

UK LINK Committee Minutes
Thursday 11 October 2007
held at Elexon, 350, Euston Road, London

Attendees

John Bradley	(JB)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Mike Berrisford	(MiB)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Ali Tayyar*	(AT)	StatoilHydro
Annie Griffith*	(AG)	xoserve
Ashley Collins	(AC)	EDF Energy
Caroline Purcell*	(CP)	xoserve
Chris Fears*	(CF)	xoserve
Dan Simons	(DS)	EDF Energy
Dave Addison*	(DA)	xoserve
David Mayne*	(DM)	RWE Npower
Martin Brandt	(MB)	SSE
Mitch Donnelly	(MD)	British Gas Trading
Simon Howe	(SH)	RWE Npower
Stephanie Shepherd*	(SS)	RWE Npower

* *via teleconference*

1. Review of Minutes and Actions

Chair (JB) informed members of the results of the recent nominations to the UNC Panel and the various UNCC Sub-Groups, including UK Link Committee. He also reminded members that C Purcell, xoserve represents ALL Transporters at UK Link Committee meetings.

1.1. Minutes

The minutes of the September meeting were accepted.

1.2. Review of actions.

Appendix A contains a tabulated update on actions.

UKL 1094 – xoserve (DA) advised members that communication EH/772/AE was issued on 10 October 07.

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

Action UKL1094: Closed

UKL 1096 – xoserve (AG) informed members that the datalogger files will be issued on a day by day basis during 'catch-up' and as a consequence are released on different days and not concatenated as first thought. She is awaiting further information regarding the Invoice files.

Chair (JB) asked, and members agreed to carry forward the action in respect of the Invoice files.

Action UKL1096: Carried Forward

UKL 1097 – British Gas Trading (MD) advised members that they (BGT) have written to S Trivella, WWU seeking clarity on the rationale behind the 21 May 08 implementation date for UNC Modification 0141 "Revision to the 'User Suppressed Reconciliation Values' Financial Incentives arrangements". MD

believes that a March 08 implementation date is possible and would be more appropriate. MD agreed to provide members with a copy of the communications between WWU and BGT. *(Post meeting note: S Trivella has advised that a response was sent to the BGT Panel Member prior to the meeting)*

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

Action UKL1097: Closed

Action UKL1099: BGT (MD) to circulate copies of the correspondence on UNC Proposal 0141 to UK Link Committee members via the Joint Office.

UKL 1098 – xoserve (DA) informed members that an Implementation Summary communication for UNC Modification 0141 would be issued on Friday 12 October 07, advising of the May 08 date. He went on to suggest that the impact of quarterly issuing of invoices is reflected in a May rather than a March implementation date.

Chair (JB) pointed out that should the Transporters agree to a change in the effective implementation date, a Revised Notice of Implementation would be required.

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

Action UKL1098: Carried Forward

2. Other Industry Fora

JB provided members with an update on all recently “closed” UNC modifications, which would require a UK Link Change, specifically highlighting the following:

- 0090 “Revised DN Interruption Arrangements”. Approved and awaiting implementation at 06:00hrs on 01/04/08;
- 0116V “Reform of the NTS Offtake Arrangements”. Review Group 0166 established and looking at NTS Offtake Arrangements which, it was assumed, would have UK Link system impacts;
- 0164 “Bi-Directional Connection Point Overrun Charge Calculation”. Withdrawn 14/09/2007.

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

- 0115/0115A “Correct Apportionment of NDM Error”. MD advised members that these are still with Ofgem awaiting a decision and will have some Invoicing system impacts;
- 0140 “Review of Information Provision on National Grids Information Exchange” JB advised members that this Review Group has asked that the UK Link Committee consider taking on a new role whereby they will give consideration to changes to the Network Code Operations Manual as presented on the National Grid NTS web site.

