

UK LINK Committee Minutes
Thursday 10 November 2005
held at Elexon, 350, Euston Road, London

Attendees

John Bradley (JB)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Dennis Rachwal (DR)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Caroline Purcell (CP)	Xoserve
Annie Griffiths (AG)	Xoserve
David Mayne (DM)	RWE npower
Graham Wood (GW)	Centrica
Gareth Hepworth (GH)	National Grid
Mark Pitchford (MP)	Scottish Power
Martin Brandt (MB)	Scottish and Southern Energy plc
Mick Curtis (MC)	E=MC ²
Grant Rogers (GR)	Wales & West Utilities
Tiago Vasconcelos (TV)	For Total Gas and Power
Warren Collins (WC)	Statoil
Hazel Doyle (HD)	EdF

1. Review of Minutes and Actions

1.1. Minutes

The minutes from October meeting were accepted.

1.2. Review of actions.

Actions are tabulated in Appendix A. JB additionally reported that the UK Link security incident referred to in October's minutes (in item 2.1) had been reported to UNC Committee (UNCC) and UNCC have requested a formal report from transporters.

2. UK Link Modification Implementation Plan

(and review of UK Link Modification Status Report)

2.1 CR 12494 Addition of 'Prevailing AQ' and 'Prevailing EUC' to CSEP (CEP) Invoice

Action UKL1011 Carried forward xoserve (DA) to provide update in December on performance from November invoice run and potential date for implementation

2.2 CR 11928 Transco LNG Storage Communications – UK Link Manual

The UK Link Manual update project remains on schedule for completion by 31-Dec-05, incorporating this CR.

2.3 CR 13658 Replication of enhancement of Gemini API functionality

Nothing to report until Dec 05. MB/MC observed that the indicative implementation date of mid 2006 needs to comply with Mod 010 (735) i.e. a default of June 06 with notification in December 05.

2.4 CR 13629 Datalogger Support File (DL1)

CP proposed that this modification is bundled with CR 13664 and proposed an implementation date of 25-Mar-06. There was no dissent.

2.5 CR 13664 – EU Directive on VAT Compliance

No changes arose from the consultation on file formats. CP proposed that this modification is bundled with CR 13629 with an implementation date of 25-Mar-06. There was no dissent.

2.6 CR 11681 Gemini

GH reported that Gemini implementation was completed 18-Oct-05 and that the Gemini Project Team would continue to provide support until handover to xoserve after 12-Dec-05. Implementation was fairly smooth but an infrastructure issue had caused three unplanned outages (19th, 26th and 31st Oct). Mitigation has been put in place and Oracle has been tasked with providing permanent resolution to the site-minder OID.

GH reported that the UK Link security incident reported last month had been addressed by fully revalidating the database.

WC indicated there were recent difficulties with support – a dedicated help line went to voice mail and the e-mail address for queries changed at short notice. Statoil had a specific functional query relating to bulk download of pre close out measurements. AG reported that a new xoserve e-mail address has been established – (xoserve.gemini.isbs@xoserve.com).

Action 1015 Gemini (GH) to investigate and seek improvement to Gemini help line and address specific functional query on codes for bulk download of pre-close out measurements.

2.7 CR 13618 Network Code Reading Modification & Customer Transfer Programme

Implemented 5-Nov-05. There were no known issues from any party at this time.

2.8 CR 13660 Amendment to the 'Portfolio Effective Date' field within the DPS file

Xoserve reported there was no consensus of industry support for DPS File Change. HD agreed to withdraw the change request.

3 Planned Outages

There were no notified planned outages. GH clarified that the potential Gemini outage was no longer required for 13-Nov-05.

4 Review of Topics Status Report

4.1 Topic 001UKL I'X Upgrade to MPLS

xoserve reported the upgrade was nearly complete with work for one shipper outstanding. The Committee agreed to close the Topic.

4.2 Topic 003UKL Amendment to the minimum notice required for UK Link changes

- UNC Mod 010 (0735)

This UNC Modification Proposal was implemented with effect from 9-Nov-05. The Committee noted that it had discretion to agree UK Link Modification Implementation and this discretion was applied in respect of the prevailing implementation plan (item 2). MB indicated that the intent of the UNC Mod was for set implementation dates that tied in with other industry implementation dates and offered to work with xoserve to present how UK Link Committee processes might operate.

Action 1016 SSE and xoserve (MB and CP) to present UK Link Modification Implementation Planning process under UNC Mod 010 (0735)

4.3 Topic 004UKL UK Link Testing Arrangements

CP reported that evaluation work was in progress with xoserve suppliers and an update would be reported in January 2006.

4.4 Topic 005UKL Availability of Data Documentation

The review, correction and filling of omissions in data documentation proceeds with a view to completing by the end of 2005.

