

UK LINK Committee Minutes
Thursday 09 November 2006
held at Elexon, 350, Euston Road, London

Attendees

John Bradley	(JB)	Joint Office
Mike Berrisford	(MiB)	Joint Office
Caroline Purcell	(CP)	xoserve (for Transporters)
Mick Curtis	(MC)	e=mc ² (for Shell)
David Mayne	(DM)	RWE Npower
Tiago Vasconcelos	(TV)	TGP
William Wilson	(WW)	E.ON UK plc
Dan Simons	(DS)	EDF Energy
Ali Tayyar	(AT)	Statoil
Bryan Donnelly	(BD)	SAIC Europe Ltd (for Scottish Power)
Nicola Rigby	(NR)	National Grid

1. Review of Minutes and Actions

1.1. Minutes

The minutes of the October meeting were accepted. However, a note from Martin Brandt, SSE was read out regarding the closure of Action 1072. xoserve (CP) advised members that communication NR/661/DA, issued on 15/09/06, clarified the circumstances under which xoserve would contact Users by 'exception only' to advise them on when not to submit their respective file formats. Members enquired about what should be considered as 'normal' under these circumstances and how would file formats where an actual change to the template occurs be handled. Again CP advised that xoserve will inform Users by exception and that unless contacted Users should consider that it is 'business as usual' when submitting their file formats.

1.2. Review of actions.

Appendix A contains a tabulated update on actions.

UKL1041 – please see item 4.0 below.

UKL1045 – xoserve (CP) advised members that the Gemini Disaster Recovery Test is planned to take place in April 07 and that notice will be provided nearer the time. Therefore the action was closed.

Action: Closed.

UKL1055 – xoserve (CP) advised members that the Networks are still considering this matter and have not yet approved the Change Request. Therefore this action was carried forward.

Action: Carried Forward.

UKL1061 – xoserve (CP) advised members that xoserve have awarded the contract to TCS and that work is already underway. An update will be provided in due course. Therefore this action was carried forward.

Action: Carried Forward.

UKL1063 – please see item 4.0 below.

UKL1069 – MC enquired about the status of this action and was informed by CP and DS that the change is due in April 07, subject to any potential SPAA issues and that is why the action had been closed previously.

UKL1071 – xoserve (CP) reminded members that this had already been discussed under item 1.1. Therefore the action was closed.

Action: Closed.

UKL1074 – xoserve (CP) advised members that system performance has returned to a level comparable to the pre AQ run. However, the ‘root cause’ remains unclear, but both CSC and xoserve are looking into the issues of managing problems in future, including what ‘in house’ systems and process changes maybe required. The consensus amongst members was that this action should be closed.

Action: Closed

2. Other Industry Fora

JB informed members that further Dialogue Meetings looking at the future UK Link Replacement systems had taken place. He advised members that the discussions were of a high level, the main points being:

- System integration
- Base Case will be drawn up on basic points, with consideration given to growth rates
 - xoserve to prepare and run ‘alternative scenarios’
- Ofgem are keen to ‘break out’ core processes (User Pays Model)
 - Users will therefore pay for services to reduce ‘core costs’
- Three (3x) potential models for the new services discussed
 - Via a Class 3 Modification, or
 - User Agreement (Single Deal) with xoserve, or finally
 - User Group Agreement (Club Deal) with xoserve

In response to detailed questions JB responded that the discussions were at a very high level and very little detail on the systems themselves was discussed. For example, members asked about ‘Real Time Processes’ and JB advised that these were not discussed at the meeting. However, NR advised that this was discussed at the first meeting, but only at a very high level and included consideration of speeding up the processes involved.

JB advised members that a copy of the minutes will be available on the Joint Office of Gas Transporters web site in due course.

JB then updated members on the recent Operational Forum meeting where National Grid gave a presentation on OPN Submissions (EDSS) and went on to provide a brief Gemini Update – *please refer to the presentations on the Joint Office of Gas Transporters web site.*

Under UNC business matters, JB updated members on the current batch of UNC modifications that have a potential impact on, or are of interest to, the UK Link Committee members, as follows:

- 0088 “Extension of DM service to enable Consumer Demand Side Management”. Work by the Development Work Group, headed by TGP, is ongoing;