JB pointed out that there is no formal UK Link voting process involved as the governance remains within the remit of the UNCC – it is purely for information purposes only. He also reminded members that, subject to the view of the UNCC, the UK Link Committee’s Terms of Reference may require amendment.

The suggestion was made that such changes be treated as Class 1 Modification to allow the Committee to make its views known to the UNCC prior to its reaching a decision.

MD enquired as to where Shipper responses to the Review Group Report should be submitted. In response JB advised that responses should be submitted to the UNC Panel prior to their meeting on 18 October;

Action UKL1100: Joint Office (JB) to feedback members views on Governance to the UNC Panel meeting on 18 October 07 and record the details in the October UK Link UNCC Report.

Information on Review 0140 is available to view or download from the Joint Office web site at: <http://www.gasgovernance.com/Code/Reviews/Mod140/>

- 0152V/0152AV/0152VB “Limitation on Retrospective Invoicing and Invoice Correction”. MD advised members that this is still with Ofgem awaiting a decision and will have some system impacts depending upon which modification is approved;

(post meeting note: Ofgem approved 0152V and rejected both 0152AV & 0152VB during the course of the meeting)

Information on the suite of UNC 0152 modifications is available to view or download from the Joint Office web site at: <http://www.gasgovernance.com/Code/Modifications/ClosedMods/>

- 0157 “Review of iGT Settlement and Reconciliation Arrangements”. MD advised members that he does not anticipate any UK Link system impacts, however, this is dependant upon the outcome of the Review Group’s work;
- 0158 “Review of User Suppressed Reconciliation Values’ incentive arrangements”. Too early to gauge, but there is potential for some UK Link system impacts;
- 0166 “Review of necessary reform of NTS Offtake Arrangements”. JB informed members that discussions on the Firm Exit Capacity Regime are looking to maintain the ‘status-quo’ with minimal system impacts, especially when compared to 0116V;
- 0168 “Individual Meter Point Reconciliation”. Major UK Link system impacts expected;
- 0171 “Amendment of ‘User SP Aggregate Reconciliation Proportion’ to incorporate historical AQ Proportions”. SH advised members that he believes that there will be some UK Link system impacts;
- 0172 “Transporter Obligations Pertaining to Void and Vacant Sites”. SH advised members that he believes that there may be some UK Link system impacts, depending upon how the related information is notified to Shippers, especially if the IX is utilised;
- 0175 “Encouraging Participation in the elective Daily Metered Regime”. JB advised members that he believes there will be some UK Link system impacts;
- 0177 “Rolling AQ Review”. There may be some UK Link system impacts;
- 0179 “Requirement for Non-Effective Days for the Purposes of the UK Link Technology Refresh (UKLRT) Project”. AG advised members that this has been raised to support the technology refresh and that it is proposed that Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th February 2008 are ‘non-effective days’.

Additionally, whilst the implementation of UKLRT takes place over Sunday 24th to Thursday 28th February 2008, it should be noted that Sunday 24th to Wednesday 27th of February 2008 will provide xoserve with a four (4) day relief from their Datalogger Obligations, and finally

JB in respect of all Modification Proposals out for consultation reminded members to make sure that responses from their organisation highlight the possibility of system

changes, where applicable. It was acknowledged that we should seek to avoid the situation where such impacts are only established when a direction to implement the Proposal is made by Ofgem.

JB then introduced the following items:

- Operations Forum

JB informed members that at the Operational Forum held on 10 October 2007, xoserve (R Griffiths) had provided a Gemini Presentation. This had outlined four recent incidents affecting Gemini performance and progress on the Gemini OSU Project. Technical Problems with the Project had been experienced at the first dress rehearsal that led to the implementation being rescheduled. AG stated that the issues had now been resolved and a GO/NO GO meeting was scheduled for 11:00 am today. If a GO decision were taken, this would lead to two outages on 14th and 21st October 2007. RG also took the opportunity at the forum to announce that xoserve are now able to offer an API Trials environment to shippers at a weekly rate of £5,800 + vat.

