

UK LINK Committee Minutes
Thursday 14 June 2007
held at Elexon, 350, Euston Road, London

Attendees

John Bradley	(JB)	Joint Office
Mike Berrisford	(MiB)	Joint Office
Alistair Watson	(AW)	ScottishPower
Caroline Purcell	(CP)	xoserve (for Transporters)
Dan Simons	(DS)	EDF Energy
Dave Addison	(DA)	xoserve
David Mayne	(DM)	RWE Npower
Kate Potts	(KP)	E.ON UK plc
Martin Brandt*	(MB)	SSE
Mick Curtis	(MC)	$e=mc^2$ (for Shell)
Nicola Rigby	(NR)	National Grid
Simon Langley	(SL)	xoserve
Simon Trivella	(ST)	WWU
Tiago Vasconcelos	(TV)	TGP

* via teleconference link

Apologies

Sandy Crump	(SC)	E.ON UK plc
-------------	------	-------------

1. Review of Minutes and Actions

1.1. Minutes

The minutes of the May meeting were accepted.

1.2. Review of actions.

Appendix A contains a tabulated update on actions.

UKL 1041 – please see item 4.0 below.

UKL 1075 – please see item 3.2 below.

UKL 1083 – please see item 3.11 below.

2. Other Industry Fora

JB provided members with an update on all recently “closed” UNC modifications, as follows:

- 0090 “Revised DN Interruption Arrangements”, please see item 3.11 below;
- 0116V “Reform of the NTS Offtake Arrangements”, currently awaiting the outcome of an Appeal lodged by E.ON UK plc and supported by Centrica. The Competition Commission is due to meet on Wednesday 20 or Thursday 21 June 2007 to consider the appeal, with a decision expected shortly thereafter;
- 0133 “Introduction of the AMTSEC Auction”, withdrawn by the proposer, National Grid NTS on 10 May 2007. Replaced in part by modification proposals 0150/0150A;

- 0150/0150A “Introduction of the AMTSEC Auction“, Both modifications were rejected by the Authority on 12 June 2007;
- 0151/0151A “Transfer of Sold Capacity between ASEPs“, Both modifications were rejected by the Authority on 12 June 2007.

JB provided attendees with an update on the “live” UNC modifications with a potential impact upon UK Link systems, as follows:

- 0088 “Extension of DM service to enable Consumer Demand Side Management”, 21 June 2007 Panel to consider the Final Modification Report. There is uncertainty surrounding who is likely to take up the service provision. The Authority are currently in receipt of additional information and intend to submit an anonymous report to the June Panel;
- 0115/0115A “Correct Apportionment of NDM Error”, minimal UK Link system impacts anticipated but the Transporters are expected to conduct an Impact Assessment. The 21 June 2007 Panel will consider the Final Modification Report;
- 0126 “Restriction of Invoice Billing Period”, Final Review Group Report is to be considered at the 21 June 2007 Panel meeting. Debate continues within the review group over whether to adopt a 4 or 5 year model. As no consensus has been reached within the review group, it is anticipated that no modification proposal will arise from this piece of work, although it should be noted that the new UNC Modification Proposal 0152 “Limitation on Retrospective Invoicing and Invoice Correction” takes over where 0126 left off;
- 0140 “Review of Information Provision on National Grids Information Exchange“, Presentation given to the last Operations Forum highlighting potential future system impacts and nominations for membership of this review group are being sought.

JB then introduced the following items:

- Operational Forums – Transmission Operations Forum.

Chair (JB) informed members that R Griffiths, xoserve had given a Gemini and Gemini Oracle Software Upgrade Project update at the 06 June 2007 Operations Forum.

A copy of the presentation is available to view or download at:

<http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Gas/OperationalInfo/operationsforum/>

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

3.1 CR 13760 – Shipper Agreed Reads Procedural Change

xoserve (DA) informed members that he had no specific update but that the matter is still being discussed within the SPAA arena.

3.2 Minor Amendment to CALMS System

xoserve (DA) advised members that this Class 1 CR had not yet been implemented and that a notification will be issued once it had.

In light of the above statement, members agreed to carry forward this action.

Action UKL1075: Carried Forward.

3.3 CR 13829 – DN Interruption Reform

xoserve (DA) informed members that this item would be covered later in a presentation from S Langley, xoserve. Please see item 3.11 below.

3.4 CR 13861 – Rejections associated with Shipper AQ Amendments

xoserve (DA) advised members that they had written to Users (EH/xxx/xx) seeking their thoughts on changes to the AQ Process. Responses received were broadly supportive of the proposed change, but not necessarily the associated timescales.

DA went on to suggest that this change could be implemented after the 'AQ Window' closes, and as a consequence, could be treated as a Class 1 change. On this basis, the change could be implemented after 13 August 2007 and Users would be notified the day after.

Members asked if the rejection codes would be available in time for the 2007 AQ Review, to which DA advised that they would not. Members then suggested that perhaps the change should be scheduled for June 2008.

