

UNC Workgroup 0384 Agenda

UNC Modification Rules; housekeeping, clarity and minor drafting changes

Thursday 21 July 2011

ENA, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AF

Attendees

Tim Davis (Chair)	TD	Joint Office
Bob Fletcher (Secretary)	BF	Joint Office
Alan Raper	AR	National Grid Distribution
Chris Shanley	CS	National Grid NTS
Chris Warner	CWa	National Grid Distribution
Chris Wright	CWr	British Gas
Dora Ianora	DI	Ofgem
Joanna Ferguson	JF	Northern Gas Networks
Joel Martin	JM	Scotia Gas Networks
Phil Lucas	PL	National Grid NTS
Richard Fairholme	RF	E.ON UK
Richard Street	RS	Corona Energy
Simon Trivella	ST	Wales & West Utilities

1. Minutes and Actions

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

2. Workgroup Discussion

CS explained the recent amendments to the modification and that the remaining changes to the modification rules should be regarded as a house keeping exercise.

TD asked if it would be a good idea to review the provision of legal text in the modification rules and clarify the position and status of suggested text, draft text and formal text. CS advised raising a new modification to review the legal text aspects of the rules. TD noted that Ofgem have requested legal text for all self-governance modifications and that this negated the need for the minor change put forward in 0384. RF expressed a desire to see final legal text available for all modifications prior to them being issued to consultation. There should be a requirement that all text changes should be advised to Panel at any stage, including where the modification is with Ofgem for decision.

RF also thought there might be scope for the central provision of text i.e. through the Joint Office, though he was not sure this could be facilitated through a modification and was probably a licence change. RS was unsure why this was not introduced at the time of network sales as he could see many advantages.

There was general support within the workgroup for text to be fixed once a modification had been issued to consultation and any amendments to be referred to Panel for their approval. However, CS was not sure the control was required to this level and felt that legal teams should be given the opportunity to sense check draft text prior to issuing it as formal text. CWa thought it should be considered best practice that the proposer approves text prior to it being issued as formal text.

CS pointed out that he thought it would be worth delaying this modification report until a decision has been reached on Modification 0372 since the modifications were amending the same text.

2.1 Review of Draft Legal text

The draft legal text was not reviewed pending its amendment.

3. AOB

4. Diary Planning for Workgroup

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 18 August 2011, at ENA, following the UNC Committee meeting.