

**UK LINK Committee Minutes**  
**Thursday 13 September 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
Annie Griffith	(AG)	xoserve
Cher Harris	(CH)	Scottish and Southern Energy
Chris Fears	(CF)	xoserve
Dan Simons	(DS)	EDF Energy
Dave Addison	(DA)	xoserve
David Mayne	(DM)	RWE Npower
Fergus Healy	(FH)	National Grid NTS
Kate Potts	(KP)	E.ON UK
Mitch Donnelly	(MD)	British Gas Trading
Mick Curtis	(MC)	e=mc <sup>2</sup> (for Shell)
Nicola Rigby	(NR)	National Grid NTS
Simon Trivella	(ST)	Wales and West Utilities

**1. Review of Minutes and Actions**

**1.1. Minutes**

The minutes of the August meeting were accepted.

**1.2. Review of actions.**

Appendix A contains a tabulated update on actions.

UKL 1090 – xoserve (DA) informed members that legal advice had been sought regarding the provision of a report on the interruptible contracts in place after completion of the auction process. The legal view, is that this would place xoserve and the Transporters in potential breach of Rule 105 of the Utilities Act. Furthermore, the business rules associated with UNC Modification 0090 also indicated that the publication of such information should not take place.

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

**Action UKL1090: Closed**

UKL 1093 – xoserve (DA) provided an update on behalf of C Purcell, advising members that xoserve have looked into their various email distribution listings and conclude that it is necessary to retain separate lists aligned to specific audience requirements. However, the xoserve Communications Team have now instigated new processes and procedures to guard against the inadvertent issue of information to the wrong audience.

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

**Action UKL1093: Closed**

UKL 1094 – xoserve (DA) read out a statement regarding the Redesignation of Supply Point Capacity as Firm, pointing out that the system will utilise the existing referrals process (nominations) supporting by discussions with the appropriate DN. Following these discussions, the DN's make a 'referred offer' which is

passed onto xoserve. DA informed members that he will issue a copy of this statement shortly.

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

**Action UKL1094: Carried Forward**

UKL 1095 – Chair (JB) informed members that following the issue of the formal notification by the Transporters (in accordance with UNC Section U8.4.5(a) & (b)), he had been in touch with Ofgem who indicated that subsequently, no formal approach to appeal the notification had been made.

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

**Action UKL1095: Closed**

**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.

ST advised members that discussions regarding a draft modification proposal have taken place at both the Distribution and Transmission Workstreams. This proposal would have the same auction date as 0090, but the issuing of auction results would be ‘pushed back’ by two (2) weeks;

- 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;
- 0156/0156A “Transfer and Trading of Capacity between ASEPs”. Rejected 06/09/07, and
- 0169/0169A “Transfer and Trading of Capacity between ASEPs”. The Authority rejected 0169A on 06/09/07 and approved 0169, implementation for which became effective 06:00hrs on 07/09/07.

JB informed members that this would result in auctions taking place this autumn. DA advised members that xoserve will be seeking approval for the associated changes, which would be limited to the invoicing aspects.

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”. Anticipate some Invoicing system impacts;
- 0141 “Revision to the ‘User Suppressed Reconciliation Values’ Financial Incentives arrangements”. 0141 had been approved by the Authority and 0141A rejected.

Transporters to advise upon an effective implementation date – please refer to item 8;

- 0152V/0152AV/0152VB “Limitation on Retrospective Invoicing and Invoice Correction”. No external system changes associated with this group of modifications,

ST advised members that exception handling will be managed in the ‘normal’ manner via an invoice challenge;

- 0157 “Review of iGT Settlement and Reconciliation Arrangements”. Minor xoserve, but no UK Link system changes involved;
- 0158 “Review of User Suppressed Reconciliation Values’ incentive arrangements”. Too early to gauge, but there is potential for some UK Link system impacts;
- 0164 “Bi-Directional Connection Point Overrun Charge Calculation”. If implemented, there will be some UK Link system impacts.
- 0166 “Review of necessary reform of NTS Offtake Arrangements”. UK Link system impacts anticipated, and finally
- 0168 “Individual Meter Point Reconciliation”. Major UK Link system impacts expected. Due to the scale of this change the Proposer suggests implementing this change when UK Link is due for replacement in 2012.