DA went on to discuss the concept of utilising 'Notional Implementation Dates'. This mechanism would be utilised only after the UK Link Committee had approved an effective implementation date for a specific change request. However, xoserve would undertake the change on a different date to that detailed in the UK Link Implementation Plan where the change components would remain invisible to Users until on, or after, the official date. In summary, it would enable xoserve to manage the governance of the change process in a cost effective and timely manner. Members were supportive of the concept.

DA then informed members, that with regard to CR13861, xoserve would include this change on the implementation plan with a UK Link Release date of June 2008 for information purposes, but that the actual change would be applied to UK Link systems prior to this date. Chair (JB) asked members if they would be happy to approve the change request on this basis. In response, the change was agreed.

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

xoserve (DA) informed members that this is related to the Pricing Review and would be a Class 1 Change Request. WWU (ST) added that the Transporters had made a presentation at the 06 June 2007 Operations Forum.

E=mc² (MC) indicated that he was not sure that this should be a Class 1 change, to which, DA responded by stating that there are no xoserve format changes involved and that the target date is April 2008 with approval sometime in the future after xoserve have had time to understand the impacts.

For further background, the Chair (JB) advised members to look at the DCMF documents on the National Grid web site.

3.6 CR 13803 – Recovery of Late Paid Energy Balancing Invoice Interest – Creation of 4 New Charge Types

xoserve (DA) advised members that this change remains 'on track' and the July Invoice will contain the new charge types.

3.7 CR 13824 – Issue of Supporting Documentation via IX

xoserve (DA) advised that this was originally discussed at the April 2007 meeting and relates to provision of OOA/BCD information via I'X. This information is currently provided in an Excel spreadsheet distributed via email. This change had been scheduled in the June 2007 release by the April Committee, noting that a single Shipper had requested that it receive the files in the original format for an additional period.

DA went on to point out that files previously issued contained some administration errors and were reissued accordingly. Two (2) responses have been received, one (1) supporting the format and the proposed June 2007 implementation date, and one (1) supporting the format, but not the proposed implementation date. In

accordance with the responses, xoserve propose to implement the change for all Shippers in June, with the exception of SSE and the Shipper who originally requested the delayed implementation date, who will retain the old formats until November.

3.8 CR 13839 – Gemini Oracle Software Upgrade

xoserve (DA) advised members that this change remains 'on track'. The plan will be amended in due course to reflect the fact that implementation will take place over two (2) weekends, namely 11 & 18 August 2007.

Chair (JB) reminded members that xoserve would welcome any Shipper feedback on User/Confidence Testing.

3.9 CR 13818 – Invoice Numbers on CSEP Invoice File Formats

xoserve (DA) advised members that this is currently scheduled for a November 2007 release. It is suggested that the actual implementation will be after the issue of the October invoice and prior to the November invoice. This will remain nominally within the November 2007 implementation.

DA reminded members that this is a Class 2 change and that there maybe a slight variance in the implementation date and more information will be made available nearer the date.

3.10 CR 13862 – Customer Charge Structure for 0.73MWH Loadband: Full Solution from 01/10/07

xoserve (DA) advised members that this change remains 'on track' for a November 2007 release.

3.11 UNC Modification Proposal 0090 - DN Interruption Update Presentation

A copy of this presentation is available to view and download from the Joint Office web site at: <http://www.gasgovernance.com/Code/UNCCSubCommittees/UKLinkCommittee/2007Meetings>

xoserve (SL) gave members a brief presentation on 0090 as follows:

- Modification approved by the Authority in March 2007 for a 01 April 2008 implementation;
- Transporters may raise an Urgent UNC Modification to 'move' 0090 effective implementation date forward by one (1) month to 01 March 2008.

WWU (ST) advised members that discussions into this are currently underway and that in their opinion, timescales surrounding the Auction process remain extremely tight;

- File Formats to be issued one (1) day after the 12 July 2007 UK Link Committee meeting, looking for an August 2007 approval.

Members questioned whether or not this constitutes a 'true' six (6) month notification period. DA confirmed that, due to the dates involved, it does conform to requirements. If agreed at the August 2007 meeting it will provide a six (6) month lead for a February 2008 release;

- With reference to the timeline slide, the routes displayed between xoserve and Shipper relates to new electronic information flows. Seven (7) flows from xoserve to Shippers and one (1) back from Shippers to xoserve.

Detailed breakdown of these new information flows will be available in a pack due to be released in July 2007. It should be noted that xoserve are still refining the flows but will try to provide information as early as possible;

- Transporters are supporting an automated approach to help mitigate the risks associated with Site Eligibility issues, failure of the process and to also 'cap' any potential manual system solution costs.

RWE Npower (DM) reiterated its concerns about the lack of information on how many sites will be impacted. Chair (JB) pointed out that the DN's have shared some site information with Shippers. WWU (ST) asked DM if he knew what information he/they wanted from Transporters, to which DM replied that he was not sure, except to say, it is to do with eligibility criteria;

- Project investigating IAD performance issues underway and should any concerns be raised a 'fall back' solution will be made available.

Members raised concerns that should IAD fail, this would stop the Change of Supplier process. DA responded by reaffirming that IAD is the enduring solution, but that xoserve are considering various alternative solutions to address IAD failure and Performance problems. CP added that no dates are available as yet for these solutions.