CP reported that Gas Transporters had discussed but rejected the request to remove password protection from UK Link documentation. They considered there was an unknown risk of uncontrolled publication of the commercially sensitive UK Link Manual and felt that present arrangements do not impede the industry. Most shipper representatives expressed dissatisfaction but accepted that the **action 1009** was closed.

The Committee agreed to close the Topic.

5 Performance Reporting

5.1 IS Faults logged by Shippers (xoserve Report A). The report was accepted.

5.2 UK-Link Business Support Agreement (xoserve Report B) (AT-Link/Gemini). GH explained that the unplanned outages (see item 2.6) were reflected in the availability report but the metrics are such that they do not register in the access report. GH also explained that the difference in technology meant the design of the performance report was not optimal. AG reported that xoserve intended to continue with Gemini Shipper Forum and the next one was scheduled for 13-Dec-05.

Action 1017 Gemini/xoserve (GH/AG) to develop and propose revised performance reporting for operation of Gemini, based on the performance acceptance criteria.

5.3 Liabilities Report (xoserve Report C) In response to a query GH stated that the Gemini outages were short duration and therefore did not trigger the liability threshold. CP acknowledged that the report required minor amendment.

Action 1018 xoserve to revise Liabilities Report (C) to reflect implementation of UNC Mod 010 and to reflect multiple transporters.

6 File Format and Urgent Communications (xoserve Report D)

There were no additional matters arising from the report. MC requested that xoserve provide an update at UK Link Committee on communications issued subsequent to preparation of Report D.

Action 1019 xoserve to bring an update to future UK Link Committee meetings of file format and urgent communications issued after preparation of Report D.

7 Schedule of Future meetings

Following discussion it was agreed future meetings would generally be held in London.

Thursday 10:30hrs 8 Dec-05 at Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London

Thursday 12-Jan-06 at Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London

Thursday 9-Feb-06 at Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London

APPENDIX A ACTION LOG UK Link Committee 10-Nov-05

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner*	Status Update
UKL 1001	11/08/05	7.1	Rejection codes for Meter Points not part of a live Supply Point – redundant codes to be consulted on with a view to removal. Fatal error occurrences to be reported on including consultation with transporters representatives.	xoserve DA	xoserve and Scottish Power have liased. Carried forward
UKL 1008	08/09/05	4.4 Topic 004UKL	UK Link testing arrangements – report on implementation timeline and costs – defer target date.	xoserve DA	Not due until Jan-06
UKL 1009	08/09/05	4.5 Topic 005UKL	Availability of data documentation – report on need or otherwise for password protection	xoserve DA	Closed Transporters require password protection
UKL 1010	13/10/05	2.1 Gemini	Report on legal validity of e-mail contingency Code communication.	National Grid NTS xoserve	Carried forward
UKL 1011	13/10/05	2.2.1 CR12494	Prevailing AQ and EUC on CSEP invoice – update Committee prior to formal consultation and seek agreement in Jan-06 meeting.	xoserve DA	Due Dec-05
UKL 1012	13/10/05	2.2.5 CR13664	EU Directive on VAT Compliance – complete consultation and present finalised proposals for agreement	xoserve DA	
UKL 1013	13/10/05	4.5 Topic 005UKL	Data documentation - report apparent errors or omissions to xoserve (extranetadmin@xoserve.com) for data documentation correction.	All	Closed: Invitation for feedback continually open.
UKL 1014	13/10/05	5.2	Renominations performance – report the design target for Gemini	Gemini Project	Closed: Design based on recent AT-Link use + factor for growth
UKL 1015	10/11/05	2.6 Gemini	investigate and seek improvement to Gemini help line and address specific functional query on codes for bulk download of pre-close out measurements.	Gemini Project (GH)	

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner*	Status Update
UKL 1016	10/11/05	4.2 Topic 003UKL	present UK Link Modification Implementation Planning process under UNC Mod 010 (0735)	SSE/ xoserve (MB/CP)	
UKL 1017	10/11/05	5.2	develop and propose revised performance reporting for operation of Gemini, based on the performance acceptance criteria.	xoserve/ Gemini (GH/AG)	
UKL 1018	10/11/05	5.3	revise Liabilities Report (C) to reflect implementation of UNC Mod 010 and to reflect multiple transporters	xoserve (CP)	
UKL 1019	10/11/05	6	bring an update to future UK Link Committee meetings of file format and urgent communications issued after preparation of Report D.	xoserve (CP)	

*** Key to action owners**

- DA Dave Addison, xoserve
GH Gareth Hepworth, Gemini Project
MB Martin Brandt, Scottish and Southern Energy
CP Caroline Purcell, xoserve
AG Annie Griffiths, xoserve