

**UK LINK Committee Minutes**  
**Thursday 10 July 2008**  
**held at Elexon, 350, Euston Road, London<sup>1</sup>**

**Attendees**

John Bradley	(JB)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Mike Berrisford	(MiB)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Ali Tayyar*	(AT)	StatoilHydro
Caroline Watson	(CW)	xoserve
Danielle King	(DK)	E.ON UK plc
Dave Addison*	(DA)	xoserve
James Smith	(JS)	EDF Energy
Joel Martin	(JM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Martin Brandt*	(MB)	SSE
Simon Trivella	(ST)	Wales & West Utilities

**Apologies**

Stephanie Shepherd	(SS)	RWE Npower
Nicola Rigby	(NR)	National Grid NTS

\* Denotes teleconference link

**1. Review of Minutes and Actions**

**1.1. Minutes**

The minutes of the June meeting were accepted.

**1.2. Review of actions.**

Appendix A contains a tabulated update on actions.

UKL 1131 – xoserve (DA) informed members that he had spoken with the Transporters, who have given permission for xoserve to analyse the change requirements associated to a change in the CSEP Reconciliation backing data format.

The E.ON proposal had requested that the J81 and J83 records be amended to provide the Annual Quantity for the Logical Meter Number and the relevant Invoice Number. Following investigation xoserve believe that the J81 summary record should not show LMW AQ. This approach has been discussed and agreed with the E.ON change proposer.

DA now expects to be able to provide an update at the September 08 meeting.

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

**Action UKL1131: Carried forward**

UKL 1132 – E.ON (DK) informed members that changes have been identified which impact their internal systems and any information provided at this stage would add little value, therefore E.ON would like to close this action.

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<sup>1</sup> It was agreed that this meeting be conducted as a Teleconference. A number of people were at Elexon, however, to attend the following meeting.

Prior to closing the action, members requested that following investigation of the RWE Npower samples, xoserve (DA) agree to discuss offline with them and advise them to bring to the Committee's attention any issues they may have.

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

**Action UKL1132: Closed**

UKL 1136 – xoserve (DA) advised members that IAD requirements will be discussed at the next UPUG (User Pays User Group) meeting scheduled to take place on Monday 14 July 08 and as a consequence, will provide an update at the August 08 meeting.

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

**Action UKL1136: Carried forward**

UKL 1137 – Chair (JB) advised members that following the June 08 Panel meeting, he had issued a communication (including the UK Link distribution list) relating to the establishment of Review Group 0217, to which he had received several responses.

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

**Action UKL1137: Closed**

UKL 1138 – xoserve (DA) advised members that he had discussed the matter of DN Interruption bids with the various network representatives who had indicated that a UNC obligation existed requiring them to publish MI information. This will be published by the end of the month.

ST indicated that the transactions received through the file flows are expected to peak at around 2000, whereupon the DN's will decide on what bids will be accepted. They (the DN's) expect to provide an update at the next Gas Customer Forum meeting scheduled for Monday 28 July 08. Copies of WWU's GCF presentation will be available on either the Joint Office of Gas Transporters or WWU's web sites in due course. Regardless, ST will provide an update at the August 08 UK Link Committee meeting.

During further discussions, DA agreed to take an action to investigate what possible outcomes will occur in the event that a Shipper fails to identify a site as being subject to interruption, and nominates the site as Firm.

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

**Action UKL1138: Closed**

**Action UKL1139: xoserve (DA) to investigate possible outcome of a firm nomination when the site has an accepted interruptible bid and what processes will be adopted to manage these and report back to the August 08 meeting.**

## 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 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 highlighted the fact that 0203V "Revision to DN Shrinkage Regime" had now been implemented whilst 0203 had been withdrawn by the proposer.

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”. The Authority has scheduled a seminar on 22 July 2008 to review their Impact Assessment on Offtake Reform, details of which are available on the Joint Office web site.

