

UNC Workgroup 0647 Minutes
Opening Class 1 reads to Competition
Thursday 27 September 2018
at Radcliffe House, Blenheim Court, Warwick Road, Solihull B91 2AA

Attendees

Bob Fletcher (Chair)	(BF)	Joint Office
Mike Berrisford (Secretary)	(MB)	Joint Office
Alexander Mann	(AMa)	Gazprom
Andy Clasper	(AC)	Cadent
Chris Warner	(CW)	Cadent
Dave Addison	(DA)	Xoserve
David Mitchell	(DM)	SGN
Edd Fyfe	(EF)	SGN
Ellie Rogers	(ER)	Xoserve
Gareth Evans	(GE)	Waters Wye Associates
John Cooper*	(JC)	BUUK
Kirsty Dudley*	(KD)	E.ON UK
Lesley Bowen*	(LB)	EDF Energy
Lorna Lewin	(LL)	Orsted
Mark Jones	(MJ)	SSE
Megan Coventry*	(MC)	SSE
Michelle Whittington*	(MW)	EDF Energy
Oorlagh Chapman*	(OC)	Centrica
Rachel Clarke*	(RC)	Gemserv
Rachel Hinsley	(RH)	Xoserve
Richard Pomroy	(RP)	Wales & West Utilities
Shaheeni Vekaria	(SV)	Utility Warehouse
Shanna Key	(SK)	Northern Gas Networks
Shardul Pandit*	(SP)	Wales & West Utilities

**via teleconference*

Copies of all papers are available at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0647/270918>

1. Introduction and Status Review

BF explained that to date no papers had been submitted ahead of the meeting, at which point DA apologised explaining that he had a late presentation (covering agenda items 2.0, 3.0 and 4.0) that he would now send to the Joint Office. The Workgroup agreed to consider the presentation at short notice.

1.1. Approval of Minutes (23 August 2018)

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

2. Consideration for Business Rules

DA provided an overview of the '*UNC Modification 0647 – Introducing Competition into DM Meter Reading – Transition*' presentation whereby attention initially focused on the '*Solution Options – 1 / Transition – August Slide*' (slide 5) at which point GE suggested that the critical consideration relates to getting the reads. He went on to suggest that the only viable option is the Product Class 2 route and that he would now make sure that the matter is placed on the forthcoming ICoSS meeting agenda.

Moving on to consider the '*Transition – Discussion Points*' on slide 6, DA explained that this is a new slide containing several key questions that the Workgroup needs to consider.

RP indicated that in his opinion it is preferable to have a hard cutover rather than a more complicated transitional period and that this might then facilitate transfer via the current service provider. BF also noted that adopting a transitional period based approach would also potentially invoke liability related issues (i.e. liability rates applied over the transitional period issues etc.). The consensus amongst those in attendance was that liabilities should cease at the time transition commences.

Looking to consider the '*Transition – Discussion Points*' on slide 7, DA advised that there would be some Code impacts involved.

New Action 0901: Reference '*Transition – Discussion Points*' slides – Xoserve (DA) to articulate how the proposed timings are reflected in the Gemini system.

DA went on to advise that he has undertaken preliminary discussions with the (Xoserve) Operations Team, who are of the view that these proposals could work. However, it is recognised that there is a potential risk during the transition period in the form of DMSP and Shippers submitting meter readings during the period. Again, the consensus amongst those in attendance was that these proposals could work, although monitoring and rules would be required.

Moving on to consider the '*Other Requirements???*' slide 8, DA suggested that the proposal supports the cut over requirements and sets out a sound basis for development of the business rules, which he is happy to prepare ahead of the next Workgroup meeting.

New Action 0902: Reference '*Other Requirements???*' slide – Xoserve (DA) to prepare a draft set of business rules for consideration at the next Workgroup meeting.

3. Daily Read Error

Please refer to discussions on agenda item 2 above.

4. Transitional Arrangements

Please refer to discussions on agenda item 2 above.

5. Review of Outstanding Actions

Action 0801: Wales & West Utilities (RP) to amend the Modification to include a reasonable endeavours response in relation to the provision of access to equipment at restricted access sites such as military and government sites.