- 0090 “Revised DN Interruption Arrangements”. Draft Modification Report due to be issued 09/11/06 and the implementation timescales are tight;
- 0091 “Extending Uniform Network Code to allow Users to raise Class 3 UK Link modification proposals”, The Final Modification Report is with Ofgem awaiting their decision;
- 0097/0097A “Modification to release aggregated ex-post information for pipeline interconnector offtake flows”. 0097 is a potential Gemini related change but not 0097A. The (draft) Final Modification Reports are due shortly;
- 0098/0098A “Modification to Codify Emergency Curtailment Quantity (ECQ) Methodology”. 0098 is a potential systems related change but not 0098A.
- 0099 “Management of erroneous Domestic AQs during the Registration process”. Draft Modification Report due to be issued 09/11/06;
- 0104 “3rd Party Proposal : Storage Information at LNG Importation Facilities”. Web site only with no anticipated UK Link impacts;
- 0115 “Correct Apportionment of NDM Error”. Distribution Workstream to report to the 21 December 2006 Panel meeting. Proposer does not believe there to be system impacts ;
- 0116 “Reform of the NTS Offtake Arrangements”. Similar in concept to 0090 and the UK Link Committee may be asked for an waiver to the 6 month notice period. Consultation on this modification is due to close on 24/11/06.
- 0118 “Entry Capacity Transfers in the Constrained Period”. This is another Gemini related modification, with minor system impacts;
- 0118A “Entry Capacity Transfers in the Constrained Period”. As with 0118 potentially minor system impacts;
- 0119 “Amendment to the Entry Overrun Charge”. This is expected to have some minor Gemini related system impacts mainly associated with Invoicing functionality;
- 0121 “The Provision of Ex-Post Demand Information for all NTS Offtakes”. Web site only with no anticipated UK Link impacts;
- 0123 “Provision of Demand Information to Meet the 14:00 Total System Demand Forecast”. Consultation on this urgent modification closes 10/11/06;
- 0124 “Amendment to the window for acceptance of Meter Reads by the Transporter”. To be considered at the 16 November 2006 UNC Panel meeting. System impacts unclear at this stage, and
- 0125 “Introduction of new balancing neutrality charge for cost of residual balancer collateral on the OCM”. This will be catered for by existing functionality.

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

3.1 Provision of Testing Services for Electronic Code Communications

Displayed for information purposes only and discussed elsewhere in this meeting.

3.2 CR 13760 – Shipper Agreed Reads Procedural Change

xoserve (CP) advised members that there is no implementation date as yet and nothing new to report.

3.3 Minor Amendment to CALMS System

xoserve (CP) advised members that there is no Implementation date as yet and nothing new to report.

3.4 CR 13803 – Notification of New Charge Types – MOD026 (IDB file format)

xoserve (CP) advised members that three (3x) responses have been received none of which had identified any problems associated with implementation, therefore xoserve are asking the members to approval implement of this CR. The members approved implementation scheduled to take place in July 2007.

3.5 CR 13723 – Objection Deadline SPA Rejection Code – OJT00018

xoserve (CP) advised members that this CR was implemented 03/11/06.

3.6 CR 13725 – Single Central Online Gas Enquiry Service

xoserve (CP) advised members that this CR was implemented 03/11/06.

3.7 CR 13730 – Post Closeout Amendments functionality for Gemini

xoserve (CP) advised members that this CR was implemented 03/11/06.

3.8 CR 13758 – Removal of Meter Asset at Dead Meter Points

xoserve (CP) advised members that this CR was implemented 03/11/06. CP also advised members that there had been some problems associated with implementation of this CR (RGMA code design) and a 'fix' was deployed on the evening of 08/11/06 with a 'full' fix anticipated by the end of Tuesday 14/11/06.

3.9 CR 13758.2 – Meter Pulse Value Adjustment

xoserve (CP) advised members that this CR was implemented 03/11/06.

3.10 CR 13780 – IFA Invoices via I'X

xoserve (CP) advised members that this CR was implemented 03/11/06.

3.11 CR 13779 – Modification 080 – AMR Readings

xoserve (CP) advised members that implementation was still scheduled for February 2007.

JB asked members if they were happy with the conduct of the November release and members confirmed that they were.

3.12 CR13785 – UKLink Manual Update – UPN Format Update to v2

xoserve (CP) reminded members that the change request was implemented 02 October 2006.

3.13 CR13783 – UKLink Manual Update – S59 – Correction to File Formats

xoserve (CP) reminded members that the change request was implemented 02 October 2006.

4. Review of Topics Status Report

Topic 004UKL UK Link Testing Arrangements

BD, SAIC advised members that Scottish Power is in discussion with interested parties and expects to raise a Class 3 UK Link (Funding) Modification in time for submission to the January 2007 UNC Modification Panel meeting. Further updates will follow.

