

**UNC Workgroup 0361 Consider the duration of changes
against wider industry developments
Thursday 17 March 2011
ENA, 52 Horseferry Road, London**

Attendees

Tim Davis (Chair)	TD	Joint Office
Bob Fletcher (Secretary)	BF	Joint Office
A Raper	AR	National Grid Distribution
Chris Hill	CH	First Utility
Chris Warner	CWa	National Grid Distribution
Chris Wright	CWr	British Gas
Dora Ionara	DI	Ofgem
Joanna Ferguson	JF	Northern Gas Networks
Joel Martin	JM	Scotia Gas Networks
Jon Dixon	JD	Ofgem
Jon Wisdom	JW	RWE npower
Phil Broom	PB	GDF Suez
Richard Fairholme	RF	E.ON UK
Richard Hall	RHa	Consumer Focus
Ritchard Hewitt	RHe	National Grid NTS
Simon Trivella	ST	Wales & West Utilities
Stefan Leedham	SL	EDF Energy

1.0 Introduction

TD welcomed all to the meeting.

2.0 Outline of Modification and Discussion

JW introduced the modification and its aims. He asked if there were any views why Panel should not have the role of taking a holistic approach to changes in the industry. If not a Panel role, where does it best fit?

RHa thought it would be difficult for the Panel to second guess outcomes from other industry groups and regulatory bodies. JW considered the Panel should be seeking to defer modifications where they might be impacted rather than second guess outcomes. RF considered it could be more appropriate to have a non binding guidance document rather than absolute obligations to test each modification against.

TD asked for an example of an explicit question that could provide the desired information. Should this, for example, be included in the representation template and/or Workgroup reports?

New Action WG0361 03/01: JW to provide an example of a question, which could be asked in representation templates and/or Workgroup reports.

CWr considered it was more likely to generate concerns and responses based on individual company commercial impacts and not the overall impact on UNC parties or the industry. It was not clear that was appropriate in these circumstances.

SL asked if RWE npower had raised similar modifications in other codes. JW confirmed

this has been done though not for all codes. RHa advised that the BSC Panel rejected a similar modification, as it was considered difficult to draft legal text to require Panel members to, in effect, use their common sense.

ST pointed out that Modification 0209 is an example of where the Panel already considers wider impacts of a modification, and so questioned whether this change was needed. TD asked how would Panel behave differently if Modification 0361 were implemented, as there are no rules preventing this course of action happening now. The group agreed that, in principle, the benefits of any modification should be expected to exceed the value of the modification during its lifetime, and that assessment should be undertaken without the Modification Rules being modified.

3.0 Consider Terms of Reference

No further comments were provided.

4.0 Diary Planning for Workgroup

The next booked meeting is planned for:
21 April 2011, ENA, following the UNC Committee meeting.

An additional meeting day is to be arranged to take forward assessment of this and other live modifications, and also to consider the timing of UNC meetings.

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
WG0361 03/01	17/03/11	2.0	Provide an example of a question, which could be asked in representation templates and/or workgroup reports.	RWE npower (JW)	Pending