actions**

**1.1. Minutes**

The minutes of the April meeting were accepted.

**1.2. Review of actions.**

Appendix A contains a tabulated update on actions.

UKL 1127 – xoserve (DA) informed members that communication EH/822/SK relating to enhanced system security provisions had been issued on 21/04/08.

The outage associated with this change is expected to take place on either the 17 or 18<sup>th</sup> June, lasting for approximately 2 hours between 10:00am to 2:00pm. Confirmation of the actual timing and date will be provided in due course.

Related to this, DA provided an update on UKL1129, advising members that a colleague, Sat Kalsi had issued an email to users indicating that the six Shippers who have agreed to participate in the Gemini API and On-Line Transactions interface testing will be sufficient. However, DA suggested that should any additional Shipper organisations wish to participate in the testing they should contact him.

Members agreed to close both actions.

**Actions UKL1127 & 1129: Closed**

UKL 1128 – xoserve (DA) advised members that following discussions with his business contacts within the Customer team, he is of the opinion that the top 5 rejection codes are discussed with respective Shippers at their portfolio meetings with xoserve. He suggested that perhaps provision of an additional 'training pack' would possibly aid understanding of why the rejections are taking place, although this service would incur a cost to recipients. If Shippers would like to take up this offer, or provide supporting information, he would welcome any feedback.

Members indicated that the problem is not with the rejections themselves, but application of xoserve's validation processes. The problem is compounded by the fact that the Conditionality and Treatment documentation is out of date, and the level of rejection codes are impacting Users, particularly resulting in issues during the Change of Supplier process. E.ON Energy (CB) informed members that the SPAA Expert group is also investigating the rejection level with a view to reducing it.

DA advised that he was unaware of any significant RGMA changes that could have meant that the Conditionality or Treatment documents were out of date, but conceded that these documents were intended to support the implementation of the RGMA Project in July 2007. When asked, members indicated that the problem focuses on their top 5 rejection codes and both sides believe that they are working correctly.

Members suggested that adopting a walk through the process approach similar to that undertaken in SARS would be more beneficial than undertaking additional training. DA did not necessarily share this view and warned that the RGMA files are far more complex in nature than the SARS equivalent.

At this point members agreed (CB & SS) to provide half a dozen or so 'sample' files for each of their respective top 5 rejection codes and xoserve would utilise these to establish a 'base-line' starting point for investigating further.

Chair (JB) asked, and members agreed to close the action.

**Action UKL1128: Closed**

**Action UKL1132: E.ON Energy (CB) & RWE Npower (SS) to provide to xoserve samples from their respective top 5 rejection codes.**

UKL 1130 – xoserve (DA) informed members that communication EH/821/DA relating to the shortened notification timescales was included in the representation pack issued on 11/04/08.

Members agreed to close the action.

**Action UKL1130: Closed**

UKL 1131 – xoserve (DA) advised members that discussions between xoserve and the Transporters have taken place and initial investigations have commenced to look to determine costs and what is the most appropriate approach to take.

An update will be provided at either the June or July meeting, with July being the most likely date.

Members agreed to carry forward the action.

**Action UKL1131: Carried forward**

## 2. Other Industry Fora

Chair (JB) provided members with a verbal update on all recently "closed" UNC modifications, which would require a UK Link Change, and advised them that the modification report is available to view and download from the Joint Office of Gas Transporters web site at:

<http://www.gasgovernance.com/Code/UNCCSubCommittees/UKLinkCommittee/2008Meetings/>

JB then provided attendees with an update (by exception) on the "live" UNC modifications with a potential impact upon UK Link systems, specifically highlighting the following:

- 0116A/0116BV/0116CVV/0116V & 0116VD "Reform of the NTS Offtake Arrangements". These are with the Authority awaiting a decision. The Authority has

written to Shippers & Suppliers seeking cost estimations to enable an informed set of decisions to be made on these or 0195/195AV.

[www.ofgem.gov.uk/Pages/MoreInformation.aspx?docid=2&refer=Networks/Trans/GasTransPolicy/offrev](http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Pages/MoreInformation.aspx?docid=2&refer=Networks/Trans/GasTransPolicy/offrev)

Chair (JB) reminded members that modifications 0195/0195A “Introduction of Enduring NTS Exit Capacity Arrangements” is also considering the same area of work;

- 0157 “Review of iGT Settlement & Reconciliation Arrangements”. The Review Group is looking into a number of fundamental options.

