

UK LINK Committee Minutes
Thursday 14 September 2006
held at Elexon, 350, Euston Road, London

Attendees

John Bradley	(JB)	Joint Office
Mike Berrisford	(MiB)	Joint Office
Dave Addison	(DA)	xoserve
Caroline Purcell	(CP)	xoserve
Cher Harris	(CH)	SSE
Graham Wood	(GW)	Centrica
William Wilson	(WW)	E.ON UK plc
Mick Curtis	(MC)	$e=mc^2$
Mel Davenport	(MD)	Generis Technology Ltd
Brian Donnelly	(BD)	SAIC Europe Ltd
David Mayne	(DM)	RWE Npower
Andy Smith	(AS)	RWE Npower
Ali Tayyar	(AT)	Statoil UK Limited
Dan Simons	(DS)	EDF Energy

1. Review of Minutes and Actions

1.1. Minutes

The minutes of the August meeting were accepted and a minor error in the date of the appendix A table highlighted.

1.2. Review of actions.

Appendix A contains a tabulated update on actions.

UKL1010 – xoserve (DA) advised members that communication NR/649/DA had been issued on 11 August 2006, and therefore the action was closed.

Action: Closed.

UKL1041 – please see item 4.0 below.

UKL1045 – xoserve (CP) advised members that a Gemini Disaster Recovery test would not be undertaken until Spring 2007, and would include external testing. xoserve will provide an update to the January 2007 meeting.

Action: Carried Forward.

UKL1055 – xoserve (DA) advised members that they were still analysing the Billing Operations Forum change regarding the D38 Record with a view to presenting a proposal to the Transporters. This is likely to be subject to a 6 month notification, but is not expected to be ready for implementation until June 2007. DA to provide an update to the November 2006 meeting.

Action: Carried Forward.

UKL1061 – xoserve (DA) advised members that he had no additional information and would opt to report back to the October 2006 meeting.

Action: Carried Forward.

UKL1063 – Scottish Power (BD) advised members that they were still considering their position and were looking to provide an update to the October 2006 meeting.

Action: Carried Forward.

UKL1064 – xoserve (DA) advised members that communication NR/648/DA had been issued on 11 August 2006 and therefore the action was closed.

Action: Closed.

UKL1065 – xoserve (DA) advised members that communication NR/648/DA had been issued on 11 August 2006 and therefore the action was closed.

Action: Closed.

UKL1068 – please see item 3.8 below.

Action: Closed.

UKL1069 – xoserve (DA) advised members that he was unable to provide an update at this time. SSE (CH) informed members that discussions within the SPAA are still ongoing, however, she pointed out that the Suppliers do not feel that from their perspective, there is a business case to justify the change. EDF (DS) informed members that the matter is on the next SPAA agenda. It was agreed to carry forward the action.

Action: Carried Forward.

UKL1070 – xoserve (DA) acknowledged the presence of discrepancies between the CR and xoserve BRS documentation and apologised to members advising them that the problem was restricted to a concatenated address field that has now been resolved. SSE (CH) requested to receive a copy of the BRS document on behalf of the SSE small transporter. This action was closed.

Action: Closed.

UKL1071 – xoserve (DA) advised members that their view had not changed since the August 2006 meeting and reiterated that xoserve can not guarantee batch run timings and that implementations were generally timed to be undertaken at the end of a given business days run which is why most changes are scheduled to take place after business closes on a Friday.

SSE (CH) asked if a 'indicative' time could be provided across the system. In response DA outlined that the various batches in UK Link are run to different schedules, therefore a UK Link wide time could not be provided. xoserve are unable to provide a time when files received would be processed as a number of factors influence this including User volumes. Typically, where a format is changing Users send high volumes of pre-change records.

He went on to point out that providing this information might 'infer' undue obligations upon xoserve, or any other party concerned.

DA agreed to issue a communication outlining the matter in more detail, therefore the action was carried forward. (*please refer to NR/661/DA dated 15/09/2006*).

Action: Carried Forward.

UKL1072 – xoserve (DA) advised members that they intend to trial SMS, preceding this with a communication soliciting responses and appropriate contact information. He went on to advise members that SMS is subject to a 160 character limit, so detail in the communication would be limited.

DA advised members that this is a xoserve communication to assist Users around implementations. This should not be considered as a Code communication, rather as a means of notification at the earliest opportunity.

He informed members that xoserve would like to have SMS tested and in place for a November 2006 Implementation. (*please refer to NR/660/DA dated 15/09/2006*).

Action: Carried Forward.

