

UNC Workgroup 0763R Minutes
Review of Gas Meter By-Pass Arrangements
Thursday 22 July 2021
via Microsoft Teams

Attendees		
Rebecca Hailes (Chair)	(RHa)	Joint Office
Helen Cuin (Secretary)	(HCu)	Joint Office
Alan Raper	(AR)	Joint Office (<i>Observer</i>)
Andy Clasper	(AC)	Cadent
Claire Louise Roberts	(CLR)	Scottish Power (<i>0763R only</i>)
Clare Manning	(CM)	E.ON Energy
Dan Simons	(DS)	PAFA/Gemserv (<i>0763R only</i>)
Dave Mitchell	(DMi)	SGN
David Addison	(DA)	Xoserve
Ellie Rogers	(ER)	Xoserve
Guv Dosanjh	(GD)	Cadent
Jenny Rawlinson	(JW)	BU UK
Kate Lancaster	(KL)	Xoserve
Mark Jones	(MJ)	SSE
Oorlagh Chapman	(OC)	British Gas
Richard Pomroy	(RP)	WWU
Steven Britton	(SB)	Cornwall Insight
Steve Mulinganie	(SM)	Gazprom Energy

Copies of all papers are available at: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0763/220721>

The Workgroup Report is due to be presented at the UNC Modification Panel by 21 October 2021.

1.0 Introduction and Status Review

Rebecca Hailes (RHa) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1.1. Approval of Minutes (24 June 2021)

The minutes from the previous Workgroup were approved.

1.2. Approval of Late Papers

RHa advised of 1 late paper, which the Workgroup approved.

1.3. Review of Outstanding Actions

0601: Xoserve (DA) to seek a view from MAMCoP on the typical periods for a Bypass meter to be opened to deal with a meter failure.

Update: David Addison (DA) reported that typically this would be no more than 2 weeks. Richard Pomroy (RP) wished to note there are some exceptions for bespoke meters where the period can be much longer. DA explained and Workgroup agreed that when considering the point at which best to undertake a verification check, it would be sensible to have a 3-month data point.

Closed.

2.0 Consideration of Request

2.1. Meter By-Pass Analysis Update

Dan Simons (DS) provided a slide pack summarising the progress against each of the questions the proposer sought to answer as part of the review along with a view on the potential next steps to be taken. For the fully detailed update, please refer to the published slides on the meeting page at: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0763/220721>.

In response to review questions 1&2, Meter ByPasses being notified, DS provided an overview on page 5 of the ONJOB and ONUPD updates. From the analysis data DS concluded there didn't appear to be an issue with Shippers reporting an Open Bypass being fitted.

The Workgroup considered the potential for unknown sites which are not reported. SM wished to note there are many obligations and aspects within the UNC where Shippers are responsible for reporting data and where there could be unknowns from data not being reported. He challenged that the 'unknowns' could be zero and a view or perception that there could be a problem without sufficient evidence or data to justify there may be problem, is not a true measure of a risk and should not be used a basis for industry focus.

The Workgroup considered a secondary concern that there could be erroneous status flags and relevant flows have not gone into the system. The Workgroup considered the granularity of data. The Workgroup also considered the subsequent consumption adjustments not being notified within 15 days (review question 3) and that this was still an unknown as to whether adjustments were required and not provided or simply not required.

SM believed there was an administrative data cleansing requirement as there may be erroneous flags. He recognised there are some genuine sites with a Bypass. It was suggested that an exercise should be undertaken to audit all ByPasses.

SM asked the Workgroup to consider the costs of an audit against the energy cost related to this problem to evaluate the benefit of undertaking a full audit exercise as the realised value from doing this may not be warranted when taking into account the auditing costs. He suggested a more focussed approach.

RP noted that the benefit of accurately recording meter ByPasses along with appropriate consumption adjustments would improve settlement accuracy. The Workgroup agreed that understanding the potential AQ value / Energy value would be useful to the Workgroup to understand the significance of the issue.

The Workgroup discussed review question 4 and whether MAMs are seeking appropriate permission in all instances from Transporters before Bypass is installed. It was suggested that the DNs could report to the CDSP all meter ByPass requirements/requests for further interrogation. RP enquired what the Workgroup would be trying to establish with this exercise, whether this would be to check current procedures, or to verify installations.