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 there was nothing new to report. DS added that this will be included as part of the Shipper agreed rewrite and is expected to be in the SPAA October Change Pack.

DA suggested that, subject to consideration, it could be classified as a Class 1 CR and agreed to undertake some investigations.

Action UKL1101: xoserve (DA) to find the original change documentation for consideration at the November 07 UK Link Committee meeting.

3.2 Minor Amendment to CALMS System

xoserve (DA) informed members that there was nothing new to report except to say that testing has been successfully completed and an update will be provided at the November 07 meeting. If ongoing work is completed prior to the November meeting, a retrospective notification will be issued.

3.3 CR 13885 – Application of interruptible capacity discounts following a change in capacity/commodity split

xoserve (DA) informed members that it was originally identified for an April 08 release but has been rescheduled for a October 08 release and will remain on the plan for information only as there are no file format changes expected.

3.4 Restriction of Invoice Billing Period

xoserve (DA) advised members that there are no file format changes expected and is currently awaiting scheduling.

3.5 CR13902 – Gemini MTI and MEI Class 1 Modification

xoserve (DA) pointed out that this is a Class 1 CR and is awaiting scheduling. It is dependant upon the successful deployment of the Oracle Software Update and a notice will be issued following this.

3.6 CR13923 – Revision to the USRV Financial Incentives Arrangements

xoserve (DA) reminded members that this had been discussed elsewhere in the meeting, however, there are no anticipated file format changes and he expects the Implementation Summary Notification to be issued on Friday 12 October 07.

3.7 CR 13839 – Gemini Oracle Software Upgrade

This had been discussed previously in the context of the Operational Forum. xoserve (DA) drew members attention to the change in the implementation dates from August to 14 & 21 October 2007.

3.8 CR13284 - Issue of Supporting Invoice documentation via IX

xoserve (DA) informed members that the minor change correcting the 'non standard' standard header was completed Wednesday 10 October 07.

3.9 CR 13818 – Invoice Numbers on CSEP Invoice File Formats

xoserve (DA) informed members that this Class 2 CR remains 'on track' for a scheduled November 07 release. However, the actual change will take place on the weekend immediately prior to the 02 November 07 date, with the change becoming visible around mid November.

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

xoserve (DA) informed members that this Class 1 CR remains 'on track' with the actual implementation taking place prior to the 02 November 07 date and is set to become visible post the November implementation date.

3.11 CR13910 – Gemini ECB Invoicing File

xoserve (DA) informed members that this is currently in development.

3.12 CR 13861 – Rejections associated with Shipper AQ Amendments

xoserve (DA) informed members that this is currently in development. Furthermore, whilst the change remains 'on track', it will not necessarily have to wait until the February 08 release, as it is expected to be completed prior to that.

3.13 CR 13829 – DN Interruption Reform

xoserve (DA) informed members that this is currently in development and the change remains 'on track'.

3.14 UK Link Tech Refresh

xoserve (DA) informed members that this is currently in development and the change remains 'on track'.

4. Review of Topics Status Report

4.1. Topic 008UKL UK Link Technology Refresh

xoserve (CF) advised members that the Shipper Trials have been scheduled and that they will be liaising closely with the three (3) volunteers. (StatoilHydro, Npower & SSE).

CF went on to add that OAT Phase 1 had finished one week ahead of schedule, and Phase 2 Testing (linkage with DNs Data Centres) had also been successfully completed. In all, the project remains on schedule.

JB asked if any lessons had been learnt from the Gemini Dress Rehearsal. CF responded that they are looking at ways to minimise the impact upon system users. Should any issues become identified these will be communicated and discussed immediately.

5. Performance Reporting

xoserve (CP) 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)

This 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 accepted.

7. Planned Outages (xoserve Report E)

This report was accepted.

