

UK LINK Committee Minutes

Thursday 09 October 2008

Teleconference

Attendees

John Bradley (Chair)	(JB)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Mike Berrisford (Secretary)	(MiB)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Alan Raper	(AR)	National Grid Distribution
Ali Tayyar	(AT)	StatoilHydro
Ashley Collins	(AC)	EDF Energy
Caroline Watson	(CW)	xoserve
Danielle King	(DK)	E.ON UK plc
Dave Addison	(DA)	xoserve
Joel Martin	(JM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Martin Brandt	(MB)	SSE
Sean McGoldrick	(SM)	National Grid Distribution
Simon Trivella	(ST)	Wales & West Utilities
Stephanie Shepherd	(SS)	RWE Npower

1. Review of Minutes and Actions

1.1. Minutes

In opening the meeting, Chair (JB) welcomed the new committee members before thanking the outgoing ones for their support. He then pointed out that Caroline Watson of xoserve will remain as the Transporter representative in the short term.

He went on to suggest to members that it may be beneficial to write in to him now, highlighting any potential alternate members, therefore avoiding having to write in on each and every occasion.

A copy of the complete 2009 membership list is available to view and download from the Joint Office of Gas Transporters web site at:

www.gasgovernance.com/Code/UNCCSubCommittees/UKLinkCommittee/Processes

Thereafter, the minutes of the September meeting were accepted.

1.2. Review of actions.

Appendix A contains a tabulated update on actions.

UKL 1143 – Please refer to item 3.6 below.

UKL 1144 – Please refer to item 8 below

UKL 1145 – xoserve (DA) advised members that communication EH/863/DA dated 12/09/08, relating to the two proposed CSEPS System Change options had been issued. Additionally, related communications EH/865/DA (15/09/08) and EH/874/DA (03/10/08) have also been issued.

Action UKL 1145: Closed

UKL 1146 – Please refer to item 5.2 below for details.

2. Other Industry Fora

Chair (JB) provided members with a verbal update on all recently “closed” UNC modifications that would require a UK Link Change, and advised them that the

modification reports are available to view and download from the Joint Office of Gas Transporters web site

- 0202 “Improvement to More Frequent Readings Provisions to allow benefits of AMR”. Implemented 01/10/08, and
- 0210 “Implementation of DNPC03 (LDZ System Charges – Capacity/Commodity Split and Interruptible Discounts), the Alignment of Failure to Interrupt Charges and the Alignment of the IFA Charge”. Mainly related to a Pricing Change, and implemented 01/10/2008.

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 status changes since the previous meeting:

- 0116 suite “Reform of the NTS Offtake Arrangements” and 0195/0195AV “Introduction of Enduring NTS Exit Capacity Arrangements”. All the modifications are on schedule for a November 08 decision which the Authority confirmed as being ‘on track’ at yesterday’s Operational Forum meeting;
- 0192 “Introduction of DNO obligations to facilitate resolution of unresolved USRVs”. Currently with the Authority awaiting a decision;
- 0208 “Information relating to Unallocated Energy”. Review Group work is ongoing with a report now due to be presented at the 19/02/09 panel meeting;
- 0209 “Rolling AQ”. xoserve are currently undertaking an ‘Order of Magnitude’ impact assessment on behalf of the Transporters;
- 0213 “Introduction of User Pays Governance Arrangements into the UNC” MB suggested that this modification may require a change to the UK Link Committee Terms of Reference as the User Pays regime may potentially eradicate Class 3 changes. This view was not shared by ST, who believed that there should not be a related UP issue, subject to 0213 approval

In light of discussions, Chair (JB) agreed to take an action to investigate if there are any potential User Pays impacts upon the UK Link Committee Terms of Reference;

Action UKL1147: Joint Office (JB) to investigate if there are any potential User Pays impacts upon the UKLink Committee Terms of Reference

- 0217 “Gemini Code Contingency Arrangements”. Review Group are meeting immediately following the UK Link Committee meeting and remain ‘on target’ to report to the December panel;

