

UK LINK Committee Minutes
Thursday 12 October 2006
held at Elexon, 350, Euston Road, London

Attendees

John Bradley	(JB)	Joint Office
Mike Berrisford	(MiB)	Joint Office
Caroline Purcell	(CP)	xoserve
Martin Brandt	(MB)	SSE
Andrew Keogh	(AK)	e=mc2
Bryan Donnelly	(BD)	SAIC Europe Ltd
Nicola Rigby	(NR)	National Grid
Andy Smith	(AS)	RWE Npower
Tiago Vasconcelos	(TV)	TGP
Colette Baldwin	(CB)	E.ON UK plc
Dan Simons	(DS)	EDF Energy
Arti Shah	(AS)	Statoil

1. Review of Minutes and Actions**1.1. Minutes**

The minutes of the September meeting were accepted. However, AK on behalf of Mick Curtis, e=mc², advised members that MC does not recall making a statement about the iGTs under item 3.8. and would like clarification of the numbering of the 'Minute Ref' in the Action Log.

1.2. Review of actions.

Appendix A contains a tabulated update on actions.

UKL1041 – please see item 4.0 below.

UKL1045 – xoserve (CP) advised members that they are still intending to provide an update at the January 2007 meeting, therefore the action should be carried forward.

Action: Carried Forward.

UKL1055 – xoserve (CP) advised members that they are still intending to provide an update at the November 2006 meeting, therefore the action should be carried forward.

Action: Carried Forward.

UKL1061 – xoserve (CP) advised members that the xoserve board expected to approve the TRCA in November (after the UK Link meeting) and she would expect to report back at the December 2006 meeting, therefore the action should be carried forward.

Action: Carried Forward.

UKL1063 – please see item 4.0 below.

UKL1069 – xoserve (CP) advised members that the Terms of Reference (Scope) for the SPAA Experts Group are to be agreed by January 07. The Shippers thought this was likely to be agreed earlier than January as a paper defining the scope was to be circulated shortly. CP agreed to clarify this. *Please see xoserve update on SPAA, dated 18/10/2006.*

DS, EDF Energy advised members that the SPAA Experts Group scoping document is expected to be issued within the next few days and that their next workshop is scheduled for 25 October 06 and additionally the matter is on the agenda for the next SPAA meeting. Following discussion, the consensus was that this action should now be closed.

Action: Closed.

UKL1071 – xoserve (CP) advised members that communication NR/661/DA had been issued on 15/09/2006. JB then asked members if this action should be closed.

MB pointed out that he would still like xoserve to consider providing 'release specific' information of when the cut off time would be for submitting their file formats. CP agreed to take this away for consideration, and therefore the action was carried forward.

Action: Carried Forward.

UKL1072 – please see item 4.0 below.

2. Other Industry Fora

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:

- 0088 "Extension of DM service to enable Consumer Demand Side Management". This will have system impacts and the Development Work Group is to report to the 19 October 2006 Panel meeting;
- 0090 "Revised DN Interruption Arrangements". This may involve auctions for DNs and if a June 07 implementation is required a decision will be required at the November 06 meeting, in the meantime, the Development Work Group is to report to the 19 October 2006 Panel meeting;
- 0091 "Extending Uniform Network Code to allow Users to raise Class 3 UK Link modification proposals", The (draft) Final Modification Report is to be presented to the 19 October 2006 Panel seeking a recommendation;
- 0097/0097A "Modification to release aggregated ex-post information for pipeline interconnector offtake flows". 0097 is a potential Gemini related change but not 0097A;
- 0098/0098A "Modification to Codify Emergency Curtailment Quantity (ECQ) Methodology". 0098 is also a potential Gemini (Nominations) related change but not 0098A.
- 0099 "Management of erroneous Domestic AQs during the Registration process". The Distribution Workstream is to report to the 19 October 2006 Panel meeting;
- 0115 "Correct Apportionment of NDM Error". The Distribution Workstream is to report to the 19 October 2006 Panel meeting;
- 0116 "Reform of the NTS Offtake Arrangements", this is a potentially huge NTS Offtake modification and the UNC Panel are conducting a teleconference later today to decide whether to direct the modification to the consultation phase;

Additionally, JB advised members of two (2x) possible alternative proposals from E.ON UK plc (0116A) and RWE Trading (0116B).