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

- 0157 “Review of IGT Settlement and Reconciliation Arrangements”. The Review Group are scheduled to present their report at the July 08 Panel meeting;
- 0175 “Encouraging Participation in the elective Daily Metered Regime”. The Review Group are scheduled to present their report at the August 08 Panel meeting;
- 0192 “Introduction of DNO obligations to facilitate resolution of unresolved USRVs”. The Workstream are scheduled to present their report at the August 08 Panel meeting;
- 0194 “Correct Apportionment of NDM Error - Energy”. Development Work Group work is ongoing and they are scheduled to report to the August 08 Panel meeting;
- 0202 “Improvement to More Frequent Readings Provisions to allow benefits of AMR”. The June UNC Panel has recommended implementation. Now awaiting an Authority decision;
- 0204 “Amendment to the calculation of WCF”. The April UNC Panel has recommended implementation. Now awaiting an Authority decision;
- 0208 “Information relating to Unallocated Energy”. The Review Group are scheduled to present their report at the September 08 Panel meeting;
- 0209 “Rolling AQ”. Following on from RG0177 and looking to introduce a monthly rolling AQ review. Development Work Group work is ongoing however, they are scheduled to report to the October 08 Panel meeting;
- 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”. The June UNC Panel has recommended implementation. Now awaiting an Authority decision;
- 0216 “Introduction of an Additional Discretionary Release Mechanism for NTS Entry Capacity” & 0216A “Introduction of Additional Pay-as-Bid Auctions for NTS Entry Capacity”. The June UNC Panel has recommended implementation. Now awaiting an Authority decision, and
- 0217 “Gemini Code Contingency Arrangements”. The first meeting of this review group is scheduled to take place immediately following this UK Link Committee meeting.

JB informed members that there had not been an Operational Forum meeting since the June UK Link Committee meeting. Furthermore, at the recent Project Nexus Launch, xoserve had indicated their desire to identify a way forward that involves consultation with the customers.

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

#### **3.1 CR 0875.1 – IAD Application Changes: Phase 1 Single Concurrent User**

xoserve (DA) reminded members that at the June meeting he had outlined the approach to UP related UK Link changes going forward. He asked members to note that the proposed solution for implementation in September/October 2008 will be presented at the next scheduled UPUG meeting on Monday 14 July 08, and subject to their approval, he will then update the UK Link Committee members on the outcome at the August 08 meeting.

Please note: copies of the various UPUG meeting minutes are/will be available to view or download from the Joint Office of Gas Transporters web site at: <http://www.gasgovernance.com/industryinfo/UPDocs/Meetings2008/>

#### **3.2 CR 0875.2 – IAD Application Changes: Phase 2**

Please refer to item 3.1 for details.

#### **3.3 CR1072 – Enduring Transfer and Trade Arrangements**

xoserve (DA) advised members that this is on the plan for ‘visibility purposes only’ and he will provide an overview of the change at the August 08 UK Link Committee meeting. Proposed implementation date is April 2009.

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

xoserve (DA) advised members that a communication EH/837/DD detailing minor changes had been issued on 13/06/08. No representations have been received therefore the (ECO version 4) format as notified within the communication, will now be utilised. The functionality supporting this change will be visible in February 2009. The change is currently in development and the change remains ‘on track’ for a 17/08/08 implementation.

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

xoserve (DA) informed members that this is currently in development and the change remains ‘on track’ for a now revised 17/08/08 implementation to ‘match’ the Gemini Release Summer 2008 implementation.

#### **3.6 CR13885 – 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 a October 08 implementation.

ST pointed out that this change request is broadly ‘linked’ to WWU’s UNC Modification 0210. xoserve (DA) agreed to take an action to check the relationship between the two.

Chair (JB) highlighted the fact that whilst this change is strictly speaking a Class 2, the members had previously approved it as per a Class 1 change.

In closing this section, DA confirmed that no change pack was scheduled for release on Friday 11/07/08.

**Action UKL1140: xoserve (DA) to investigate the ‘links’ between CR 13885 and UNC Modification 0210 and report back to the August 08 UKLink Committee meeting.**

### **4. Review of Topics Status Report**

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

Chair (JB) reminded members that Review Group 0217 “Gemini Code Contingency Arrangements” would be meeting immediately following the 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)

EDF Energy (JS) pointed out that in his experience Gemini performance (speed) has been inconsistent at times but now appears to be improving. Thereafter, the report was then 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)

When asked, members did not highlight any concerns surrounding the important dates (reference communication EH/836/DA) and indicated that they are happy to approve them.

DA added that he was planning to notify users of both the 2009 Non-Business Days and Release Dates at the August 08 meeting. SSE (MB) suggested that liaison with Electralink in relation to the SPAA dates may prove beneficial as he is unsure if these dates have been published as yet. Thereafter the report was then accepted.

