

UK LINK Committee Minutes
Thursday 10 August 2006
held at Elexon, 350, Euston Road, London

Attendees

John Bradley	(JB)	Joint Office
Mike Berrisford	(MiB)	Joint Office
Dave Addison	(DA)	xoserve
Dennis Regan	(DR)	xoserve
Martin Brandt	(MB)	SSE
Andrew Keogh	(AK)	EMCC
William Wilson	(WW)	E.ON UK plc
Mel Davenport	(MD)	Generis Technology Ltd
Brian Donnelly	(BD)	SAIC Europe Ltd
David Mayne	(DM)	RWE Npower
Jimmy Smith	(JS)	EDF Energy
Nicola Rigby	(NR)	National Grid

1. Review of Minutes and Actions

1.1. Minutes

The minutes of the July meeting were accepted. However, (DA) xoserve highlighted an error in the action table definition for UKL1061, whereby it should read as:

“xoserve to examine the UK Link Technology Refresh and provide an update on progress to the September &/or October UK Link Committee meetings”.

1.2. Review of actions.

Appendix A contains a tabulated update on actions.

UKL1010 – xoserve (DA) provided a brief presentation on the legal validity of Gemini email communications advising members that an email would be issued on Friday 11 August 2006, highlighting the change in Appendix 5a of the UK Link Manual where it is proposed to add email, for specified circumstances, to the listing. He indicated to members that it was considered to be a UK Link Class 1 Modification as it is an administrative change only. *(please refer to NR/649/DA dated 11/08/2006)*

Action: Carried Forward.

UKL1021 – JB advised members that this action had been completed at the July meeting and was therefore closed.

Action: Closed.

UKL1041 – please see item 4.0 below.

UKL1045 – xoserve (DA) advised members that xoserve have now received a revised proposal for the Gemini Disaster Recovery. As a consequence, discussions are ongoing and it expects to be in a position to advise members when a test will take place at the September UK Link Committee meeting.

Action: Carried Forward.

UKL1048 – xoserve (DA) advised members that communication NR/638/DA had been issued on 09 June 2006, therefore the action was closed, whilst the topic itself remained open.

Action: Closed.

UKL1055 – xoserve (DA) advised members that discussions regarding the D38 Record are still ongoing therefore the action was carried forward.

Action: Carried Forward.

UKL1058 – JB advised members that the subject has been discussed and considered at the Governance Workstream (topic 009GOV) and therefore this action was closed.

Action: Closed.

UKL1061 – please see item 1.0 above.

Additionally, xoserve (DA) advised members that they are anticipating being in a position to provide an update to either the September or October 2006 meeting.

Action: Carried Forward.

UKL1062 – xoserve (DA) advised members that communication NR/644/DA had been issued on 14 July 2006, therefore this action was closed.

Action: Closed.

UKL1063 – Scottish Power (BD) advised members that they are still considering their position and therefore this action was carried forward.

Action: Carried Forward.

UKL1064 – xoserve (DA) apologised to members for not issuing a communication on this matter sooner and then went on to provided a brief presentation on the Modification 0613 timetable before advising members that a communication would be issued on Friday 11 August 2006. This action was therefore carried forward. *(please refer to NR/648/DA dated 11/08/2006)*

Action: Carried Forward.

UKL1065 – xoserve (DA) apologised to members for not issuing a communication on this matter sooner. He then went on to advise members that the release dates would be in-line with the SPAA principles, i.e. 23 February & 29 June 2007. before informing them that a communication would be issued on Friday 11 August 2006. This action was therefore carried forward *(please refer to NR/648/DA dated 11/08/2006)*

Action: Carried Forward.

UKL1066 – JB advised members that the UK Link Modification Processes document had been published on the Joint Office of Gas Transporters web site, and therefore this action was closed.

Action: Closed.

UKL1067 – xoserve (DA) advised members that communication NR/645/DA had been issued on 14 July 2006, and therefore this action was closed.

Action: Closed.

UKL1068 – xoserve (DA) advised members that he expected to issue a communication summarising the SPAA Change Proposal 05/041 and incorporating a minor change to the RGMA – GT File Format field, on Friday 11 August 2006. He went on to advise members that the communication would be asking for User's comments regarding approval to implement this UK Link Class 2 change in November with a reduced notice period. DA then advised members that xoserve would be looking to 'bundle' this change request in with the Dead Meter Point

changes. DA suggested that in light of the above, this action should be carried forward. This was agreed.