SM suggested, this exercise would test the permissions and could highlight if there are any discrepancies in 3 scenarios: 1. where permission has not been granted but a ByPass has still been installed; 2. where approval has been granted, the ByPass has installed and notified to CDSP; and 3. where permission is granted but the ByPass has not been installed.

It was agreed that Workgroup wished to review this data for All Transporters for the period between May 2019 – May 2021.

<p>New Action 0701: Xoserve to provide All Transporters with a list of Bypass installations in central systems between May 2019 and 2021 for Transporters to provide a view next month on whether requests are being submitted to the Transporters.</p>
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The Workgroup considered review question 5 and if Meter ByPasses are being installed as intended for premises detailed in GDN/PM/GT2 and MAMCoP and if this warranted further investigation.

RP suggested that the Workgroup would need to consider the potential for a site to change its use. It was agreed to wait for the analysis / results from New Action 0701 as to whether this required further consideration. SM had reservations on whether this needed further focus.

RP and SM debated as the Meter ByPass issue is to improve about settlement accuracy, if there should be something in MAMCoP to obligate the MAM for the maintenance of the ByPass.

SM also wanted to understand what would happen once a Meter ByPass is installed and the status of site or status of the ByPass changes. RP believed it was not clear what happens when there is a change of use for a site. RP noted as there is a cost associated with removing a ByPass there may be circumstances where the ByPass remains on site but is not used.

The Workgroup considered if the end-to-end processes are clear, fit for purpose and whether the existing UNC had the appropriate mandates and obligations. SM believed that based on the limited data sets it was difficult to conclude that Shippers are not aware of their obligations.

DS suggested the main focus for the Workgroup based on discussions would be on the durations of a ByPass and Consumption adjustments and whether a Modification would be required for these areas. The Workgroup also believed there would be value undertaking a data cleansing exercise before raising any Modifications.

The Workgroup considered review question 11 and the likely data cleanse activities, recognising there may be some housekeeping related issues.

It was suggested that data cleansing should focus on sites with:

- An open ByPass is recorded where the site is recording consumption
- An open ByPass is recorded for longer than 2 weeks
- A closed ByPass has been in situ for greater than 1 Year.

Ellie Rogers asked if a ByPass could stay in place and closed. It was clarified that a ByPass can stay on site and not used however where it is removed the ByPass flag should be updated, to indicate a ByPass is no longer on site.

It was agreed further consideration would be given on the requirement for data cleansing next month as this may circumvent the need for a Modification.

2.2. Data Cleansing

See item 2.1. No further discussion.

2.3. Review of End-to-End Process

The Workgroup briefly considered whether to review the end-to-end process, DS believed this wouldn't be necessary if the Workgroup considered the 11 questions presented.

3.0 Next Steps

The Workgroup hoped to continue discussions in August if more data is available. It was agreed that if the information requested for New Action 0701 was not available in time the August discussions would be postponed until September.

4.0 Any Other Business

None.

5.0 Diary Planning

Further details of planned meetings are available at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/events-calendar/month

Workgroup meetings will take place as follows:

Time / Date	Paper Publication Deadline	Venue	Programme
10:00 Thursday 26 August 2021 (TBC - Subject to data availability for Action 0701)	5pm 18 August 2021	Microsoft Teams	Review of further analysis Review of data cleansing requirements Review of potential UNC changes
10:00 Thursday 23 September 2021	5pm 15 September 2021	Microsoft Teams	TBC

Action Table (as of 22 July 2021)						
Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Reporting Month	Owner	Status Update
0601	24/06/21	2.0	Xoserve (DA) to seek a view from MAMCoP on the typical periods for a Bypass meter to be opened to deal with a meter failure.	July 2021	Xoserve (DA)	Closed
0701	22/07/21	2.1	Xoserve to provide All Transporters with a list of Bypass installations in central systems between May 2019 and 2021 for Transporters to provide a view next month on whether requests are being submitted to the Transporters.	August 2021	Xoserve / All Transporters	Pending