JB reminded members that the earliest release would therefore need to be November 2007 and went on to remind members of Robert Cameron Higgs's initial proposals surrounding raising of a 'generic super modification'.

JB offered Scottish Power the Joint Office of Gas Transporters assistance in raising the modification and advised them that it would be prudent to discuss a draft of the proposed modification proposal within a workstream arena well in advance of raising the 'official' modification in January 2007, including consideration of reduced timescales for consultation.

JB asked members to consider placing the topic on hold whilst closing the outstanding action. Members indicated that they were happy with this approach. Topic placed on hold.

Action UKL1063: Closed.

Topic 006UKL Gemini Performance Monitoring

xoserve (CP) advised members that the project is up and running and on track for December with initial meetings having taken place, although no update is available at present. Therefore this action was carried forward.

Action UKL1041: Carried Forward.

5. Performance Reporting

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

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

The report was accepted.

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

The report was accepted.

5.3 Liabilities Report (xoserve Report C)

The report was accepted.

5.4 Report on Performance Problems

The report was accepted. Additionally please see item 1.2.

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

The communications had been discussed elsewhere in the meeting and thereafter the report was accepted.

However, xoserve (CP) stated that they would like to receive more responses from shippers. JB enquired why 'take up' was so low and members suggested that additional shippers would be taking up this option in due course.

xoserve (CP) updated members on the 'ConQuest Monday morning (power supply fan) problems' stating that they are working on a 'workaround' fix and advised members that the outage experienced on Monday 06/11/06 was nothing to do with this general problem.

7. Planned Outages (xoserve Report E)

The report was accepted. However, xoserve (CP) advised members of the following proposed outages:

- a standby test for April 2007 – to be confirmed and
- adding additional storage space – outage scheduled for the weekend of the 25th and 26th November 2006 – communication to follow in due course. CP went on to advise that this outage needed to be completed now to beat the December code freeze and that it will take up the complete weekend. JB asked members if they approved this outage, to which the members confirmed approval. *please see NR/689/GF dated 10/11/06.*

8. AOB

xoserve (CP) highlighted the recent Invoicing problems associated with an incorrect EUC Band, affecting 70 domestic readings spread across only 4, 5 or 6 shippers in total and amounting to a few £'s on the Commodity Invoice. xoserve has contacted the impacted shippers to discuss the matter.

Schedule of Future meetings

10:00am Thursday 14-Dec-06 at Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London

APPENDIX A.

ACTION LOG UK Link Committee 14-November-06

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref (original ref)	Action	Owner*	Status Update
UKL 1041	13/04/06	4.0 (3.0) Topic 006UKL	Report back on progress of Topic 006UKL.	xoserve (DA/AG)	On track for Dec 06 implementation. Carried Forward
UKL 1045	11/05/06	1.2 (2.0)	xoserve to ascertain why the Gemini Disaster Recovery test was cancelled and when a likely test is to take place.	xoserve (CP)	To be scheduled for Apr 07. Closed
UKL 1055	08/06/06	1.2 (2.0)	xoserve to provide an update on a new change request for CSEP's Invoices.	xoserve (DA)	Under consideration – further update 14 Dec 06. Carried Forward
UKL 1061	08/06/06	1.2 (AOB)	xoserve to examine the UK Link Technology Refresh contingency arrangements and provide an update on progress to the September &/or October UK Link Committee meetings.	xoserve (AG/CP)	Contract awarded. Further update due 14 Dec 06. Carried Forward
UKL 1063	13/07/06	4.0 (4.0)	Scottish Power to consider whether they wish to pursue the UK Link Testing Arrangements matter further, or whether to close the item.	Scottish Power (MP/BD)	Scottish Power advised that they wished to pursue this and to raise a Class 3 UNC Proposal in January 2007. Closed
UKL 1071	10/08/06	1.2 (3.8)	xoserve to consider suitable email notification wording and report back to the September UK Link Committee meeting.	xoserve (DA)	Email circulated. Closed
UKL 1074	12/10/06	1.2 (5.4)	xoserve to provide update on the 'root cause' investigations, the rejection of the files after five days and also the level of this type of rejection.	xoserve (CP)	Plan in place to manage problem in future. Closed

*** Key to action owners**

DA Dave Addison, xoserve
AG Annie Griffith, xoserve
CP Caroline Purcell, xoserve
JB John Bradley, Joint Office
MP Mark Pitchford
BD Bryan Donnelly