

UNC Workgroup 0630R Minutes
Review of the consequential changes required in UNC as a result of
the Ofgem Switching Programme
Monday 07 January 2019
at Radcliffe House, Blenheim Court, Warwick Road, Solihull B91 2AA

Attendees

Bob Fletcher (Chair)	(BF)	Joint Office
Helen Cuin (Secretary)	(HCu)	Joint Office
Carl Whitehouse	(CWh)	First Utility
Chris Warner	(CW)	Cadent
Dave Addison	(DA)	Xoserve
John Welch	(JW)	npower
Kirsty Dudley*	(KD)	E.ON UK
Lorna Lewin*	(LL)	Orsted
Richard Johnston	(RJ)	Xoserve
Richard Pomroy*	(RP)	Wales & West Utilities
Shanna Key	(SK)	Northern Gas Networks
Steve Ladle*	(SL)	Gemserv
Steve Mulinganie	(SM)	Gazprom
Tracey Saunders	(TS)	Northern Gas Networks

*via teleconference

Copies of all papers are available at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0630/070119>

The Workgroup Report is due to be presented at the UNC Modification Panel by 21 March 2019.

1. Introduction and Status Review

1.1. Approval of Minutes (07 December 2018)

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

2. Update of Potential Switching Programme Impacts

CWE outlined the purpose is to provide UNC Legal Text Drafting to Ofgem by the end of March 2019 to support the switching programme changes, although he noted that this was not a workgroup process as the direction was being taken by the outputs from the SCR and this was for information only.

DA provided a presentation explaining the principle will be to provide the solution options that allow the implementation of a Central Switching Services (CSS). He highlighted that there are common discussion points between Request 0630R and the Development Subgroup (DSG) and explained the scope and processes was being taken out of the UNC as the principle document. The presentation provided updates on the: content of post CSS administration flows; default values; contact information; response flows; Market Participant Data; MAP Identity; Opening Meter Reading Windows; and the Metering Information (RGMA flows).

DA confirmed the scope includes shared Supply Meter Points (SMPs), Twinstream and Sub-deduct Meter arrangements; and excludes NTS SMPs. It was recognised that there will be some complexity with Primes & Subs. SM challenged that Primes and Subs would be engineered out. CW advised that although this was an aspiration, it was not physically possible to engineer out all installations.

DA confirmed that the following processes will no longer be required: Withdrawals, Objections and Confirmation Cancellations. All these processes will be replaced.

SM enquired about the replacement 'Deregistration' process for Shipper led isolations and withdrawals. SM had some reservations about the reliance on Suppliers and the interfaces between all parties. SM also enquired about the treatment of Transportation Charges and the ability for a Supplier to cease a Shippers Transportation relationships when Shippers are the parties to Code.

CW understood the concerns being raised, he explained that the process is intended to be Supplier led. However, SM again expressed concern about the ability for Shippers to cease liability for Transportation and that to allow the Shipper to deregister the Shipper would need to liaise with the Supplier to trigger the process.

DA summarised that:

- Withdrawals will be replaced by a Supplier led 'Deregistration' process in CSS and Retail Energy Code (REC).
- Objections will be replaced by Supplier led 'Switch Request Objections' process in CSS and REC.
- Confirmation Cancellations will be replaced by Supplier led 'Withdrawal' process in CSS and REC, DA clarified that this is not to be confused with the current Withdrawal (deregistration) process, this is about the Supplier not wanting to supply the site.
- Supply Point Amendments will also need to be changed, for Market Sector Codes and Supplier changes where there is no change to the registered user.

SM questioned the ability to change Supplier Licences. DA explained that there is a process within CSS to move a Supplier Licence to a different Shipper, there would be a pre-approval request preceding the ability to switch. There were some concerns expressed about the ability to change the Shipper/Supplier relationship via CSS. There seems to be a lack of understanding that a Shipper might ship for a number of Suppliers and that the Shipper contract might not need to be terminated for a site if they ship for the outgoing and incoming Supplier.

DA explained that there will be a need to retain a trigger to the existing Referral process for Daily Metered, Interconnector, LDZ Direct Connections, Connected System Operator and Shorthaul.

SM enquired about the equivalent Nomination/Offer process (page 8), in particular the provision of an offer and the validity of the offer. Currently an offer remains valid for 6 months, however it was envisaged the offer under CSS will only be valid for 28 days. Some concern was expressed about the generation of update requests and SM wanted to understand which elements would trigger a change in the price of an offer. DA had anticipated that 28 days validity would be too short and explained that 3 months had been requested for Referrals.

The difference between SSP and LSP processes was discussed, for SSP the settlement detail will be provided and the Confirmation only processes will still exist.

SM suggested it would be worthwhile having a table which identifies current process verses new process to clearly understand what is changing and how.

SM asked for further clarity on the settlement data and the validity of Offers, and if Confirmations needed to refer to a specific Offer or if the last Nomination Offer would be automatically used. DA clarified that in terms of the nomination and different Referral Responses (i.e. offers for 10,000 therms, 15,000 therms, and 20,000 therms), Xoserve would take the settlement data for go live from the “last over the post” offer. To ensure the correct settlement details are used (which defines the price), the Nomination reference would need to be provided in the shell record to avoid Xoserve automatically selecting the last past the post referral.

Action 0101: Xoserve (DA) to look at the output flows and transactions for Referrals and look at the existing processes for Nominations and in what circumstances Nominations would be cancelled and offers reissued.

DA provided a SPA Content Flow Table post CSS for the equivalent Nomination process and what would trigger the need for a Referral (page 10). He also provided a table detailing the default rules (page 11).