A member suggested that perhaps one alternative would be to amend the SPA system to include a new file, although another member pointed out that the IAD automated solution was possibly the 'lesser' system change. DA advised that in its proposal, xoserve were responding to Shipper requests not to amend these formats, and the member's proposal would require changes to multiple systems increasing the complexity of solution for both Shippers and xoserve, and

- Transporter Operational Workshops to commence September/October 2007.

WWU (ST) advised members that the proposed workshop itinerary is not yet fully scoped out and could be 'tailored' to suit User requirements and Transporters will be looking for input and suggests in due course.

Action UKL1083: Closed.

Action UKL1088: xoserve (DA) to investigate impact of IAD failure during a Change of Supplier transaction including potential levels of useage and report back to the July 2007 meeting.

Action UKL1089: xoserve (DA) to consider members concerns surrounding an alternative solution to IAD in the event of a failure and report back to the July 2007 meeting.

4. Review of Topics Status Report

Topic 006UKL Gemini Performance Monitoring

xoserve (CP) advised members that the earlier problems have now been resolved and that data is now flowing although no statistics are available at this time. xoserve will provide an update at the July 2007 meeting.

In light of the above statement, members agreed to carry forward this action.

Action UKL1041: Carried Forward.

Please see the 'Interim Gemini Performance Report 21062007' presented on the Joint Office web site at: <http://www.gasgovernance.com/Code/UNCCSubCommittees/UKLinkCommittee/2007Meetings>

Topic 008UKL UK Link Technology Refresh

xoserve (CP) advised members that work is still on track for a February 2008 implementation. Furthermore, xoserve staff had visited India and the 'Proof of Concept' has gone well. Shipper Confidence Testing will be arranged in due course and xoserve will provide a further update at the July 2007 meeting.

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.

xoserve (CP) pointed out an error in the information whereby the costs should read as £0 and not £50 as incorrectly stated in the report summary.

5.4 Report on Performance Problems

The report was accepted.

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

The report was accepted.

7. Planned Outages (xoserve Report E)

The report was accepted.

xoserve (CP) provided a brief update on the various outages.

- **Gemini** – suppliers are confident that any recovery aspects associated with the outages will be successful;
- **UK Link** – Planned UK Link Outages in Preparation for AQ 2007 – First Outage Postponed. *Please see notification EH/743/GF dated 05 June 2006;*
- **UK Link** – Planned UK Link Outages in Preparation for AQ 2007, 7 & 8 July 2007 – time and end date to be advised;
- **UK Link** – Planned UK Link Outages in Preparation for AQ 2007, 21 & 22 July 2007 – time and end date to be advised, and finally
- **CR13839** – Gemini Software Upgrade, 12 & 19 August 2007.

8. AOB

xoserve (CP) provided a brief presentation on the Internet Access to Data (IAD), highlighting the following key points:

- IAD utilisation has increased significantly; There are now approximately 26k Users of which 19k are active
- There are ongoing performance issues; There are a number of enhancements and initiatives being put in place to help address this,
- Ongoing enhancements include Additional 'Client Sessions' being increased in a controlled manner to improve performance;
- There is an xoserve / Shipper workshop on 03 July 2007.

WWU (ST) asked if xoserve know what the split between M Numbers and portfolio hits was. SL and CP agreed to an action to informally investigate and report back to the July 2007 meeting.

A copy of this presentation is available to view and download from the Joint Office web site at: <http://www.gasgovernance.com/Code/UNCCSubCommittees/UKLinkCommittee/2007Meetings/>

xoserve (DA) raised a general point of administration surrounding the utilisation of teleconference meetings. He asked members to consider the merits of undertaking a physical meeting in July especially if the information for the DN Interruption was made available at least five (5) days in advance of the meeting.

Members responded by suggesting that due to the importance of this matter, their preference would be for a physical meeting in London. DA responded by stating that xoserve will take their views on board and consider the value of a physical meeting and make its recommendation to the Joint Office in due course.

Schedule of Future meetings

10:00am Thursday 12-Jul-07 at Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London

APPENDIX A.

ACTION LOG UK Link Committee 14-June-07

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)	Update due July 07. Carried Forward
UKL 1075	14/12/06	3.2 (3.3)	xoserve to investigate possible implementation date for the Minor Amendment to CALMS System.	xoserve (DA)	Update due July 07. Carried Forward
UKL 1083	12/04/07	3.11(3.5)	CR13829 – xoserve to update meeting on solutions for 0090.	xoserve (CP)	Completed 14 June 07. Closed
UKL 1088	14/06/07	3.11	xoserve to investigate impact of IAD failure during a Change of Supplier transaction including potential levels of usage.	xoserve (DA)	Update due July 07.
UKL 1089	14/06/07	3.11	xoserve to consider members concerns surrounding an alternative solution to IAD in the event of a failure.	xoserve (DA)	Update due July 07.

*** Key to action owners**

DA Dave Addison, xoserve

AG Annie Griffith, xoserve

CP Caroline Purcell, xoserve