- 0118 “Entry Capacity Transfers in the Constrained Period”. This is another Gemini related modification, with potential system impacts although no clear details are available at this time;
- 0119 “Amendment to the Entry Overrun Charge”. This is expected to have some minor Gemini related system impacts, and
- 0120 “Introduction of an SO Commodity Change for NTS Storage Exit Flows”. This is linked to a Pricing Consultation and National Grid NTS provided a summary document of the pricing aspects on its web site a few days ago.

xoserve (CP) gave a presentation on the ‘Introduction of an SO Commodity Charge for NTS Storage Facilities’ and advised members that Andy Smith, xoserve is the main contact. A copy of the presentation is available on the Joint Office of Gas Transporters web site.

CP then provided members with an update on the recent Operational Forum meeting, outlining their discussions on:

- APX presentation for a Gas Platform move,
- Gemini problems
- UNC Modification 0006(0727)
- Winter 2006/07 Consultation Process

JB advised members that the documentation is available on the National Grid Gas web site ([Gas Operations Forum](#)).

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

3.1 Provision of Testing Services for Electronic Code Communications

Displayed for information purposes only and discussed elsewhere in this meeting.

3.2 CR 13760 – Shipper Agreed Reads Procedural Change

xoserve (CP) advised members that this is awaiting SPAA developments. Please refer to item 1.2 above.

3.3 Minor Amendment to CALMS System

xoserve (CP) advised members that there is no Implementation date as yet.

3.4 CR 13723 – Objection Deadline SPA Rejection Code – OJT00018

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

3.5 CR 13725 – Single Central Online Gas Enquiry Service

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

3.6 CR 13730 – Post Closeout Amendments functionality for Gemini

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

JB advised members that communication NR/662/NM had been issued on 15 September 2006 to ‘cover’ the outage.

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

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

3.8 CR 13758.2 – Meter Pulse Value Adjustment

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

3.9 CR 13780 – IFA Invoices via I'X

JB advised members that communication NR/670/AS had been issued on 06 October 2006.

3.10 CR 13779 – Modification 080 – AMR Readings

MiB advised members that an implementation date for UNC Modification 0080 had been set at 23 February 2007, which coincides with the February 2007 Release Date.

3.11 CR13785 – UKLink Manual Update – UPN Format Update to v2

JB advised members that two (2x) communications, NR/659/DA and NR/666/NR have been issued on 15 September and 02 October 2006. The former identified a minor documentation problem, the latter agreement to the amendment.

3.12 CR13783 – UKLink Manual Update – S59 – Correction to File Formats

JB advised members that communications NR/658/DA, NR/663/ and NR/666/NR had been issued on 15 September 2006, 18 September 2006, 02 October 2006. NR/658/DA identified two missing Supply Point Categories, NR/663/ added further clarification and NR/666/NF identified agreement to the amendment.

4. Review of Topics Status Report

Topic 004UKL UK Link Testing Arrangements

BD, SAIC advised members that Scottish Power are scheduled to discuss this matter shortly and he expects to provide an update at the November 2006 meeting. Therefore, the action should be carried forward.

Action UKL1063: Carried Forward.

Topic 006UKL Gemini Performance Monitoring

xoserve (CP) advised members that this has been approved and work commenced earlier in the week with a proposed implementation date of 15 December 2006. The first reports are expected January 2007.

JB pointed out that as it's a mid month implementation, only part data will be available for January, with full data becoming available from February. Therefore both the topic and action should remain open for the time being.