The Workgroup looked at some of the scenarios where default Product Classes could be used based on the Shippers preferred read frequencies and settlement options and the minimum information for the Class being provided. As an example, if a Shipper provides a Nomination for a Class 2 site, and wants to maintain Class 2, in order for the Nomination to be accepted, the Shipper needs to provide the SOQ and SHQ. There will be certain conditions the Shipper must meet and if the details are not provided the default rules will apply. For example for Class 1 the SOQ and SHQ would be the previous details, for Class 2 it would default to Class 4.

For Seasonal sites it was highlighted these need to be flagged as Seasonal. For Shorthaul to apply Shippers must detail this, if not, Xoserve will assume Shorthaul will not apply, this is in line with how this is how the process is currently managed.

DA provided the content of SPA Flows (page 13) and confirmed that the Change of Tenancy indicator will be removed from the data model and will be only contained in the CSS flows, not passed into UK Link.

The provision of Emergency Contacts and ability for a registration to go live without the Shipper having provided Emergency Contact details, was also considered. The default proposed was that the Settlement Detail would have some conditionality applied so that the Settlement Detail is not accepted where Emergency Contact Details are necessary. The Workgroup considered carrying forward the existing Emergency Contact details, but some concern was expressed about details changing and the possible Health & Safety implications.

New Action 0102: Xoserve (DA) to consider the treatment and provision of Emergency Contact details.

DA confirmed for priority customers, in response to a site transfer request, for the incoming Shipper there will be a further prompt for the Shipper/Supplier to review the site’s information.

DA highlighted that the current thinking for Losing Shipper Notifications, is that the current data flows will include a losing Shipper notification, i.e. notification that the supply meter point is transferring to another Shipper (page 18).

DA provided the response files (page 19) for the gaining Shipper. He acknowledged this needed further consideration.

Two further flow diagrams were provided (pages 20 & 21) and DA welcomed feedback on the availability of data and timing of the data provision.

DA provided some background to the Market Participant Id (MDD) and the planned migration to CDSP (page 24). He confirmed the CDSP will be responsible for supplying the; Market Participant Identifiers, maintaining the Shipper to Supplier relationship table and the Transporter to Shipper relationship table, and this will need to be incorporated into the UNC. DA explained that there are some elements in SPAA that need to be considered to ensure systems are inline.

DA confirmed the Meter Asset Provider (MAP) Id needed to be considered and how the MAP data will exist in UK Link (page 29). It was anticipated that the MAP Id will be mandated in the data flows. SM expressed concern about this being considered as a mandatory dataset within the gas market. DA suggested the MAPs would maintain the MAP Id. SM enquired how discrepancies would be managed where there was a difference in data provided by the MAP or Shipper. SM expressed concern about MAPs potentially trying to gain the right of ownership and bill directly. It was recognised that clear rules needed to be agreed about managing and maintaining commercially sensitive information.

DA explained the potential overlaps with the Opening Meter Reading (OPNT) Windows (page 34 & 35). DA explained the principle of the 'standstill' period whereby a site cannot switch within 5 calendar days, he also explained the potential overlaps with the lead times for opening reads and how estimates will need to be calculated if a read is not provided on the switching date i.e. its been provided within the 5-day window. SM suggested that with smart metering, legacy meters (dumb meters) should be treated differently. Where smart meters are installed reads should be available. It was considered whether the 5-day window should be reduced to 2 days, and whether this would be a simple parameter change.

CWh noted that CSS implementation is due just prior the SMART metering roll-out completion by 2022, the rules for read windows should be the exception as most sites will be SMART.

The RGMA flows were briefly considered. The proposal was not to amend the RGMA flows.

On conclusion of the presentation SL asked for further clarity on the timetable Xoserve were working to. DA confirmed Ofgem have given Transporters until the end of March 2019 to provide an updated draft of the UNC. He explained by mid-February an overview of the changes to the UNC would be required to enable this to be achieved.

The Workgroup considered the need to have an amendment to document the required changes and recognised this would be in essence reverse engineered.

BF explained the Modification Rules for Significant Code Review (SCR) Modifications and that the consultation will be undertaken by the SCR. He explained that the UNC Modification will be to simply document and implement the changes required by the SCR.

The Workgroup considered the next steps and that the Workgroups were for information sharing and that there was an expectation that at some point Workgroup 0630R could be withdrawn.

3. Development of Request Workgroup Report

Item deferred.

4. Review of Outstanding Actions

1201: Xoserve (DA) to request DSG to consider Network Appraisal Requests process and how it would be managed for multiple requests.

Update: DA confirmed this is the ability for shippers to request multiple Nominations with different capacity requests, by submitting a shell record. DA explained that this is covered in the provided presentation and would welcome further view. It is envisaged multiple network appraisals will be made available. **Closed.**

5. Next Steps

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on 06 February 2019, to provide further overview updates on the expected changes.

6. Any Other Business

None.

7. Diary Planning

Further details of planned meetings are available at:

<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/events-calendar/month>

Time / Date	Venue	Workgroup Programme
10:30 Wednesday 06 February 2019	Radcliffe House, Blenheim Court, Warwick Road, Solihull B91 2AA	CSS Overview Update on Draft Legal Text
10:30, Wednesday 06 March 2019	Radcliffe House, Blenheim Court, Warwick Road, Solihull B91 2AA	To be confirmed

Action Table (as at 07 January 2019)

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
1201	17/12/18	2.0	Xoserve (DA) to request DSG to consider Network Appraisal Requests process and how it would be managed for multiple requests.	Xoserve (DA)	Closed
0101	07/01/19	2.0	Xoserve (DA) to look at the output flows and transactions for Referrals and look at the existing processes for Nominations and in what circumstances Nominations would be cancelled and offers reissued.	Xoserve (DA)	Pending
0102	07/01/19	2.0	Xoserve (DA) to consider the treatment and provision of Emergency Contact details.	Xoserve (DA)	Pending