

**Transmission Workgroup Minutes**  
**Thursday 05 October 2017**  
**Elxon, 350 Euston Road, London NW1 3AW**

<b>Attendees</b>		
Rebecca Hailes	(RH)	Chair
Helen Bennett	(HB)	Secretary
Andrew Blair*	(AB)	AB Energy Consulting
Anna Shrigley	(AS)	ENI UK
David Cox*	(DC)	London Energy Consulting
David Reilly	(DR)	Ofgem
Frasier Matheson*	(FM)	SGN
Graham Jack	(GJ)	Centrica
Jeff Chandler	(JCh)	SSE
John Costa	(JC)	EDF Energy
Julie Cox	(JCo)	Energy UK
Nick King	(NK)	CNG Service Ltd
Nick Wye	(NW)	Waters Wye Associates
Nicola Lond	(NL)	National Grid NTS
Phil Hobbins	(PH)	National Grid NTS
Richard Fairholme*	(RF)	Uniper
Steve Britton*	(SB)	Cornwall Energy
Steve Pownall	(SP)	Xoserve
Terry Burke	(TB)	Statoil
<i>*via teleconference</i>		

Copies of papers are available at: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/tx/070917>;  
<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0607/070917> and <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0616/070917>

## 1. Introduction and Status Review

RH welcomed all to the meeting and confirmed the order of the agenda.

### 1.1 Approval of Minutes (07 September 2017)

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

### 1.2 Ofgem Update

DR took the workgroup through an onscreen update of the material provided for the workgroup to provide an Ofgem Industry Update. The update can be found here: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/tx/051017>

### 1.3 Pre-Modification Discussions

#### 1.3.1. Treatment of Capacity at Combined ASEPs – National Grid NTS

PH took the workgroup through the pre-modification discussion on Combined ASEPs which can be found here: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/tx/051017> advising that Colin Williams plans to attend the next Transmission Workgroup meeting on 02 November.

RH clarified the date for the updated draft of Modification 0621 will be 10 October.

The Combined ASEP Modification will be submitted after the updated draft modification for 0621.

PH then gave an update on Modification 0616S advising that Malcolm Montgomery has clarified that for the planned implementation, the solution using Gemini Buy Back functionality is due to be implemented January 2018. Further details will be discussed at the DSC Change Management Committee meetings, (subject to October Panel approval).

## 2. European Codes

### 2.1 EU Codes update

PH provided a Code Status Update as follows:

Code	Current Status	Implementation date
Tariffs (TAR)	Entered into Force 06 April 2017, Mods now being raised (e.g. UNC 0621 + combined ASEP Mod)	Applicable from 06 April 2017, 01 October 2017, 31 May 2019
Transparency (TRA)	Entered into Force 06 April 2017	Applicable from 01 October 2017; First publication end 2017
CAM Amendments	Entered into Force 06 April 2017	Applicable from 06 April 2017

#### Tariff Code Update

PH provided a reminder that the Second External TAR NC Implementation Workshop was being held on 05 October and that an updated IDoc (Implementation Document) is now finalised and will be available at the workshop.

IDoc and all materials will be published on the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas (ENTSOG) website here: <https://www.entsog.eu/events/second->

[implementation-workshop-for-the-network-code-on-harmonised-transmission-tariff-structures-for-gas-tar-nc#welcome](#)

### Future Topics

PH advised that Tariff Codes; Transparency Requirements and CAM Amendment will all have monthly updates provided at this workgroup.

When asked, PH confirmed that he is not aware of any further modifications being raised in relation to EU codes.

## 3. Workgroups

### 3.1 0627S – Removal of the absolute requirement to include a Remotely Operable Valve (ROV) Installation for all new NTS Exit connections

Proposer Nicola Lond – National Grid NTS

Report to Panel – 16 November 2017

<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0627>

NL provided a reminder of the principles for this modification.

There followed a lengthy discussion regarding the closing and reinstating of a manually operated valve. It was noted that it is best practice to have the ROV as close to the NTS as possible.

RH advised that the Workgroup Report would need to be completed at the next meeting planned for 02 November 2017 so that it is ready for the November 2017 UNC Panel.

The standard Terms of Reference were approved.