## 7. Planned Outages (xoserve Report E)

xoserve (DA) provided a brief review of the planned outages as follows:

- line one IAD - ‘brief description’ should read as User Pays and not DN Interruption as per an earlier incorrect version of the report. Furthermore, more clarity will become available following the next UPUG meeting, and
- Gemini – this has been rescheduled on a number of occasions and is likely to be rescheduled again. (DA provided a verbal update to members on National Grid’s related notification, as follows:

*“The current planned implementation date for the CNI firewalls (undertaken as part of the Gas Secure Networks project) is scheduled for 17<sup>th</sup> July 2008. There is another project in progress which is delivering key changes to CNI SCADA systems. This project is likely to deploy on the 15<sup>th</sup> July 2008, subject to final testing and operational acceptance.*

*If the system changes are deployed the CNI firewall implementation will be postponed until the next available window. A final decision on deployment will be made on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2008.”*

DA then agreed to take an action to provide a communication following the Go/No Go discussions on 14/07/08.

Thereafter this report was accepted.

**Action UKL1141: xoserve (DA) to issue a communication relating to the Gemini Go/No Go discussions on 14 July 08.**

## 8. AOB

xoserve (CW) informed members that TCS are planning to relocate the UK Link Disaster Recovery Site from Wellingborough to Kettering. Assessment work is ongoing and a communication will be issued in due course. As a minimum, an update will be provided at the August 08 UK Link Committee meeting. Concerned about possible contingency arrangements, MB enquired if a similar exercise had been undertaken previously to which CW confirmed that one had.

EDF Energy (JS) highlighted the following items of concern:

- File format change (STD00216 & 00217) backing out following serious problems – why had no communication relating to this matter been issued. xoserve (DA) apologised for the omission and agreed to take an action to investigate and issue the appropriate communications, and
- IAD Registration and Password Resetting problems – user interface working but registration processes are causing issues as the password protected Account Request Form is rejected by his firewall. JS also indicated that they had submitted a number of password resets that had not been actioned. DA informed members that xoserve have been in discussion with their service providers with a view to resolving these problems and this matter is scheduled for discussion at the 14/07/08 UPUG meeting. Subject to UPUG approval of any changes, these are most likely to be implemented in October 08.

DA confirmed that the 8 security questions are being rationalised in response to industry requests/suggestions to avoid email utilisation where possible.

JS suggested that the overall User Pays IAD approach was causing huge amounts of administration work for users. DA responded by pointing out that in order to provide for 'equitable charging' under UP, it is necessary to work through this painful period.

JS added that whilst they (EDF) have paid their 2<sup>nd</sup> batch of invoices he remains unsure that their IAD account portfolio is correct. DA agreed to discuss these concerns with JS offline.

In closing, DA reminded members that UP is not a UK Link system and as a consequence UPUG had been agreed as the appropriate forum within which to address these issues in future.

**Action UKL1142: xoserve (DA) to investigate why no communication relating to the file format back out had been issued and thereafter issue the appropriate communication as a matter of urgency.**

## 9. Next Meeting

The July UK Link Committee meeting will commence at 10:00 am on Thursday 14 August 2008 and be a teleconference, However facilities will be available for those who wish to meet at Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London.,

## APPENDIX A

## ACTION LOG: UK Link Committee 10 July 08

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref (original ref)	Action	Owner*	Status Update
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 September 08 meeting. <b>Carried Forward</b>
UKL 1132	08/05/08	1.2 (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 provided. <b>Closed</b>
UKL 1136	12/06/08	1.2 (3.1)	Provide suitable IAD UPUG related update communications to UK Link members	xoserve (DA)	Update due at August 08 meeting.
UKL 1137	12/06/08	1.2 (4.1)	Include the UK Link Committee email distribution list on any June 08 UNC Panel communication relating to their (the Panel's) decision on 0217.	Joint Office (JB)	Update provided. <b>Closed</b>
UKL 1138	12/06/08	1.2 (8.0)	Discuss the DN Interruption bids (including volumes) with the Networks and report back to the July 08 UK Link Committee meeting.	xoserve (DA)	Update provided. <b>Closed</b>
UKL 1139	10/07/08	1.2	Investigate possible outcome of a firm nomination when the site has an accepted interruptible bid and what processes will be adopted to manage these and report back.	xoserve (DA)	Update due at August 08 meeting.
UKL 1140	10/07/08	3.6	Investigate the 'links' between CR 13885 and UNC Modification 0210 and report back.	xoserve (DA)	Update due at August 08 meeting.
UKL 1141	10/07/08	7.0	Issue a communication relating to the Gemini Go/No Go discussions on 14 July 08.	xoserve (DA)	Update due at August 08 meeting.
UKL 1142	10/07/08	8.0	Investigate why no communication relating to the file format back out had been issued and thereafter issue the appropriate comms.	xoserve (DA)	asap.

**\* Key to action owners**

DA Dave Addison, xoserve