

UNC Offtake Arrangements Workgroup Minutes

Tuesday 30 October 2012

31 Homer Road, Solihull B91 3LT

Attendees

Tim Davis (Chair)	(TD)	Joint Office
Lorna Dupont (Secretary)	(LD)	Joint Office
Alison Chamberlain	(AC)	National Grid Distribution
Bethan Winter	(BW)	Wales & West Utilities
Darren Lond	(DL)	National Grid NTS
Dave Corby*	(DC)	National Grid NTS
David Mitchell	(DM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Eddie Blackburn	(EB)	National Grid NTS
Graham Wood*	(GW)	British Gas
Harvey Beck* (0407 only)	(HB)	Ofgem
Helga Clarke	(HC)	National Grid NTS
James Whiteford	(JW)	National Grid NTS
Katherine Porter*	(KP)	EDF Energy
Lewis Hodgart* (0407 only)	(LH)	Ofgem
Leyon Joseph	(LJ)	Scotia Gas Networks
Mark Jones *	(MJ)	SSE
Rhys Ashman	(RA)	National Grid NTS
Rob Cameron-Higgs	(RCH)	Wales & West Utilities
Terry Woods* (0433S only)	(TW)	Wales & West Utilities
Tom Connolly*	(TC)	Scottish Power

*via teleconference

Copies of all papers are available at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/OA/301012>

1.Introduction and Status Review

1.1 Review of minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

1.2 Review of actions

OF0404: All DNs to review all outstanding errors to ensure that any errors that are still outstanding are 'live' (www.gasgovernance.co.uk/MER)

Update: Work at DNs was continuing. AC believed that the status of all National Grid Distribution errors was up to date. DM indicated that Scotia Gas Networks was awaiting some outstanding confirmations before formally closing some errors. Shippers welcomed the progress made and agreed the action could be closed.

Closed

OF0901: SGN to provide some updated data on meter error. SO013 - Mappowder MTA.

Update: DM reported that he had had confirmation that this was a null report, and it is expected that this will be closed down in the next few days. Further information will be published at www.gasgovernance.co.uk/mer/SO013. **Closed**

OF0902: DNs to consider undertaking a review of all live errors twice a year and updating the guidelines to reflect the requirement.

Update: Considered under agenda item 5.1. **Carried Forward**

2. Significant Measurement Error Update

1. SC006 Aberdeen MTA

DM read out a separate update for the error from each ITE. He confirmed that Ben Kirkman and Keith Vugler have met separately with Professor Malalasekera. In each case it had been determined that an extended study/additional set of results was required, a timetable had been defined, and it was expected that the ITEs would be in a position to offer a penultimate presentation in February 2013. DM will circulate the key points from each ITE's update for closer consideration; GW observed that following perusal by Shippers there might be further questions to be submitted to the ITEs.

GW asked when the ITEs would be likely to produce their draft SMERs. DM believed these would be available in February 2013.

Concerns were expressed regarding any potential interaction with Modifications 0395 and 0398 and that invoicing impacts (eg would there be a timing out issue?) might require consideration. DM confirmed that the first notification of this error was 21 July 2009 and under the current rules should not be affected.

3. Measurement Error Updates

1. SC012 - Kinknockie MRA MRB

TC had proposed this agenda item. He expressed concerns that while the error had been assigned a Low significance (estimated quantity of 24GWh) the error has been ongoing since (01/04/2007) and he believed an explanation of why it took as long as it did to be identified would be useful as there had been at least 4 or more routine validations of the site while this error was occurring which did not identify its occurrence. He also believed that clarification of the cause of the error and of its start date might be welcomed.

DM responded that he had raised TC's concerns regarding the timescales with the appropriate personnel. He will pursue this and hopes to have further information to provided more clarity at the next meeting.

It was agreed that this item should be added to the next agenda.

GW then suggested that perhaps it should be treated in the same way as a Significant Measurement Error in terms of the process to accord it higher visibility; TC supported this suggestion.

It was agreed that any further information able to be provided by Scotia Gas Networks be reviewed at the next meeting. If Shippers believed it to be necessary, a formal proposal might then be made that the error be reviewed by an ITE.

1. Workgroups

The following Workgroup meetings took place:

1. 0407 - Standardisation of notice periods for offtake rate changes for all National Grid NTS Exit Users

The Workgroup Report is due to be submitted to the UNC Modification Panel on 21 February 2013. The minutes for this meeting are located at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0407

4. 0433 - Inclusion of the Transmission to Distribution “System Operator Agreement Guidelines” within the Offtake Arrangements Document

The Workgroup Report is due to be submitted to the UNC Modification Panel on 17 January 2013. The minutes for this meeting are located at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0433

5. Issues

1. ISS 0040 - Review of Measurement Error Notification Guidelines

AC reported that progress was being made, and HC had diligently pursued the DNs to provide updates on outstanding errors. There were no other changes to propose at this stage but AC would welcome suggestions from other parties.

TC suggested that the area relating to the publication of the Final MER might be worth reviewing as he had concerns regarding the opportunities/responsibilities for validating the information at the various stages. Was there a check on the error/quantity outlined in the report and whatever is sent to Xoserve to invoice out? Is there any validation carried out on whether the correct values have been applied? TC then gave an example (where a figure appeared to have been multiplied by a factor of 10), which had given rise to his concerns and his belief that a check should be initiated.

AC expressed her concern on hearing of this example and asked if TC had approached the relevant DN to discuss his concern. AC reiterated the responsibilities, confirming it is ultimately the DN's error that is being corrected. If a Shipper had concerns then it should approach the DN responsible for the meter.

She went on to explain that National Grid NTS does provide a very good check/balance on the information supplied to it, and she was satisfied with this part of the process. Information was then extracted from Gemini (daily quantities) and Xoserve also checks what is provided. She suggested that it might have been a failure to update the website with relevant information, but if it is causing TC concern that it needs to be looked at.

TC indicated that he would forward details to the relevant DN and to Transmission so that it can be considered. AC welcomed this approach and will review if other steps might be required.

It was recognised that review of the Guidelines is likely to be ongoing.

6. ISS 0047 - Assured Offtake Pressures

RA gave a brief update; some comments had been received and more would be welcomed. His Gas Operations colleagues were looking to arrange meetings with the DNOs and he will be attending.

7. New Issues

AC referred to Annual Validations, and indicated that consideration was being given to fixing parameters so the dates do not slip every year.

It was suggested that this be added to the agenda of the next meeting.

6. Any Other Business

None raised.

7.Diary Planning for Workgroup

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

The next meeting of the Offtake Arrangements Workgroup will take place at:
10:00 on Wednesday 12 December 2012 at 31 Homer Road, Solihull B91 3LT.

UNC Offtake Arrangements Workgroup - Action Table

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
OF0404	23/04/12	4.3	DNs to review all outstanding errors to ensure that any errors that are still outstanding are 'live'.	All DNs	Closed
OF0901	25/09/12	1.2	SGN to provide some updated data on meter error. SO013 - Mappowder MTA	Scotia Gas Networks (DM)	Closed
OF0902	25/09/12	1.2	DNs to consider undertaking a review of all live errors twice a year and updating the guidelines to reflect the requirement.	All DNs	Carried Forward