Action UKL1041: Carried Forward.

Topic 007UKL Release governance procedures

xoserve (CP) informed members that communication NR/669/SB had been issued on 06 October 2006 and that the SMS messenger service would only be utilised in the event of an Implementation being cancelled and will be supplemental to the email service.

JB asked if members were happy to close this topic and its associated action. It was agreed that the topic and action could be closed.

Action UKL1072: Closed.

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.

5.4 Report on Performance Problems

xoserve CP advised members that they are investigating the recent UK Link performance problems and looking to identify the 'root cause' to avoid a repeat. Members asked whether or not a technical refresh would improve matters and also criticised the fact that xoserve processed the files five (5) days late and then rejected them, suggesting that perhaps they (xoserve) should have undertaken a 'data fix' to resolve the late processing issue. CP advised that the problem appeared to have been an isolated case and that if TV, (TGP) could provide the information she would look into the matter. TV suggested she speak with Andy Ford.

JB asked if members would like an update on progress at the November 2006 meeting.

Action UKL1074: xoserve to provide an update at the November 2006 meeting on the 'root cause' investigations, the rejection of the files after five days and also the level of this type of rejection.

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

The communications had been discussed elsewhere in the meeting and thereafter the report was accepted.

6. Planned Outages (xoserve Report E)

The report was accepted. However, JB pointed out that the Gemini Warm Standby disaster recovery testing is hopefully scheduled for March 2007. CP advised that the 'Clock change' will take place during the housekeeping window.

7. AOB

JB reviewed the UK Link Membership list confirming Nominees and any alternates not yet recorded.

xoserve (CP) advised members that a notification of New Charge Types, post implementation of UNC Modification 0026 is expected to be issued Friday 13 October 2006. These charges are for June 2007 and a UK Link decision will be sought at the November 2006 meeting. *Please see NR/673/MP, dated 13/10/2006.*

MB informed members that a Gas Price Distribution Review meeting is to be set up with xoserve in due course. xoserve are looking to develop a replacement for UK Link (excluding Gemini), commencing 2009 and with a 3 year lead time.

This meeting will assist Ofgem in identifying which parts of UK Link can be deemed as 'core elements'.

Meetings will be held on a fortnightly basis until Christmas and there will be potential outputs from these meetings for UK Link Committee consideration.

The Joint Office of Gas Transporters have been asked to manage the meetings, details of which are already on their web site.

xoserve (CP) advised member that the Gemini Release 3b project team have successfully tested that the new Shipper bulk download interface files can be requested by external users through their existing IX Network connection.

All of the Bulk download Shipper Interface request and subsequent response files have been modified to be generic and are available for all Shippers to have copies of in order to validate that their system will accept the measurement and allocation bulk download files post implementation on the 5th November 2006. Please send all file requests to Neil Morgan at neil.a.morgan@xoserve.com

Schedule of Future meetings

10:00am Thursday 09-Nov-06 at Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London

APPENDIX A.

ACTION LOG UK Link Committee 14-September-06

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner*	Status Update
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 (CP)	Due 11 Jan 07. Carried Forward
UKL 1055	08/06/06	2.0	xoserve to provide an update on a new change request for CSEP's Invoices.	xoserve (DA)	Due 09 Nov 06. Carried Forward
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/CP)	Due 14 Dec 06. Carried Forward
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/BD)	Update in October 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. Closed
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. Carried Forward
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. Closed
UKL 1074	12/10/06	5.4	xoserve to provide update on the 'root cause' investigations, the rejection of the files after five days and also the level of this type of rejection.	xoserve (CP)	Due 09 Nov 06.

*** Key to action owners**

DA Dave Addison, xoserve
AG Annie Griffith, xoserve
CP Caroline Purcell, xoserve
JB John Bradley, Joint Office
MP Mark Pitchford
BD Bryan Donnelly