UKL1073 – JB informed members that the August UNCC members appeared not to be too concerned about the low UK Link Committee membership number, but also advised that two new members have been, or are being, appointed to reside on the UK Link Committee from 01 October 2006, namely, D Simons, EDF Energy who has already been approved and B Donnelly, SAIC who is currently awaiting full approval. DS advised members that EDF's nomination submission to the Gas Forum was not late, but had in fact, gone 'missing' somewhere between the Gas Forum and the Joint Office of Gas Transporters.

JB reminded members of the importance of providing an email notification of an alternate well in advance of any meeting. It was agreed that this action be closed.

Action: Closed.

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", the Development Work Group is still considering and it is not expected to complete its task before the end of the year.
- 0090 "Revised DN Interruption Arrangements", the Development Work Group is still considering and DN's now believe that any system impacts will be minor. DWG is to report back the October 2006 UNC Panel meeting. It is only then that the Panel may decide that the modification is ready to proceed to the consultation phase.

DA pointed out that if there are any required system changes, it is likely that the Committee may have to approve a shortened notification period as 'tensions' exist between the two process timelines.

JB advised members that a full set of documentation for this, and any other modification proposal, is available on the Joint Office of Gas Transporters web site at: www.gasgovernance.com.

- 0091 "Extending Uniform Network Code to allow Users to raise Class 3 UK Link modification proposals", is progressing through the modifications process.
- 0097 "Modification to release aggregated ex-post information for pipeline interconnector offtake flows", is progressing through the modification process and if the publication of the associated information was via the National Grid web site, no formal Committee approval would be required., However, should the information be published via the Gemini web site, then it would and it would be impacted by the 6 month notification period requirement.
- 0116 "Reform of the NTS Offtake Arrangements", this new Modification Proposal was issued on 13 September 2006 and potentially has major impact upon Gemini. JB advised members that this has followed on from the Ofgem Enduring Offtake Working Group meetings and that the same timeline constraints as apply to 0090 apply here as well. The Proposer has suggested that the Proposal is sufficiently developed to enter the consultation phase but the decision on this rests with the Panel.

JB closed this section by advising members that a special Billing Operations Forum meeting is considering a metering issue, which might lead to a Modification Proposal. Information surrounding this item may be found on the xoserve web site.

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 (DA) advised members that this had been discussed already. Please see item 1.2 above.

Action UKL1069: Carried Forward.

3.3 Minor Amendment to CALMS System

xoserve (DA) advised members that whilst this change had been approved at the August meeting and communication NR/647/DD issued on 11 August 2006, there is no implementation date as yet.

3.4 CR 13758.2 – Removal of Meter Asset at Dead Meter Points

xoserve (DA) advised members that two (2) responses have been received, both happy with the proposed implementation. Further to these, an email from C Baldwin, E.ON UK plc concerning the equivalent SPAA change had been received. SSE (CH) pointed out that this change is an xoserve alternative to the SPAA one.

JB asked members if they were happy for this change to be included in the November release and to waive their six month minimum notification period. This was agreed by consensus on both counts.

3.5 CR 13780 – IFA Invoices via I'X

xoserve (DA) advised members that two (2) responses had been received, both accepting the proposed change. However, SSE has requested that the 6 month notification period be adhered to. DA advised members that these arrangements impact twelve (12x) Users, of which a number of them have taken up the option and would welcome a November release. Those members wishing to discuss individual arrangements could do so. SSE (CH) suggested that they were happy with this arrangement. The implementation of this UK Link Modification was agreed for November 2006 for all Users who wished to take advantage of an early release. A February 2007 release was agreed for all Users who required the full six month notification. The Committee, therefore, agreed to waive the six month notification period in respect of the former group of Users. MC asked, and DA confirmed, that Users would have to request parallel running and should contact Donna Danks for assistance, or alternatively, utilise the .uklinkmanual email box account.

Npower (DM) informed members that should arrangements exist beyond February 2007, this would result in the unacceptable situation of parallel processes being in place.

3.6 CR 13779 – Modification 080 – AMR Readings

xoserve (DA) advised members that two (2) comments had been received, both accepting the proposed change and that xoserve are looking for February 2007 (23/02/07) implementation date and that this constitutes a 5 month notification. February 2007 implementation was agreed by consensus.

3.7 CR 13723 – Objection Deadline SPA Rejection Code – OJT00018

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

3.8 CR 13725 – Single Central Online Gas Enquiry Service

xoserve (DA) advised members that implementation was still scheduled for November 2006. MC informed members that the iGTs are unhappy with a November Implementation date but were considering requesting derogation from SPAA. DA responded by restating that xoserve are still working towards a November 2006 implementation. Please refer to item 1.2 above.