**New Action 1001: NL to investigate what the process is for the reinstatement of a manually operated valve after an incident and could a customer open the valve.**

*Post Meeting update: In the highly unlikely event that the valve is required to be turned off, National Grid would make a local arrangement in agreement with the customer to turn it back on when it was agreed to be appropriate. The Valve is located in a secure National Grid compound and is required to be operated by a National Grid Competent Engineer who has security clearance and access to the compound. As a result, National Grid will not permit a customer to operate a National Grid Valve.*

#### **Closed**

During an onscreen review of the standard design gas connections journey, NL provided further clarity around a remotely operable valve:

The ROV is situated NTS side.

The estimate of attending site is usually an estimated 4 hours, the customer can isolate themselves.

NK has kindly provided the following excerpt from an IGEM article on Project CLoCC which is included here for information:

#### **COST SAVING BENEFITS**

When any new connection is made to the NTS, National Grid currently specifies that a remote operable valve (ROV) be included. The project has engaged with the relevant departments in National Grid and the distribution networks (DNs) through stage one and into stage two of the project to establish the history and reasons for the installation of a ROV at a minimum connection site. Project CLoCC has taken this as an opportunity to simplify the connection with the removal of the remote operability function of the connection isolation valve at the minimum connection. Two sets of standardised designs are being developed by the project, one including an ROV and one without. The ROV function is not classified as a safety device, the valve only being closed upon request by National Grid GNCC (Gas National Control Centre) or the customer. Therefore, the need for remote operability was open for challenge and is currently under discussion.

Removing the ROV functionality not only removes the cost and complexity of an electrically powered actuator and remote control system, it also removes the need for the onsite telemetry kiosk to transmit signals to and from GNCC.

NL then took the group through the suggested amendments to UNC TPD Section Y asking the workgroup that if they have any preference or suggestions to please contact: <mailto:nicola.j.lond@nationalgrid.com> .

The timetable/next steps for this modification is as follows:

Initial consideration by Panel	21 September
Modification considered by Workgroup	05 October 02 November
Workgroup Report presented to Panel	16 November
Draft Modification Report issued for consultation	16 November
Consultation Close-out	08 December
Final Modification Report available for Panel	21 December
Modification Panel decision	21 December

#### 4. Issues

##### **(ISS066 – Implications of decommissioned Exit/Entry points)**

It has previously been agreed that this item should remain on the agenda, to be kept 'in sight', although it would only be actioned as and when appropriate.

There was no further consideration of this item at the meeting.

#### 5. Any Other Business

##### **5.1 Developing a revised gas quality specification**

JCx explained that she is trying to ensure that more parts of the gas community are aware of the work that is going on in gas quality. Following on from the Oban study, IGEM have established a group looking at whether appliances can operate safely on higher WOBBE gas, mostly found that they can.

This could mean potential change to the top end of GS(M)R. There was an industry day hosted by Ofgem on 04 July, Jcx is concerned that there were relatively few shippers that attended and that Shippers do not appear to be engaged, there could be impacts that need to be considered.

GJ mentioned that the current work is not really engaging shippers and referred the workgroup to an Oban study seminar that was held 12 months ago; also, wondering what will the governance be going forward?

TB suggested it would be a good move forward if IGEM are asked to come to this Workgroup to give an overview? RH agreed that could be accommodated.

The workgroup agreed that there is a definite need for this and would be a good move forward. Considering there are 2 further AOB items that refer to gas quality, there seems to be a definite need.

NW said that a link between industry and IGEM is required.

When asked JCx confirmed that potentially this could impact both Transmission and Distribution workgroups.

RH suggested the way forward could be to invite IGEM to a Transmission workgroup and then book in for more detailed slot.

When asked, JCx advised that the IGEM working group is the decision-making body that will come up with the recommendation.

**New Action 1002: JCx to pass on relevant IGEM contacts to JO so that they can be invited to the next meeting.**

## 5.2 EU Gas Quality Update

PH gave a background update to the CEN information that was mentioned at the last workgroup.