Update: In referencing the provisions within TPD Section G1.8.7, RP suggested, and those in attendance agreed, that this action is no longer needed. **Closed**

Action 0802: Wales & West Utilities (RP) to consider if any further clarification is needed in the modification on non-compliance of Class 1 meter read provision and follow up actions

Update: RP advised that this on going issue had been considered at the previous day's Performance Assurance Committee (PAC) meeting where it was highlighted that the Class 2 meter read performance is currently in the region of 33%.

RP went on to point out that Wales & West Utilities has considered turning the obligation around and placing it on the Shippers, but had discounted this option on the grounds that it would require a complex solution to achieve the objective.

RP explained that in short, the challenge is what would we be expected to include within an amended version of the modification, and should anyone have any views / ideas, please provide these as soon as possible. Having said that, as this is really a PAC matter, he is not proposing to include Shipper liabilities or a performance regime.

In recognising that both PAC and the UIG Taskforce would be looking into this matter, SK supported RP’s proposed approach – the consensus amongst those in attendance was that PAC and the UIG Taskforce is the preferred route to resolving these concerns. It was noted that one PAC Member had suggested the rules implemented by Modification 0635 that were subsequently removed from Code, should be reinstated.

GE supported the approach that PAC should be allowed to develop the performance regime based on evidence as they would be able to take a market view of the regime including risks associated with all Product Class meter reading submissions.

CW reminded everyone that the rationale behind the current regime was to introduce competition (i.e. to do away with the previous regime which was in effect a monopoly service). Recognising this point, RP advised that he would look to amend the modification to take into account the historic aspects service provision without liabilities. **Closed**

Action 0803: Xoserve (RH/ER) to develop the business rules for solution option 1 for both hard and soft cutover. To also consider the transitional and enduring rules for change of Shipper and change of Supplier processes.

Update: DA confirmed that in the Class 2 regime, the Registered User has a responsibility to provide the necessary reads. Furthermore, he does not propose changing the current Supplier / Shipper processes. **Closed**

Action 0804: Transporters to provide a view on the approach to be taken for support transitional arrangements from the current to the future regime.

Update: SK advised that she is currently awaiting a response on this matter from their contract owner.

When asked whether or not the Transporters are proposing to provide a consolidated response to the action request, RP once again pointed out that both Cadent and Wales & West Utilities utilise the same provisions. While NGN provide the assets and use the same Meter Reading agency as Cadent and WWU. SGN provide a combined assets and Meter Reading Service. RP then made reference to his response published under today’s meeting papers whilst providing a quick explanation behind the contractual elements involved. **Closed**

6. Development of Workgroup Report

Consideration deferred.

7. Next Steps

Workgroup to consider the Gemini system timing aspects and draft business rules with a view to development of the draft Workgroup Report.

8. Any Other Business

None.

9. 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, Thursday 25	Elexon, 350 Euston Road,	Standard Agenda

October 2018	London NW1 3AW	
10.00, Thursday 22 November 2018	Radcliffe House, Blenheim Court, Warwick Road, Solihull B91 2AA	Standard Agenda
10.00, Tuesday 17 December 2018	Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London NW1 3AW	Standard Agenda

Action Table (as at 27 September 2018)

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
0801	23/08/18	5.0	Wales & West Utilities (RP) to amend the Modification to include a reasonable endeavours response in relation to the provision of access to equipment at restricted access sites such as military and government sites.	Wales & West Utilities (RP)	Update provided. Closed
0802	23/08/18	5.0	Wales & West Utilities (RP) to consider if any further clarification is needed in the modification on non-compliance of Class 1 meter read provision and follow up actions	Wales & West Utilities (RP)	Update provided. Closed
0803	23/08/18	5.0	Xoserve (RH) to develop the business rules for solution option 1 for both hard and soft cutover. To also consider the transitional and enduring rules for change of Shipper and change of Supplier processes	Xoserve (RH/ER)	Update provided. Closed
0804	23/08/18	5.0	Transporters to provide a view on the approach to be taken for support transitional arrangements from the current to the future regime.	Transporters	Update provided. Closed
0901	27/09/18	2.	<i>Reference 'Transition – Discussion Points' slides</i> – Xoserve (DA) to articulate how the proposed timings are reflected in the Gemini system.	Xoserve (DA)	Pending
0902	27/09/18	2.	<i>Reference 'Other Requirements???' slide</i> – Xoserve (DA) to prepare a draft set of business rules for consideration at the next Workgroup meeting.	Xoserve (DA)	Pending