JB then informed members that the initial Review Group meeting would take place immediately after this UK Link Committee meeting.

JB then introduced the following items:

- Operational Forums – Distribution Charging Methodology Forum.

JB informed members that the forum had discussed the proposed split in the Capacity/Commodity Charge, although this is subject to an Authority decision.

xoserve (DA) asked members, if with regard to the Class 1 CR13885, they had any views on a proposed implementation date. ST suggested that members could consider, never, 01/04/08, 01/10/08 and quite possibly 01/04/09, as likely dates. JB pointed out that the Transporters were looking for a 01/04/08 implementation, although ST advised that the Transporters are not pushing too hard for this date.

DA reminded members that should any new charge types become apparent, they have the option to reconsider the classification of this CR as Class 2.

### **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. EDF Energy (DS) informed members that the SPAA expect to be able to provide an update before the October 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 he anticipates that implementation will be soon, within the next two (2) months.

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

xoserve (DA) informed members that there was nothing new to add over and above the CMF discussions above. He reminded members that this Class 1 CR is scheduled for a Feb 08 Release and will remain on the plan for information only.

#### **3.4 Restriction of Invoice Billing Period**

xoserve (DA) advised members that he expects this to be a Class 1 CR utilising whatever implementation date comes out from the modification due process and that he does not anticipate any ConQuest impacts.

#### **3.5 CR13284 - Issue of Supporting Invoice documentation via IX**

xoserve (DA) informed members that a notice seeking comments regarding the 'Non Standard Header' error condition had been issued. Two (2) responses accepting the change (OOA & BCD Backup Files) had been received. He then advised members that the change will be implemented on 10/10/07 and becomes visible on 17/10/07.

He then asked, and members indicated, that they were happy with this approach.

### **3.6 CR13902 – Gemini MTI and MEI Class 1 Modification**

xoserve (DA) informed members that a notice seeking comments regarding the inconsistency in the MTI and MEI files had been issued. Two (2) responses accepting the proposed approach, linked to OSU with no implementation date, had been received. He pointed out that this is a Class 1 CR and is awaiting scheduling.

### **3.7 CR13910 – Gemini ECB Invoicing File**

xoserve (DA) apologised to members over the late issue of the notification (revised TTBF value in the Contract type field) as it was outside the 0163 timescales, although the release still provided for a minimum 10 business day consultation window. No responses received and therefore propose it as a Class 2 CR with an implementation date of 06/12/07. Members approved this proposal.

### **3.8 CR 13839 – Gemini Oracle Software Upgrade**

xoserve (DA) drew members attention to the change in the implementation dates from August to 14 & 21 October 2007, although the the outage requirements themselves remain as previously advised.

### **3.9 CR 13818 – Invoice Numbers on CSEP Invoice File Formats**

xoserve (DA) informed members that this change remains 'on track'.

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

xoserve (DA) informed members that this change remains 'on track'.

### **3.11 CR 13861 – Rejections associated with Shipper AQ Amendments**

xoserve (DA) informed members that this change remains 'on track'.

### **3.12 CR 13829 – DN Interruption Reform**

xoserve (DA) informed members that this change remains 'on track'.

**Action UKL1090: Closed**

**Action UKL1094: Carried Forward**

**Action UKL1095: Closed**

### **3.13 CR13903 – IDB File format & Hierarchy – occurrences amendment**

xoserve (DA) informed members that notification of this very minor change had been issued and two (2) responses accepting the proposed change received with a subsequent update following comments taking place on 31/08/07.