WWU (ST) advised members that the review group can be expected to complete their work shortly and development will continue elsewhere within the industry;

- 0175 “Encouraging Participation in the elective Daily Metered Regime”. The review group report will be considered at the June 08 Panel meeting;
- 0192 “Introduction of DNO obligations to facilitate resolution of unresolved USRVs”. Some system impacts are anticipated;
- 0194 “Correct Apportionment of NDM Error - Energy”. Sluggish progress through the Distribution workstream and some system impacts are anticipated;
- 0195/0195AV “Introduction of Enduring NTS Exit Capacity Arrangements”. Currently with the Authority awaiting a decision;
- 0200 “Introduction of a Date Tolerance to Facilitate the Processing of Individual Meter Point Reconciliation at LDZ CSEPs”. Follows on from Review Group 0157 and may have some system impacts, although the majority will be restricted to internal xoserve system changes;
- 0202 “Improvement to More Frequent Readings Provisions to allow benefits of AMR”. Some system impacts are anticipated;
- 0203V “Revision to DN Shrinkage Regime”. Currently out for consultation which ends on Friday 09/05/08;
- 0204 “Amendment to the calculation of WCF”. Expected to have some system impacts and is currently with the Authority awaiting a decision;
- 0208 “Information relating to Unallocated Energy”. A Review Proposal raised by Corona Energy as an alternative to UNC Modification 0194, covering issues other than those detailed within 0194. Review Group expected to report to the September Panel meeting;
- 0209 “Rolling AQ”. Following on from 0177, the Development Work Group initial meeting is scheduled for 14/05/08;
- .0210 “Implementation of DNPC03 (LDZ System Charges – Capacity/Commodity Split and Interruption Discounts), the Alignment of Failure to Interrupt Charges and the Alignment of the IFA Charge”. No anticipated UK Link system impacts;

### **3. UK Link Modification Implementation Plan (and review of UK Link Modification Status Report)**

#### **3.1 CR13958 – Revised LDZ Shrinkage Arrangements**

xoserve (DA) informed members that a communication inviting responses was issued last month and one response accepting the proposed change had been received. He went on to add, that whilst there are no changes to Shipper facing file formats, and as a consequence is treated as a Class 1 change request, it is in fact related to a UNC modification (0203V) and therefore in reality a Class 2 change request which is being treated as a Class 1 for the implementation plan purposes only.

Members approved an August 2008 implementation.

### **3.2 IAD Application Changes**

xoserve (DA) informed members that this change request is scheduled to be implemented in two stages. Stage 1 on 17 May introduces a restriction to apply standard security practices (Single Current User), whilst Stage 2 on 21 June introduces functionality to allow Users to reset their own passwords. This is supported by the introduction of a validation and check mechanism based upon eight security questions, although once set up, should a user forget their password, any three of the original eight questions may be asked in random.

Some members expressed concern that they had not received any formal communication relating to the second stage and as a consequence feel that they could not comment upon this element of the implementation. DA agreed to issue a communication 'covering' stage 2 on Friday 09/05/08 in the UKLink Change pack to provide Users an opportunity to comment. When asked, DA provided the eight security questions which members felt were a reasonably balanced set of questions.

He pointed out to members that he had received one negative response (for both stages) which questioned the rationale of applying a 'Single User Approach'. This response was withdrawn given the previous discussion.

Members accepted that the first phase would be included within the 'Scheduled for Implementation' for the 17 May 2008 implementation.

**Action UKL1133: xoserve (DA) to issue a communication relating to introduction of the IAD User Password Reset functionality.**

### **3.3 CR13923 – Revision to the USRV Financial Incentives Arrangements**

xoserve (DA) informed members that this is currently in development and the change remains 'on track' for a 21/05/08 implementation.

### **3.4 CR 13829 – DN Interruption Reform Phase 2**

xoserve (DA) reminded members that this change was originally scheduled for 17/05/08, but has now been 'dropped back' one week to take place on 24/05/08, although the actual changes will not become visible until the start of June 08.

SSE (MB) reminded members that the correct procedure is for the committee to approve a date change. DA agreed to issue a communication highlighting the date change on Friday 09/05/08. Based on this, members indicated that they were happy to approve the date change.

**Action UKL1134: xoserve (DA) to issue a communication relating to the DN Interruption Reform Phase 2 implementation date change.**

### **3.5 CR13950 – Gemini Release Summer 2008**

xoserve (DA) informed members that this is currently in development and the change remains 'on track' for a 17/08/08 implementation.

### **3.6 CR 13885 – Application of interruptible capacity discounts following a change in capacity/commodity split**

xoserve (DA) informed members that this is currently in development and the change remains 'on track' for an October 08 release.

WWU (ST) pointed out to members that this change is related to UNC modification 0210.

### **3.7 CR 13861 – Rejections associated with Shipper AQ Amendments**

xoserve (DA) reminded members that they had previously agreed to a flexible implementation date for this change which was implemented on 01/05/08. Furthermore, members can expect the first new rejections will be issued from 02 June onwards.