Action: Carried Forward.

2. Other Industry Fora

To commence, JB advised members that no meetings of the Operational Forum had taken place since the July UK Link Committee meeting.

Thereafter, 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:

- 0080 “Acceptance of AMR reads at supply points with correctors”, for which Ofgem directed implementation on 04 August 2006. Transporters are considering an appropriate effective date for this modification. xoserve (DA) advised members that the pack related to the change would be issued on Friday 11 August 2006 This will propose an effective date of February 2007 for which a September 2006 UK Link Committee approval will be required to accommodate a four (4) month Operational Change Notification.
- 0088 “Extension of DM service to enable Consumer Demand Side Management”, the next Development Work Group meeting is Tuesday 15 August 2006, to continue discussing this matter and there are expected to be system impacts associated with this modification.
- 0090 “Revised DN Interruption Arrangements”, raised to consider and develop a new Exit Arrangement Agreement is to be discussed and developed within a Development Work Group scheduled to meet on Wednesday 16 August 2006. There are expected to be system impacts associated with this modification.
- 0091 “Extending Uniform Network Code to allow Users to raise Class 3 UK Link modification proposals”, for which a Draft Modification Report was issued for consideration on 08 August 2006. Close-out for representations is 17:00hrs on 30 August 2006.
- 0097 “Modification to release aggregated ex-post information for pipeline interconnector offtake flows”, will be considered at the 17 August 2006 UNC Panel meeting with a recommendation from the Transmission Workstream that the Proposal should now proceed to consultation. JB advised members that the Workstream, as part of their discussions, had considered two (2) potential options for publication of the associated information, either the Joint Office of Gas Transporters or the Gemini web site and would be recommending the Gemini option.

xoserve (DA) advised that the impacts of this change were still in the early stages of analysis. EDF (JS) reminded members that the Transmission Work Group had requested an early implementation, but acknowledged that any change needed to follow UK Link procedures.

- 0100 “Amendment to OPN/SFN Submission Times”, JB advised members that should the Authority direct implementation of this modification, the functionality already existed within Gemini.

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

Members are reminded to refer to version 2.0 of the Implementation Plan as issued by xoserve (DA) on Friday 11 August 2006 in communication NR/647/DD.

3.1 Provision of Testing Services for Electronic Code Communications

Displayed for information purposes only.

3.2 CR 13760 – Shipper Agreed Reads Procedural Change

xoserve (DA) advised members that this process has been referred to the SPAA work group considering this matter. He will advise members on the outcome of the SPAA discussions.

Action UKL1069: xoserve (DA) to provide an update on SPAA work group consideration of this matter at the September 2006 UK Link Committee meeting.

3.3 Minor Amendment to CALMS System

xoserve (DA) advised members that he would re-issue the Implementation Plan version 2.0 on Friday 11 August 2006 in support of the previous communication on this matter, NR/645/DA as issued on 14 July 2006, and was now asking the members to approve implementation of this Class 1 UK Link Modification. This was agreed by consensus. *(please refer to NR/647/DD dated 11/08/2006)*

3.4 CR 13723 – Objection Deadline SPA Rejection Code – OJT00018

xoserve (DA) advised members that implementation was still scheduled for November 2006.

3.5 CR 13725 – Single Central Online Gas Enquiry Service

xoserve (DA) advised members that implementation was still scheduled for November 2006.

SSE (MB) pointed out that xoserve had completed a BRS, which highlights data item changes, and that debate continues regarding the target implementation date of November 2006 and specifically recipients' ability to react and make the necessary changes in time. He also pointed out that the iGT representatives have concerns about the additional data items as well.

With the above comments in mind, xoserve (DA) agreed to investigate the potential discrepancies between the proposed change request and the BRS document and to report back to the September 2006 UK Link Committee meeting.

Action UKL1070: xoserve (DA) to investigate the potential discrepancies between the current change request and their BRS documentation and report back to the September UK Link Committee meeting.

3.6 CR 13730 – Post Closeout Amendments functionality for Gemini

xoserve (DA) advised members that implementation was still scheduled for November 2006.

