

**UNC Workgroup 0466 Minutes
Daily Meter Reading Simplification
Thursday 23 January 2014
Consort House, 6 Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3QQ**

Attendees

Bob Fletcher (Chair)	(BF)	Joint Office
Helen Cuin (Secretary)	(HCu)	Joint Office
Alan Raper	(AR)	National Grid Distribution
Alex Ross-Shaw	(ARS)	Northern Gas Networks
Alison Chamberlain	(AC)	National Grid Distribution
Andrew Margan	(AM)	British Gas
Andy Bowen	(AB)	RWE npower
Anne Jackson	(AJ)	SSE
Colette Baldwin	(CB)	E.ON UK
Dan Simons	(DS)	EDF Energy
Darren Lond	(DL)	National Grid NTS
David Addison	(DA)	Xoserve
David Mitchell	(DM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Ed Hunter	(EH)	RWE npower
Erika Melén	(EM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Gareth Evans	(GE)	Waterswye
Hilary Chapman	(HCh)	Xoserve
Kirsten Elliot-Smith	(KES)	Cornwall Energy
Lorna Lewin	(LL)	DONG Energy
Marie Clark	(MC)	Scottish Power
Mark Jones	(MJ)	SSE
Rob Cameron-Higgs	(RCH)	First Utility
Rob Johnson*	(RJ)	Wingas
Steve Mulinganie	(SM)	Gazprom
Steve Nunnington	(SB)	Xoserve

* via teleconference

Copies of all papers are available at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0466/230114

The Workgroup Report is due to be presented at the UNC Modification Panel by 20 March 2014.

1.0 Review of Minutes and Actions

1.1. Minutes

Minutes accepted.

1.2. Actions

1101: Shippers/Suppliers to provide evidence of what they currently do with their DM Reads and what timelines are involved and whether or not these are process specific requirements for them.

Update: Workgroups agreed to close this action. **Closed.**

1202: NTS to consider the impact of changed timings and any consequences of such a change for NTS.

Update: DL initial views were there wouldn't be any consequences, however he wished to consider unique sites before the action is closed. **Carried Forward.**

2.0 Discussion

AR recognised there were some issues around the hourly service. SN asked if the service could be dumbed down and opened up to competition rather than a having a monopoly service. However, SM expressed concern about dumbing down a monopoly service and not being in a position to procure the service elsewhere.

AR confirmed National Grid was not looking to remove or unbundle the DN service, however they wished to review the service and the way it is provided. They hoped to allow read equipment of choice rather than specifying the equipment.

AR explained that there was no feedback suggesting 11:00 was a critical time. He therefore suggested moving the existing obligations to provide readings by 15:00 to allow more time for reads to be provided.

SM wondered if 15:00 was too late for Shippers to provide validated meter reads/data on D+1. GE believed moving the window passes a risk to Shippers. SM suggested 13:00 might be more viable and equally beneficial time. AR confirmed he would consider this suggestion.

AR also wished to consider the liability framework; the D+4 liability, the level of liability and the 97.5% D+1 liability. AR was keen to gear the service more in line with a commercial service on the back of the type equipment being fitted and comparing risks to benefits for its provision. AR clarified National Grid Distribution were refitting all their DN equipment.

SM enquired about attaching equipment to customer fitted meter read equipment. AR didn't see any issues with customers fitting their own equipment, as long as there were 4 portals as UNC places an obligation for priority access for Transporter owned equipment.

Action 0101: National Grid Distribution to confirm the feasibility of installing equipment to allow customer owned equipment to be installed.

AR to reconsider amending the modification in preparation for the next meeting.

3.0 Any Other Business

None.

4.0 Diary Planning for Review Group

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

The next meeting will take place within the Distribution Workgroup on:

Monday 10 February 2014, at 10:30, Consort House, 6 Homer Road, Solihull B91 3QQ

Action Table

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
1101	08/11/13	2.0	To provide evidence of what they currently do with their DM Reads and what timelines are involved and whether or not these are process specific requirements for them.	Shippers/ Suppliers	Closed
1201	10/12/13	2.0	Consider the impact of changed timings and any consequences of such a change for NTS	National Grid NTS (BV)	Carried Forward
0101	23/01/14	2.0	Confirm the feasibility of installing equipment to allow customer owned equipment to be installed.	National Grid (AR/CW)	Pending