Chair (JB) pointed out that the two (2) Gemini Oracle outages associated with CR13839 had already been discussed elsewhere in the meeting.

xoserve (CP) pointed out to members that the third outage relates to a clock change for the end of British Summer Time.

8. AOB

- David Mayne announced his retirement from his role as a member of the UK Link Committee due to a reorganisation within RWE Npower. He advised the Chairman that Emma Smith and Stephanie Shepherd will be his nominated permanent alternates. He will formally notify the Joint Office in writing via an email to the enquiries@gasgovernance.com account box in due course.
- SSE (MB) enquired whether or not xoserve could improve their Change Pack Release format as there appears to be a lack of uniformity. He believes that Users would prefer 'combined packs' to single release change packs.

In response, DA advised that the main reason for the separate packs is to enable xoserve to record and track accurately. Additionally, the collation of responses is far easier on a one to one basis. However, he did acknowledge the lack of consistency and promised to investigate and report back.

DM suggested that perhaps a single 'common' header to the packs might make them easier to understand, whereas, MB went further, suggesting that perhaps *.zip files could be utilised to give a similar effect.

DA informed members that the Change Pack to be issued for UNC modification 0141 as discussed previously should be a single type.

Action UKL1102: xoserve (DA) to consider improving the Change Pack Formats and report back at the November 07 UK Link Committee meeting.

- xoserve (DA) advised members that the xoserve User Pays Workgroup had recently met in London. (08/10/2007) and highlighted the following points of interest:
 - proposed implementation date is 01 April 2008;
 - A draft UNC Modification is due to be prepared within the next few months for circulation and consideration at several UNC Workstreams (Distribution, Transmission and Governance), and
 - Early investigations anticipate changes to the Invoicing systems (B2K).

DA went on to state that the groups work is in the preliminary stages, but as information flows out, he will keep the UK Link members informed.

9. Next Meeting

10:00 am Thursday 08 November 2007 at Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London

APPENDIX A

ACTION LOG: UK Link Committee 11 October 07

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref (original ref)	Action	Owner*	Status Update
UKL 1094	09/08/07	1.2 (3.3)	xoserve to document the process for redesignating Supply Point Capacity as Firm	xoserve (SL/DA)	Update provided Closed
UKL 1096	13/09/07	1.2 (4.1)	xoserve to establish UNC requirements in respect of change in invoice date and how datalogger files will be sent during catch-up and report back.	xoserve (AG)	Update due at November meeting Carried Forward
UKL 1097	13/09/07	1.2 (8.0)	Transporters to establish the implementation date for Modification Proposal 0141	Trans' (ST)	Date released Closed
UKL 1098	13/09/07	1.2 (8.0)	xoserve to notify implementation date for Modification Proposal 0141 via UK Link distribution list	xoserve (DA)	Update due at November meeting Carried Forward
UKL 1099	11/10/07	1.2	BGT (MD) to circulate copies of the correspondence on UNC Proposal 0141 to UK Link Committee members via the Joint Office.	BGT (MD)	Update due at November meeting
UKL 1100	11/10/07	2.0	Joint Office to feedback members views on Governance to the UNC Panel meeting on 18 October 07 and record the details in the October UK Link UNCC Report.	Joint Office (JB)	Update due at November meeting
UKL 1101	11/10/07	3.1	xoserve to find the original change documentation for consideration at the November 07 UK Link Committee meeting.	xoserve (DA)	Update due at November meeting
UKL 1102	11/10/07	8.0	xoserve (DA) to consider improving the Change Pack Formats and report back at the November 07 UK Link Committee meeting.	xoserve (DA)	Update due at November meeting

*** Key to action owners**

DA Dave Addison, xoserve

CP Caroline Purcell, xoserve

AG Annie Griffith, xoserve
SL Simon Langley, xoserve
ST Simon Trivella, Wales and West Utilities (on behalf of Transporters)
JB John Bradley, Joint Office of Gas Transporters
MD Mitch Donnelly, British Gas Trading