

UK LINK Committee Minutes
Thursday 8 December 2005
held at Elexon, 350, Euston Road, London

Attendees

John Bradley (JB)	Joint Office
Dennis Rachwal (DR)	Joint Office
Caroline Purcell (CP)	xoserve
Annie Griffith (AG)	xoserve
Dave Addison (DA)	xoserve
David Mayne (DM)	RWE npower
Tim Johnson (TJ)	EON UK
Gareth Hepworth (GH)	National Grid
Mark Pitchford (MP)	Scottish Power
Martin Brandt (MB)	Scottish and Southern Energy plc
Mick Curtis (MC)	e=mc ²
Tiago Vasconcelos (TV)	for Total Gas and Power
Ali Tayyar (AT)	Statoil

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

The minutes from November meeting were accepted.

1.2. Review of actions.

Actions are tabulated in Appendix A.

2. Review of Topics Status Report**2.1 Topic 003UKL Amendment to the minimum notice required for UK Link changes - UNC Mod 010 (0735)**

Action UKL1016 Closed xoserve (CP) ran through a presentation, developed after meeting with MB, on the UK Link Modification Implementation Planning process under UNC Mod 010 (0735).

In discussion, CP explained the rationale behind proposed Friday implementations (for 2006, 30th June and 3rd November) was that systems would be taken offline after submission of the last run of impacted processes for those business days. This would leave the weekend for implementation work to be carried out, typically before Monday, thus avoiding the loss of any Business Days for file transactions. The situation for Gemini would probably be more complex, probably utilising or extending planned maintenance periods at weekends. DA pointed out that, whilst not an issue for 2006, potential interaction with the large batch runs, such as capacity invoice, should be taken into account when choosing implementation dates. DA also pointed out that consultation on the content for November 06 release would fall during the Easter holiday period, however the Committee agreed that the schedule published at this meeting provides interested parties good advanced notice of this consultation period. The Committee considered but declined at this time to agree change of UK Link Committee date from 13-Apr-06 (the day before Good Friday bank holiday).

TJ enquired whether due consideration had been given to calls on IS resource for coincident implementation of all UK Link Modifications at the same time as other energy industry IS implementations, in particular whether Gemini could be phased separately from non-Gemini systems. There was consensus to proceed towards a common June 2006 release and review in July.

In response to a query, CP clarified that for non-UK Link systems, the intention was to continue the reasonable endeavours notification and alignment to the 6 months notice period of UNC Mod 010.

Action UKL1020 SSE (MB) to inform SPAA Executive meeting about proposed schedule for 2006 UK Link Modification Implementations and provide feedback to UK Link Committee in January.

Action UKL1021 Joint Office (JB) to include review of UK Link Modification Implementation Planning process in the July 06 agenda for UK Link Committee.

2.2 Topic 004UKL UK Link Testing Arrangements

CP reported that, due to the impact of UNC Mod 010 implementation, the evaluation work in progress with xoserve suppliers could be not be reported before February 2006.

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

xoserve circulated documentation on 6-Dec-05 on Change Requests (CRs) 12494, 13658, 13681, and 13693, ahead of formal consultation scheduled for 9-Dec-05, which would have a close out date of 23-Dec-05 for representations. The intention was for transporters to seek UK Link Committee agreement on 12-Jan-06.

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

Action UKL1011 Update. xoserve (DA) notified that, since the November invoice run was satisfactory, the intention was to proceed to formal file format consultation with a proposed implementation date of 25-Mar-06 as previously indicated subject to there no further performance issues.

3.2 CR 13658 Replication of enhancement of Gemini API functionality

The potential implementation date would be the weekend of 30 June 2006. The Committee was notified that the transporters have determined this is not a Class 2 Modification. MC expressed strong dissatisfaction at this decision. In response to an enquiry, DA responded that the current API design would be available to all Users. There was consensus that consultation should proceed, but the issue of funding needs to be resolved before development can commence.

3.3 CR 13681 User Suppressed Reconciliation Values (USRV)

xoserve (DA) explained that the change was small and simply switched the method of delivery of information by transporters regarding USRV from e-mail to the IX box. The transporters regarded this as a Class 1 UK Link Modification that therefore did not require a formal period of notice after the consultation closes. On this basis, there would not be an obligation to provide a period of notice of implementation after consultation closes. However, the transporters' initial proposal was for February 2006. In response to a request, DA agreed to explore whether bundling with other invoice changes (CR 13664 and 13629) on 25-Mar-06 would be possible.