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

xoserve (DA) advised members that implementation was still scheduled for November 2006 and that the Implementation Plan Summary (both versions 1.0 & 2.0) had been updated to show this as a Class 1 UK Link Change Request.

3.8 Minor Amendment to Gemini Maintenance Screens

xoserve (DA) advised members that this Class 1 UK Link Modification was implemented 02 August 2006.

Following the review of the Implementation Plan Summary, SSE (MB) asked a 'generic' question regarding the November Release, namely, when is the last opportunity for Users to submit their Flow information, and suggested that perhaps a document highlighting the timings and any deviation from the 'normal' expectations, would be beneficial.

xoserve (DA) responded by firstly advising members that discussions on this matter had taken place within the SPAA, focusing on the difficulties surrounding a guaranteed 'end of day' process, i.e. by what point files received would be processed, and indicated that this is not possible to provide on a generic basis and advised that xoserve propose only to report on any deviation from a normal 'business day'. He went on to point out that providing this information might 'infer' undue obligations upon xoserve or any other party.

MB requested that this be provided for each implementation. DA responded that it was not possible to guarantee timings and that implementations were generally timed to be undertaken at the end of a given business days run.

Action UKL1071: xoserve (DA) to consider suitable email wording and report back to the September UK Link Committee meeting.

4. Review of Topics Status Report

Topic 004UKL UK Link Testing Arrangements

JB advised members that Scottish Power are still considering this matter and that, as discussed under item 2.0 above, a relevant UNC Modification (0091) is currently progressing through the system.

Action UKL1063: Carried Forward.

Topic 006UKL Gemini Performance Monitoring

xoserve (DA) advised members that they are not in a position to provide a meaningful update at this meeting but anticipated being able to provide an update at the October 2006 UK Link Committee meeting.

Action UKL1041: Carry Forward.

Topic 007UKL Release governance procedures

xoserve (DA) advised members that they are still investigating options (e.g.SMS) and will provide an update at the September 2006 UK Link Committee meeting in time for a November 2006 release.

Action UKL1072: xoserve (DA) to report back on suitable notification mechanisms at the September 2006 UK Link Committee meeting.

5. Performance Reporting

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

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

xoserve (DA) advised members of a small amendment in this report and provided copies to anyone requesting one.

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.

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

The report was accepted, however, DA advised members that NR/646/DD was missing from the 'original' version of the report and that he will re-issue the communication on Friday 11 August 2006, as part of the change pack asking for User views. He pointed out that the proposal is to undertake the change in October 2006.

The communication would highlight that, if Users had any concerns with the implementation date, xoserve would consider a workaround for an interim period with such Users. DA requested that Users consider this in addition to their normal representations.

7. Planned Outages (xoserve Report E)

The report was accepted. However, xoserve (DA) reminded members of the Gemini outage as previously discussed.

8. AOB

JB advised members that following the Committee's previous discussions, and in light of the suggested and agreed changes to the timeline diagram by DM of RWE Npower, the Terms of Reference document will now be presented to the next meeting of the Uniform Network Code Committee (UNCC) scheduled for Thursday 17 August 2006.

JB then went on to inform members of his concerns regarding the low number of 'new' UK Link Committee members following nomination and appointment via the Gas Forum. He reminded all present that in light of the low number of nominated members, care will be needed in future to ensure that any meetings remain quorate, and that members will need to appoint alternates where appropriate.

SSE (MB) shared JB's concerns and enquired what the process might be for late appointments to the UK Link Committee, suggesting that the proposed position would not be in-line with the concept of good governance. He also asked that the matter be brought to the attention of the UNCC at the earliest opportunity. JB advised members that any late nominations, if permissible, would need to be raised via the Gas Forum and that it is up to members &/or Users to initiate these discussions with Gemserv and the Gas Forum.

Action UKL1073: JB to incorporate the UK Link members concerns within the UK Link Report to the August 2006 UNCC meeting.

EDF (JS) raised a concern surrounding potential problems with the 'ANS Messenger Service' in the event of a UK wide quarantine being initiated that would prevent the 'handover' of equipment between various parties. xoserve (DA) asked JS to provide an email outlining his/their concerns and he would ensure that it was brought to the attention of the Transporters.

xoserve (DA) wound up the meeting by advising members that the communications pack to be issued on Friday 11 August 2006 would contain four (4) changes, namely, Email Communications in the Event of a Gemini Contingency, Meter Pulse Value Amendment, Changes to UK Link Systems to reflect Modification 0080 – AMR Readings & finally IFA Supporting Data. *(please refer to NR/649/DA, NR/650/DD, NR/651/DA & NR/652/SM issued on Friday 11 August 2006)*

Schedule of Future meetings

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

APPENDIX A.