- The CEN gas quality standard EN 16726 was approved in 2015 without inclusion of a Wobbe Index (WI) range.
- CEN is continuing to work on finding an EU agreement for a WI range, including the possibility of regional ranges.
- With that aim, CEN Sector Forum Gas working group is conducting a 'pre-normative' study and issued two surveys to member states
  - Legislative framework and technical parameters for gas quality in each member state
  - Actual gas quality transmitted and offtaken in EU networks.
- The EU Joint Research Council (JRC) has collected historic WI and calorific value (CV) data from market participants in member states that are involved in this study.
- ENTSOG has coordinated the collection of historic data from TSOs
  - National Grid has provided anonymous data from a few points on the NTS to ENTSOG.
- ENTSOG has analysed the data to discover the WI ranges and rates of change.
- ENTSOG and JRC will present the results of their analysis at a joint workshop in Brussels on 28th September 2017.
  - National Grid provided feedback at the Workgroup meeting.

PH went on advising that ENTSOG have run further analysis, the results have been discussed and they will make the raw data available. CEN are now going to take all of the data and use it for scenarios and to make recommendations.

With regards to Gas Quality Outlook, ENTSOG are obligated to produce this report every 2 years, the next one is due in 2018/2019, ENTSOG is currently gearing up to prepare that.

PH also advised the workgroup of a recent presentation from marcogaz (<http://www.marcogaz.org/>) regarding the impact that hydrogen has on Wobbe Index, in that the "richer" that gas is, the more hydrogen can be injected.

The main point taken from the presentation is that acceptable hydrogen concentrations are likely to vary depending on different types/locations.

National Grid NTS sent out the link to ENTSOG and marcogaz presentations earlier this week.

## 5.3 National Grid Gas Quality Consultation

PH took the Workgroup through the material that was provided for the Workgroup on this subject and is included in the Transmission Workgroup slide pack.

- A number of recent UNC modifications have proposed changes to gas quality parameters at individual NTS entry points that are GS(M)R compliant but are outside

the Gas Ten Year Statement specification (Modification 0607S being the most recent).

- National Grid NTS’ preference is to be able to accommodate these individual requests at other entry points if demanded but this may not always be possible.
- Applying a ‘first come first served’ approach could therefore result in other parties being disadvantaged in the future.
- In the coming years, National Grid NTS also expect UKCS supplies to decline, GB import dependency to increase and sources of supply to diversify.
- National Grid NTS therefore propose to consult the industry on:
  - Whether the number of these types of request is likely to increase in the future
  - Whether the current change process for individual NEA limits is appropriate
  - For the longer term (RIIO-T2 timescales), National Grid NTS are also interested to explore any potential demand for gas quality services to be provided at NTS entry points by National Grid e.g. via gas processing / blending arrangements.
- This consultation is scheduled to open on Monday 9th October and close on Friday 17th November 2017.
- National Grid NTS will report on the results in December 2017 or January 2018

PH stated that the questions being asked in the consultation are similar to those that are required for Modification 0607S, it was agreed that this would be reviewed at the next Modification 0607S Workgroup meeting on 06 October.

**6. Review of Outstanding Action(s)**

**Action TR0602:** National Grid NTS (JR) to provide what options are available for ‘Real Time’ or 2-5 minutes’ data and the cost to get this on to the GCS and MIPI and process it.  
**Update:** PH advised that the system changes are more complex than first thought and National Grid are not in a position to provide this data at the moment. **Closed**

**7. Diary Planning**

Agenda items (and any associated papers) for the 02 November 2017 meeting should be submitted to the Joint Office by close of play on 25 October 2017.

Further details of planned meetings are available at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/Diary>

Time/Date	Location
10:00, Thursday 02 November 2017	Elaxon, 350 Euston Road, London NW1 3AW
10:00, Thursday 07 December 2017	Elaxon, 350 Euston Road, London NW1 3AW

**Action Table (as at 07 September 2017)**

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
TR0602	01/06/17	5.2	National Grid NTS (JR) to provide what options are available for ‘Real Time’ or 2-5 minutes’ data and the cost to get this on to the GCS and MIPI and process it.	National Grid NTS (JR)	<b>Closed</b>

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**Action Table (as at 07 September 2017)**

<b>Action Ref</b>	<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Minute Ref</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Status Update</b>
1001	05/10/17		NL to investigate the re-instatement of a manually operated valve after an incident and how long that would take.	National Grid NTS (NL)	<b>Closed</b>
1002	05/10/17		JCx to pass on relevant IGEM contacts to JO so that IGEM can be invited to the next meeting.	Energy UK (JCx)	<b>Pending</b>