

UNC Workgroup 0407 Minutes
Standardisation of notice periods for offtake rate changes for all
National Grid NTS Exit Users
Tuesday 20 December 2011
at 31 Homer Road, Solihull B91 3LT

Attendees

Bob Fletcher (Chair)	(TD)	Joint Office
Helen Cuin (Secretary)	(HC)	Joint Office
Alan Raper	(AR)	National Grid Distribution
Bethan Winter	(BW)	Wales & West Utilities
Dave Adlam	(DA)	National Grid Distribution
Dave Corby	(DC)	National Grid NTS
Erika Melén	(EM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Helga Clarke	(HC)	National Grid NTS
Jeanette Gregory	(JG)	National Grid Distribution
Mark Amos	(MA)	National Grid NTS
Mike Wassell	(MW)	National Grid NTS
Phil Hobbins	(PH)	National Grid NTS
Rob Cameron-Higgs	(RCH)	Wales & West Utilities
Stuart Gibbons	(SB)	National Grid Distribution

* via teleconference

Copies of all papers are available at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0407/201211>

1.0 Outline of Modification and initial discussion

BF explained that this modification was discussed at Panel and Shippers wished to be involved in the discussions. They have therefore asked for the modification to be considered at the next Transmission Workgroup.

RCH introduced the modification, explaining the background and intent, he confirmed that it is to be presented at the Transmission Workgroup. The modification had been raised to standardise the OAD rules for offtake range changes, which are currently restricted to 5% within 2 hours. The current rules require DNOs to use storage to keep their networks balanced and this could result in a requirement for additional storage investment, which is deemed uneconomical. The aim was allow consistency between NTS direct consumers and DN connected consumers.

2.0 Consider Terms of Reference

See item 3.0

3.0 Initial Discussion

PH wished to take views at the Transmission Workgroup on where the best place would be to develop the Workgroup Report. He explained that National Grid NTS were not necessarily convinced the solution is appropriate as it is an issue

for a particular LDZ. The 5% rule provides some protection and NTS will need to analyse the impact of removing the rule. He believed the solution transfers flexibility risk and it needs to be established if this is appropriate. PH believed there might be other commercial solutions rather than uneconomical investment in storage. He believed OAD Section I 2.7.1 may offer a solution without having a blanket removal of the 5% 2 hour rule. MW wished to take a legal view on this section of the UNC and the way in which it could be used.

BF explained that Shippers wanted to understand impacts on direct connects and the reasons why the rule was originally established.

RCH welcomed all the comments provided.

The workgroup agreed to amend the Terms of Reference to include a consideration on; the impact on NTS direct connections, the reasons for having a 5% 2 Hour rule - OAD I 2.3, and the impacts and linkage with NTS Network flex.

It was acknowledged that the Transmission Workgroup would need to consider the Terms of Reference.

4.0 Any Other Business

None raised.

5.0 Diary Planning for Review Group

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

The next meetings of the Workgroup will take place within the business proceedings of the Transmission Workgroup, 10:00, 05 January 2012 at Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London, NW1 3AW and the Offtake Arrangement Workgroup, 10:00, 18 January 2012, 31 Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3LT.