

Further Developments for the Gas Performance Assurance Regime

Aspects still to be considered (1)

There are a number of aspects that have been discussed or muted during the development of the Performance Assurance Arrangements, which may warrant further consideration, now that the new UKLINK solution has been implemented and the Performance Assurance Administrator has been appointed:

- The ability for the Performance Assurance Committee to raise MODs
- Whether industry-wide reports should be issued without anonymity
- Allow PAC to increment the reporting set without the need for a MOD
- Bring in a requirement for Parties to attend PAC, if PAC finds performance issues and wish to discuss performance with specific parties – also consider the ability to agree (and bind) parties to improvement plans

Aspects still to be considered (2)

- Report performance beyond settlement, in areas where customers are affected by poor performance
- Introduce an incentive scheme to address poor performance, where it is impacting settlement accuracy – this may need to be preceded by setting performance standards
- Look at audit (perhaps annually) and how issues can be investigated
- Consider if there should be an automatic “ticket to ride” or if new entrants should under-go market entry qualification

Elements to address fairer allocation of UIG

During the open PAC session to discuss UIG there were a number of things that either were discussed or were mentioned, which are worth capturing to enable to PAC to consider the merits of them:

- Introduce an arbiter, where there is disagreement between the Shipper and the DMSP
- Ease the serial number matching requirements
- Consider more Winter Annual Ratio (WAR) bands to have more accurate profiling
- Do not provide details of the AUGE UIG factors during development, but instead provide these only once the methodology has been agreed (thus taking the commercial interest out of the process – this is what used to be done)

Elements to address fairer allocation of UIG

- Consider having UIG Factors down to WAR band level – with a higher factor where no WAR band can be calculated (due to lack of readings)
- Consider a smart profile for Smart Pre-Payment Meters
- Mandate that Shippers provide data to DESC to increment the information available for profiling
- Consider allowing Xoserve to move profile class for sites that are not providing information in line with their current class requirements

It should be noted that most of these proposals would require MODs