**Post meeting note: Review Group will be requesting an extension to March 2009.*

- 0219 “Publication of UK Wholesale Gas Market Liquidity Data”. It is thought that this Modification may have some Gemini system related impacts. Any associated UK Link change requests would ‘normally’ be considered as a Class 1 but due to their relationship to this modification would be ‘covered’ as a Class 2;
- 0223 “Provision of day ahead Gas Flow Nominations data at major Aggregated System Entry Points”. Highlighted in case there are some interface issues with Gemini.
- 0224 “Facilitating the use of AMR in the Daily Metered Elective Regime”. Development Work Group work is ongoing with some UK Link system impacts being anticipated. The group are on target to report to the December panel;
- 0226 “Additional Data Requirements for the Administration of CSEP Supply Points”. A new modification with some anticipated system impacts which is scheduled for consideration at the 16/10/08 UNC panel meeting;

- 0227 “Implementation of an Industry AMR database to facilitate the change of supply process”. A new modification with some anticipated system impacts which is scheduled for consideration at the 16/10/08 UNC panel meeting;
- 0229 “Mechanism for correct apportionment of unidentified gas”. The proposer has indicated that there may be some system impacts, and finally
- 0230 “Amendment to the QSEC and AMSEC Auction Timetables”. It is expected that current system functionality will be sufficient to be able to accommodate this modification therefore there are no anticipated system changes required.

JB advised members that the Operational Forum had met on the previous day, Wednesday 08 October 2008. At the meeting members had discussed COR1072 Enduring Transfer and Trade Arrangements (please see item 3.6 below) along with the recent outages – information for which, is available on the National Grid web site.

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

3.1 CSEPS System Change – Change to CRE File Format

xoserve (DA) reminded members that communication EH/863/DA dated 12/09/08, relating to the two proposed CSEPS System Change options had been issued following the September meeting. To date, one response rejecting the proposal had been received, although the ‘owner’ had indicated a preference for option 2 should the change go through.

DA added that given the level of support for the change, it would seem appropriate to withdraw this change. Discussions with the Transporters had supported this approach, and he sought the views of the Committee regarding withdrawal. He reminded members that historically, a non response has been deemed as approval, but for this change this could not be the case given that options were presented, so in order to support the change an option would be indicated. When asked, DA confirmed that should the consensus view propose withdrawing the change, this would be the end of the matter. DK agreed to discuss the matter with her colleagues at E.ON UK and contact DA to agree the most appropriate course of action.

When asked, members indicated that they would support the withdrawal of the change request. In response, DA agreed to undertake an action to issue a communication highlighting the details of the discussion and members approval of the withdrawing of the CR.

Action UKL1148: xoserve (DA) to prepare and issue a communication summarising the details of the discussion and members approval to withdraw the change request.

**Post meeting note: please refer to communication EH/877/DA, dated 10/10/08 for further details.*

3.2 Enduring Transfer and Trade Arrangements

Please refer to item 3.6 below for details.

3.3 CR13885.2 – IFA Database Amendment

xoserve (DA) advised members that communication EH/873/DA had been issued on 02/10/08. This is a follow up to a change implemented last month. As this change includes the first utilisation of a negative (-) sign in this particular file, he believes this to be a Class 1 change and requests members approval. Thereafter, members duly approved the change.

DA pointed out that the intention is to implement the change at the end of October with the first invoices due in November.

When asked, DA confirmed that this was the only communication issued relating to this matter. He apologised if this may have been at short notice, but had wanted the Committee to have visibility of this minor change to the documentation to provide opportunity to comment upon it. and ratify the treatment of it as a Class 1 change.

Members went on to discuss the merits of utilising a 'discrete' contact listing for emergency email notifications. DA responded by reminding members that the SMS service is also available and in place to 'support' the regular email communication channels. He indicated that he would be happy to undertake an action to write to users reminding them of the SMS service whilst highlighting the importance and benefits of up to date contact information. Additionally, he will also speak to his colleagues in the xoserve communications team to identify the best way to ensure all aspects are considered.

Action UKL1149: xoserve (DA) to write out to users to remind them of the existence of the SMS service and the benefits of providing up to date contact information for utilisation in emergency notifications where xoserve need to deviate from the UK Link Implementation Plan.

**Post meeting note: please refer to communication EH/877/DA, dated 10/10/08 for further details.*

3.4 IAD Application Changes

xoserve (DA) pointed out to members that communication EH/876/GF dated 08/10/08 has identified a two (2) week delay. This is the result of the adoption of a more cautious approach following the problems experienced in summer 2007.