ACTION LOG UK Link Committee 08-June-06

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner*	Status Update
UKL 1010	13/10/05	2.1 Gemini	Report on legal validity of e-mail contingency Code communication.	xoserve (AG)	National Grid legal consulted. Carried forward
UKL 1021	08/12/05		Include review of UK Link Modification Implementation Planning process in the July 06 agenda for UK Link Committee.	Joint Office (JB)	Due July-06. Closed
UKL 1041	13/04/06	3.0 Topic 006UKL	Report back on progress of Topic 006UKL.	xoserve (DA/AG)	Due Aug-06. Carried Forward
UKL 1045	11/05/06	2.0	xoserve to ascertain why the Gemini Disaster Recovery test was cancelled and when a likely test is to take place.	xoserve (DA)	Due 08 June 06. Carried Forward
UKL 1048	11/05/06	4.0 Topic 007UKL	xoserve to issue communication by end of week commencing Monday 15 May 2006, soliciting Users views on contact Information.	xoserve (DA)	Due end of week commencing Monday 15 May 06. Closed
UKL 1055	08/06/06	2.0	xoserve to provide an update on a new change request for CSEP's Invoices.	xoserve (DA)	Due 13 July 06. Carried Forward
UKL 1058	08/06/06	4.0	NGN to highlight the potential UNC 'generic super' modification covering UK Link testing Arrangements under AOB at the next available Distribution & Transmission Workstream meetings and report back to the July 2006 UK Link Committee meeting.	NGN (RCH)	Due 13 July 06. Closed
UKL 1061	08/06/06	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)	Due September/October 2006. Carried Forward

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner*	Status Update
UKL 1062	13/07/06	2.0	xoserve to issue a communication regarding the small change to the maintenance screen	xoserve (DA)	asap. Closed
UKL 1063	13/07/06	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)	10 August 2006. Carried Forward
UKL 1064	13/07/06	8.0	xoserve to issue the Network Code modification 0613 timetable.	xoserve (DA)	asap. Carried Forward
UKL 1065	13/07/06	8.0	xoserve to provide the 2007 UK Link Release Dates for inclusion in the August 2006 UK Link Committee Agenda pack.	xoserve (DA)	Due no later than 03 August 2006. Carried Forward
UKL 1066	13/07/06	AOB	Joint Office to publish a copy of the UK Link Modification Processes document on the Joint Office of Gas Transporters Internet site.	Joint Office (JB)	asap. Closed
UKL 1067	13/07/06	AOB	xoserve to issue a CALMS (LNG Nominations) – Proposed Class 1 change communication.	xoserve (DA)	14 July 2006. Closed
UKL 1068	13/07/06	AOB	xoserve to report back on progress of the SPAA Change Proposal 05/041 to the August UK Link Committee meeting.	xoserve (DA)	10 August 2006. Carried Forward
UKL 1069	10/08/06	3.2	xoserve to provide an update on SPAA workgroup consideration of the Shipper Agreed Reads Procedural Change.	xoserve (DA)	14 September 2006.
UKL 1070	10/08/06	3.5	xoserve to investigate the potential discrepancies between current CR & their BRS documentation and report back to the September UK Link Committee meeting.	xoserve (DA)	14 September 2006.
UKL 1071	10/08/06	3.8	xoserve to consider suitable email notification wording and report back to the September UK Link Committee meeting.	xoserve (DA)	14 September 2006.

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner*	Status Update
UKL 1072	10/08/06	4.0	xoserve to report back on suitable (e.g. SMS) notification mechanisms at the September UK Link Committee meeting.	xoserve (DA)	14 September 2006.
UKL 1073	10/08/06	8.0	Joint Office to incorporate UK Link members concerns surrounding the low number of nominated UK Link Committee members, within the UNCC report for August 2006	Joint Office (JB)	Completed 14 August 2006.

*** Key to action owners**

DA Dave Addison, xoserve
AG Annie Griffith, xoserve
JB John Bradley, Joint Office
MP Mark Pitchford