Action UKL1070: Closed.

3.9 CR 13730 – Post Closeout Amendments functionality for Gemini

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

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

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

3.11 Use of Communications in the Event of Gemini Contingency

xoserve (DA) advised members that this Class 1 UK Link Modification was implemented 01 September 2006. Please refer to item 1.2 above.

4. Review of Topics Status Report

Topic 004UKL UK Link Testing Arrangements

Already discussed elsewhere in this meeting. Please refer to item 1.2 above.

Action UKL1063: Carried Forward.

Topic 006UKL Gemini Performance Monitoring

xoserve (DA) advised members that they do not have an update at this time.

Action UKL1041: Carry Forward.

Topic 007UKL Release governance procedures

Already discussed elsewhere in this meeting. Please refer to item 1.2 above.

Action UKL1072: Carried Forward.

5. Performance Reporting

xoserve (DA) 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)

xoserve (DA) advised members to refer to version 2.0 of the report, pointing out the change in the P1/P2 Resolution Time Analysis table. Thereafter, the report was accepted.

JB asked if members were happy with the recent Gemini related communications, to which members responded that they were.

5.3 Liabilities Report (xoserve Report C)

The report was accepted.

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

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

7. Planned Outages (xoserve Report E)

xoserve (CP) pointed out the forthcoming outage notifications and advised members that the 'Clock change' will take place in October and the notification is likely to be issued shortly and included in the backup window, thereafter the report was accepted.

8. AOB

Centrica (CW) requested an update on IFA Supporting Data and DA responded by stating that it is now on the November Implementation Plan, as per their previous request.

DA then went on to advise members that a communication regarding the administrative change to the UPN (Billing Critical Attribute Updates) will be issued in due course along with a communication for the administrative change for S59 Record (Allowable Value). *(please refer to NR/659/DA & NR/658/DA dated 15/09/2006 & NR/663/ dated 18/09/2006).*

Schedule of Future meetings

10:00am Thursday 12-Oct-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 1010	13/10/05	1.2 Gemini	Report on legal validity of e-mail contingency Code communication.	xoserve (AG)	National Grid legal consulted. Closed
UKL 1041	13/04/06	4.0 Topic 006UKL	Report back on progress of Topic 006UKL.	xoserve (DA/AG)	Due Oct-06. Carried Forward
UKL 1045	11/05/06	1.2	xoserve to ascertain why the Gemini Disaster Recovery test was cancelled and when a likely test is to take place.	xoserve (DA)	Due Jan 07. Carried Forward
UKL 1055	08/06/06	1.2	xoserve to provide an update on a new change request for CSEP's Invoices.	xoserve (DA)	Due Nov 06. Carried Forward
UKL 1061	08/06/06	1.2	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)	Due Oct 06. Carried Forward
UKL 1063	13/07/06	1.2	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 Oct 06. Carried Forward
UKL 1064	13/07/06	1.2	xoserve to issue the Network Code modification 0613 timetable.	xoserve (DA)	Completed 11 Aug 06. Closed
UKL 1065	13/07/06	1.2	xoserve to provide the 2007 UK Link Release Dates for inclusion in the August 2006 UK Link Committee Agenda pack.	xoserve (DA)	Completed 11 Aug 06. Closed
UKL 1068	13/07/06	3.8	xoserve to report back on progress of the SPAA Change Proposal 05/041 to the August UK Link Committee meeting.	xoserve (DA)	10 Aug 06. Closed

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner*	Status Update
UKL 1069	10/08/06	1.2	xoserve to provide an update on SPAA workgroup consideration of the Shipper Agreed Reads Procedural Change.	xoserve (DA)	14 Sept 06. Carried Forward
UKL 1070	10/08/06	1.2	xoserve to investigate the potential discrepancies between current CR & their BRS documentation and report back to the September UK Link Committee meeting.	xoserve (DA)	14 Sept 06. Closed
UKL 1071	10/08/06	1.2	xoserve to consider suitable email notification wording and report back to the September UK Link Committee meeting.	xoserve (DA)	14 Sept 06. Carried Forward
UKL 1072	10/08/06	1.2	xoserve to report back on suitable (e.g. SMS) notification mechanisms at the September UK Link Committee meeting.	xoserve (DA)	14 Sept 06. Carried Forward
UKL 1073	10/08/06	1.2	Joint Office to incorporate UK Link members concerns surrounding the low number of nominated UK Link Committee members, within the UNCC report for August 2006	Joint Office (JB)	Completed 14 Aug 06. Closed

*** Key to action owners**

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