He went on to inform members that, when tested in the testing environment, the revised code had experienced degraded performance in comparison to the existing production code. In order to understand the impacts of this within the production environment, the performance testing tool is due to be applied over the coming weekend into the live environment so that the changed code can be tested under 'stress' conditions. Provided that the analysis of the performance gives satisfactory results, implementation will follow. xoserve (DA) drew the Committee's attention to the revised date within the plan of 25th October 2008.

3.5 CR13885 – Application of interruptible capacity discounts following a change in capacity/commodity split

xoserve (DA) informed members that this change had been successfully implemented on 13/09/08.

3.6 COR1072 Enduring Transfer and Trade Arrangements Presentation

A copy of the presentation is available to view and download from the Joint Office of Gas Transporters web site at:

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

In accordance with outstanding action item UKL 1143, DA provided a presentation of the COR1072 Enduring Transfer and Trade Arrangements similar to the one presented at the Operational Forum a day earlier.

He went on to point out the importance of the second bullet point on page 5 of the presentation.

When asked, DA suggested that historically there have not been any charges presented to users for the Shipper Trials and he would doubt that any would be applied in this case either.

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

Action UKL 1143: Closed

**Post meeting note: please refer to communication EH/877/DA, dated 10/10/08 for further details.*

4. Review of Topics Status Report

4.1 Topic 009UKL Gemini Contingency Arrangements

Chair (JB) pointed out that this matter had already been discussed.

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) apologised before advising members that unfortunately the problem associated with the Transaction related data within report B of the xoserve report pack persists. Rectification work is ongoing.

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

Action UKL1146: Carried Forward

Thereafter, the 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 then accepted.

7. Planned Outages (xoserve Report E)

xoserve (DA) provided a brief review of the planned outages drawing attention to the two italisised items for IAD and Gemini. He went on to apologise for the deferral of the Gemini outage and advised that a communication relating to this matter will be issued in due course.

Thereafter this report was accepted.

8. AOB

xoserve (DA) provided a brief presentation relating to the following items of interest:

- AQ Review 2008;

This presentation was given in response to Action 1145.

Action UKL 1145: Closed

- UKLTR (Kettering move), and
- The Peterborough Power Outage.

A copy of the presentation is available to view or download from the Joint Office of Gas Transporters web site at:

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

9. Next Meeting

The November UK Link Committee meeting will commence at 10:00 am on Thursday 13 November 2008 and be a teleconference. *Please note: the next meeting of Review*

Group 0217 is also scheduled to take place immediately after this meeting at the Elexon Office in London.

APPENDIX A

ACTION LOG: UK Link Committee 09 October 2008

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref (original ref)	Action	Owner*	Status Update
UKL 1143	14/08/08	3.6 (3.3)	Provide a more detailed description of what will be involved in the implementation of the Enduring Transfer and Trade Arrangements change request in April 2009 to the September 08 meeting.	xoserve (DA)	Update provided. Closed
UKL 1144	14/08/08	1.2 (8.0)	Provide a more detailed update on the AQ batch catch-up process at the September 08 meeting.	xoserve (DA)	Update provided. Closed
UKL 1145	11/09/08	1.2 (3.2)	Liaise on compiling a communication relating to the two (2x) CSEPS System Change Options, including clarification of the proposal rationale.	xoserve (DA) and SGN (JM)	Update provided. Closed
UKL 1146	11/09/08	5.2 (3.2)	Provide details on the resolution of the fault in the August 2008 information set.	xoserve (CW)	Update due at November 08 meeting.
UKL 1147	09/10/08	2.0	Investigate if there are any potential User Pays impacts upon the UK Link Committee Terms of Reference.	Joint Office (JB)	Update due at December 08 meeting.
UKL 1148	09/10/08	3.1	Prepare and issue a communication summarising the details of the discussion and members' approval to withdraw the change request.	xoserve (DA)	Update due at November 08 meeting.
UKL 1149	09/10/08	3.3	Write out to users to remind them of the existence of the SMS service and the benefits of providing up to date contact information for utilisation in emergency notifications where xoserve need to deviate from the UK Link Implementation Plan.	xoserve (DA)	Update due at November 08 meeting.

* Key to action owners

DA Dave Addison, xoserve

CW Caroline Watson, xoserve

JB John Bradley, Joint Office