#### 4. Review of Topics Status Report

##### 4.1 Topic 009UKL Gemini Contingency Arrangements

Chair (JB) provided members with a brief overview of the new format for all topics reports which is available to view and download from the Joint Office web site at: <http://www.gasgovernance.com/Code/Modifications/>

National Grid (NR) then provided a presentation on the Gemini Code Contingency Review, a copy of which is available to view and download from the Joint Office web site at:

<http://www.gasgovernance.com/Code/UNCCSubCommittees/UKLinkCommittee/2008Meetings/>

NR highlighted the following points of interest:

- A Review Proposal is expected to be presented to the June Panel for consideration;
- The review is looking to revise the arrangements for both Transporters and Users;
- Some internal facing aspect work is already underway;
- Actual timeline will be heavily dependant upon Review Group progress;
- Contingencies will look at the whole suite of UK Link processes, not just Gemini related, and
- Removal of the guidelines from within the UK Link Manual will need further consideration.

Chair (JB) pointed out to members, that based upon the proposed timeline and to get the work done correctly, it is highly unlikely that the strawman Gemini code contingency guidelines would be implemented in 2008. When asked, members indicated that they would be happy with a 2009 implementation for these..

Chair (JB) asked, and NR agreed to provide a copy of the draft Terms of Reference for the Review Group for consideration at the June UK Link Committee meeting.

**Action UKL1135: National Grid (NR) to provide a copy of the draft Terms of Reference for the Review Group for consideration at the June UK Link Committee meeting.**

#### 5. Performance Reporting

xoserve (CW) reviewed the xoserve report pack by exception only.

##### 5.1 IS Faults logged by Shippers (xoserve Report A).

This report was accepted.

##### 5.2 UK-Link Business Support Agreement (xoserve Report B)

xoserve (CW) informed members that she expects the problems referred to in 'Note 1' to be resolved in time for the June report. Thereafter, this report was accepted.

##### 5.3 Liabilities Report (xoserve Report C)

This report was accepted.

##### 5.4 Report on Performance Problems

This report was accepted.

## **6. File Format and Urgent Communications (xoserve Report D)**

This report was accepted.

## **7. Planned Outages (xoserve Report E)**

Chair (JB) reminded members that a communication relating to the recent Gemini firewall problems was issued recently.

xoserve (CW) added that hopefully the intermittent API (Gemini) problems will be resolved by the 08/06/08 Gemini Ark Royal Firewall Replacement outage.

xoserve (DA) informed members of two IAD related outages scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> June and 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> June (a contingency weekend).

## **8. AOB**

- 2008 Non Business Days Notification

xoserve (DA) advised members that due to changes in the Uniform Network Code, the references within the 2008 Non Business Days Notification (issued 10<sup>th</sup> August 2007) are incorrect and a communication will be issued in due course.

- Change Pack Issuing

Members asked if there were any change packs due for release, to which DA indicated that at present there were not any indicated in light of there being no new changes to consider.

## **9. Next Meeting**

Members briefly discussed and agreed to undertake a teleconference for the June UK Link Committee meeting, commencing at 10:00 am on Thursday 12 June 2008, unless something major is to be discussed.

## APPENDIX A

## ACTION LOG: UK Link Committee 08 May 08

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref (original ref)	Action	Owner*	Status Update
UKL 1127	13/03/08	1.2 (7.0)	Investigate the Gemini Production System requirements for an outage and report back to the April meeting.	xoserve (AG)	Update provided. <b>Closed</b>
UKL 1128	13/03/08	1.2 (8.0)	Investigate the UPD and 'On Job' Rejection Notice content and report back at the April meeting.	xoserve (CP)	Update provided. <b>Closed</b>
UKL 1129	10/04/08	1.2 (2.0)	Issue a communication to the UK Link distribution list to request volunteers for testing a future Firewall solution.	xoserve (DA)	Update provided. <b>Closed</b>
UKL 1130	10/04/08	1.2 (3.1)	Issue a communication regarding the shortened notification timescales in the forthcoming change pack.	xoserve (DA)	Update provided. <b>Closed</b>
UKL 1131	10/04/08	1.2 (8.0)	Discuss potential change to the CSEP Reconciliation backing data format to 'mirror' the CSEP Invoice File with the Transporters.	xoserve (DA)	Update due at June 08 meeting.
UKL 1132	08/05/08	1.2	E.ON Energy & RWE Npower to provide to xoserve samples from their respective top 5 rejection codes.	E.ON & RWE (CB & SS)	Update due at June 08 meeting.
UKL 1133	08/05/08	3.2	Issue a communication relating to introduction of the IAD User Password Reset functionality.	xoserve (DA)	Update due at June 08 meeting.
UKL 1134	08/05/08	3.4	Issue a communication relating to the DN Interruption Reform Phase 2 implementation date change.	xoserve (DA)	Update due at June 08 meeting.
UKL 1135	08/05/08	4.1	Provide a copy of the draft Terms of Reference for the proposed Gemini Code Contingency Arrangements Review Group for consideration at the June UK Link Committee meeting.	National Grid (NR)	Update due at June 08 meeting.

**\* Key to action owners**

- DA Dave Addison, xoserve
- CB Colette Baldwin, E.ON Energy
- SS Stephanie Shepherd, RWE Npower
- NR Nicola Rigby, National Grid