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

### **4.1. Topic 008UKL UK Link Technology Refresh**

xoserve presentation by AG & CF highlighting the following key items of interest:

- Output from July/August trial migration utilised in testing;
- Initial test approach concentrated on routing tests, but now participants are able to send and receive nomination related transactions (NOM & NMR);

- Testing invitations will go out soon;
- Participants to decide what nomination files to submit during testing;
- Participants need to be mindful of the synchronisation issues between the production and test environments;
- Need early feedback of potential participant numbers to ensure resources are made available;
- xoserve keen to receive feedback to take forward into future projects;

CF enquired how many UK Link members would consider participating in the Shipper Trails, to which four (4) members expressed an interest.

CF went on to advise members that a notification will be issued next week.

Members enquired if a revision to the invoice due date is admissible under the UNC, to which AG stated that she will check and report back at the October meeting. Members then asked if the datalogger read files during catch-up would be sent separately for each day or as a single concatenated file. AG will check and confirm at the October meeting.

**Action UKL 1096: xoserve (AG) to establish UNC requirements in respect of change in invoice date and how datalogger files will be sent during catch-up and report back.**

The above presentation is available on the Joint Office of Gas Transporters web site at: <http://www.gasgovernance.com/Code/UNCCSubCommittees/UKLinkCommittee/2007Meetings/>

## 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 the normal outage was required to adjust for the end of British Summer Time and xoserve (DA) reminded members that the Gemini outage will be of the same duration as the original notification.

**Action UKL1093: Closed**

## 8. AOB

Chair (JB) informed members that the 'UK Link Performance Audit' was up for reconsideration by members and reminded members that this requirement had always been waived as UK Link Users believed that they had sufficient performance data

through normal reporting. He asked if members were happy to waive an audit for 2006/7, to which members indicated that they were. This will be reported to the UNCC.

JB then reminded members that they needed to approve an effective implementation date for UNC Modification 0141 "Revision to the 'User Suppressed Reconciliation Values' Financial Incentives arrangements". ST advised members that there are system changes required and that Transporters propose a Q1 2008 implementation, either 21/02/08 or 21/05/08. ST agreed to take an action to identify an appropriate date and inform the Joint Office.

**Action UKL 1097: Transporters (ST) to establish the implementation date for Modification Proposal 0141**

MC asked if xoserve could issue a notification to the UK Link Committee email distribution list following a formal release via the Joint Office. DA agreed to undertake this action.

**Action UKL 1098: xoserve (DA) to notify implementation date for Modification Proposal 0141 via UK Link distribution list**

**9. Next Meeting**

10:00 am Thursday 11 October 2007 at Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London

## APPENDIX A

## ACTION LOG: UK Link Committee 13 September 07

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref (original ref)	Action	Owner*	Status Update
UKL 1090	12/07/07	1.2 (3.3)	xoserve to investigate the legal position in respect of publication of interruptible contracts in place and if this is an issue, circulate the reasons constraining publication at least five days prior to the August meeting.	xoserve (DA)	Completed <b>Closed</b>
UKL 1093	12/07/07	1.2 (7.0)	xoserve to report back to the September meeting on the rationalisation of the circulation lists.	xoserve (CP)	Completed <b>Closed</b>
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 <b>Carried Forward</b>
UKL 1095	09/08/07	1.2 (3.3)	Transporters to provide formal notification to the community for circulation by Joint Office on Friday 10 August 2007.	Trans' (ST)	Completed <b>Closed</b>
UKL 1096	13/09/07	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 October meeting
UKL 1097	13/09/07	8	Transporters to establish the implementation date for Modification Proposal 0141	Trans' (ST)	asap
UKL 1098	13/09/07	8	xoserve to notify implementation date for Modification Proposal 0141 via UK Link distribution list	xoserve (DA)	asap

**\* Key to action owners**

DA Dave Addison, xoserve

CP Caroline Purcell, xoserve

SL Simon Langley, xoserve

ST Simon Trivella, Wales and West Utilities (on behalf of Transporters)