3.4 CR 13693 On-line Optional Tariff Invoicing and Entry Commodity Invoicing

xoserve (DA) explained that the change was to move these charges from Ad Hoc to more formal invoicing and that it might be considered an operational change. Feedback from the attendees was that it might be regarded as a systems change. Consultation would proceed on this basis i.e. implementation the weekend of 30-Jun-06.

3.5 CR 13694 IFA Contracts

The Committee reviewed the information circulated on 6-Dec-05 and requested further detail. The transporters' proposal was for implementation the weekend of 30-Jun-06.

Action UKL1022 xoserve (DA) to ensure that early in the consultation on CR 13694 IFA contracts included how a request might be rejected, what the navigation would be between screens, what else was on the 'Deal' drop down menu, and illustrative data on screen shots.

3.6 CR 13664 – EU Directive on VAT Compliance

The Committee noted that this modification was progressing for implementation on 25-Mar-06.

3.7 CR 13629 Data logger Support File (DL1)

The Committee noted that this modification was progressing for implementation on 25-Mar-06.

3.8 CR 11681 Gemini

Action UKL1015 Update Gemini (GH) reported that issues with the helpline had been investigated and will be reported to Gemini Shipper Forum (13-Dec-05) and that a specific functional query had been addressed and a generic note on this would be circulated.

3.9 CR 11928 Transco LNG Storage Communications – UK Link Manual

The UK Link Manual update project was implemented and notified. No issues were identified at this time.

4 Planned Outages

There were no notified planned outages.

5 Performance Reporting

Action UKL1017 Update Gemini/xoserve (GH/AG) tabled a draft revised report (circulated with these minutes) to take account of the change of technology from AT-Link to Gemini. In discussion GH clarified that 'bulk uploads' referred to files and not APIs. Several attendees reported some difficulty with APIs and these may not have been formally reported as faults. GH/AG requested that these were reported. Attendees requested monitoring of end-to-end response time. GH and AG advised the Committee there would be technical problems and issues if this were attempted and agreed to report back on this in more detail.

AG stated that no party had as yet raised this as an issue for the Gemini Shipper Forum on 13-Dec-05 however the event could be used as an opportunity to scope and further address the matters raised in this meeting. TJ requested notification of fix-on-fail code release and GH acknowledged the need for this.

5.1 IS Faults logged by Shippers (xoserve Report A). The report was accepted subject to satisfactory progression of action UKL1015.

5.2 UK-Link Business Support Agreement (xoserve Report B) (Gemini). The report was accepted subject to satisfactory progression of action UKL1017.

5.3 Liabilities Report (xoserve Report C)

Action UKL1018 Closed The report now refers to Transporters rather than Transco, and for periods post implementation of UNC Mod 010 would refer to 6 months notice rather than 3 months notice in item TSL10b.

6 File Format and Urgent Communications (xoserve Report D)

Action UKL1019 Closed. CP reported there were no communications further to those included in Report D.

The report was accepted.

7 Schedule of Future meetings

10:30am Thursday 12-Jan-06 at Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London

10:30am Thursday 9-Feb-06 at Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London

10:30am Thursday 9-Mar-06 at Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London

APPENDIX A ACTION LOG UK Link Committee 8-Dec-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	Closed subject to communication confirming the current system functionality.
UKL 1008	08/09/05	4.4 Topic 004UKL	UK Link testing arrangements – report on implementation timeline and costs.	xoserve DA	Need to consider UNC Mod 010. Now due Feb-06
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	Discussed and consultation issued.
UKL 1012	13/10/05	2.2.5 CR13664	EU Directive on VAT Compliance – complete consultation and present finalised proposals for agreement	xoserve DA	Closed Scheduled in Implementation Plan
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)	Specific query resolved. Gemini Shipper Forum 13-Dec-06 report on help line.
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)	Closed xoserve presentation Dec 05
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)	Draft revision tabled. Request for end-to-end response time – explain difficulties.
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)	Closed See minute 8/12/05 5.3

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner*	Status Update
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)	Closed See minute 8/12/05 6
UKL 1020	08/12/05	2.1 Topic 003UKL	inform SPAA Executive meeting about proposed schedule for 2006 UK Link Modification Implementations and provide feedback to UK Link Committee in January.	SSE (MB)	
UKL 1021	08/12/05		include review of UK Link Modification Implementation Planning process in the July 06 agenda for UK Link Committee.	Joint Office (JB)	

*** 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 Griffith, xoserve
JB John Bradley, Joint Office