

UNC Distribution Workgroup Minutes
Thursday 23 July 2015
at 31 Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3LT

Attendees

Bob Fletcher (Chair)	(BF)	Joint Office
Mike Berrisford (Secretary)	(MB)	Joint Office
Andy Clasper	(AC)	National Grid Distribution
Chris Warner	(CW)	National Grid Distribution
Colette Baldwin	(CB)	E.ON UK
David Addison	(DA)	Xoserve
David Mitchell	(DM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Gareth Davies	(GD)	National Grid NTS
Hilary Chapman	(HC)	Xoserve
Kirandeep Samra	(KS)	Npower
Kirsten Elliott-Smith	(KES)	Cornwall Energy
Lorna Lewin	(LL)	DONG Energy
Mark Jones	(MJ)	SSE
Naomi Nathanael	(NN)	Plus Shipping
Robert Wiggington	(RW)	Wales & West Utilities
Steve Mullinganie	(SM)	Gazprom

* via teleconference

Copies of all papers are available at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/dist/230715>

1. Introduction and Status Review

1.1. Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

1.2. Actions

DX0202: *Reference Transfer of Meter Points between iGTs and GTs - Xoserve (DA) to clarify discussions around how readings should be provided (i.e. estimated read provisions etc.), as undertaken within other forum (i.e. PN Workgroup & UKLC).*

Update: HC explained that following discussion at the previous meeting, Xoserve is awaiting feedback and conclusion of further discussions with CB.

It was agreed to defer consideration of the action until the September Workgroup meeting. **Carried Forward**

DX0203: *Reference Transfer of Meter Points between iGTs and GTs – All parties to consider requirements and provide feedback.*

Update: In pointing out that this action is related to DX0202 above, HC suggested that any feedback on this matter would still be greatly welcomed.

When asked, the Workgroup agreed to close this action. **Closed**

DX0601: Xoserve (DA) to provide a link to the UNC Modification 0428 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

Update: HC advised that this had been provided. **Closed**

DX0602: *Reference Increasing Capacity via Re-Confirmation & Increasing Capacity via Re-Confirmation If Site is Subject to Ratchets* - Xoserve (DA) to look to provide performance related data appertaining to the confirmations / reconfirmations process.

Update: DA apologised for the late submission before moving on to provide a brief overview of the 'Modification 0428 – Single Meter Supply Points' presentation.

DA advised that the original number sites requiring disaggregation was in the region of 78k and by the end of the last week of June this number had been brought down to around 10k and this was reducing each day. Focusing attention on the 'Referrals' slide, DA provided some background information, including reference to previous Workgroup discussions around referrals having the capacity to delay proceedings. DA explained that analysis based on circa 1.7k sites remaining to be disaggregated.

He indicated that a number of DM sites were outstanding due in part to the complexity of the issues associated with their site characteristics. Resolution of these sites is via extensive manual workarounds, supported by one-to-one discussions between Xoserve and the impacted party. A number of sites have to be visited to ensure the characteristics are correctly recorded. He went on to add that the resolution timescales for the NDM sites remain uncertain at this time.

When asked whether or not Xoserve could provide a list of the DM sites that parties could use for (industry) discussion with the Incumbent Shipper / Supplier purposes, DA explained that whilst he would be not able to publish the exact information per se, there may be other options for providing the disaggregation data (restricted to just the meter point aspects for impacted Shippers). DA then suggested that some of these sites would / could be expected to 'fall away' around August / September time. However, he did acknowledge that there are potential ratchet related impacts.

SM explained that Gazprom is considering raising a UNC modification which looks to protect customers from the potential impact of the ratchet related issues and which would advocate a 'soft landing transition period' approach. SM added that he believes that any site that is associated with the Modification 0428 processes should be included, as deferral of the Project Nexus Implementation Date erodes the protection afforded by Project Nexus implementation. SM also suggested that customers are pitching 'high' in order to achieve a level of security around their respective capacity aspects.

In referring to the implementation of UNC Modification 0445 'Amendment to the arrangements for Daily Metered Supply Point Capacity' scheduled for 01 October 2015, which allows DM consumers to reset their capacity bookings, irrespective of the previous gas year's consumption (inc. a rule to ensure within year profiling is not permitted), DA suggested that consideration of whether or not another 11th hour temporary modification is required, may be needed in due course. CW pointed out that the last modification of this nature, timed out, hence the need for a new one.

SM remained convinced that sites that are subject of the Modification 0428 processes should be protected from the potential impact of the effect of ratchets (i.e. only those sites that have gone all the way through the process). He believes that this is especially important as the majority of customers have never had to separate (disaggregate) their meter points before, and as a consequence, genuine mistakes will take place.

When asked whether this is really a network referral related issue, SM reaffirmed his belief that customers / consumers should be protected from the consequence

of the new scenario's as he believes it is unfair to impose potentially large charges on customers over the forthcoming winter period when they have no experience of operating their sites in a disaggregated scenario, some are bound to make unintentional mistakes. In acknowledging SM's concerns, DA suggested that care would be needed in developing the business rules for the new (Gazprom) modification.

In also acknowledging the points raised, CW remained concerned that care would be needed to avoid potential network related impacts and the possible dilution of current incentives. When SM suggested that there are already technical solutions in place to protect the network, CW indicated that he would be happy to discuss the matter further during the development of the modification, if raised.

When asked, SM confirmed that he anticipates that the modification would be 'time limited' and apply to this forthcoming winter period only, as he believes that once Project Nexus is implemented, suitable protection for customers would be provided. It was noted that Xoserve had previously been asked to ensure that protection applies across all Project Nexus product classes.

In looking to close discussions, DA pointed out that the number of impacted sites had now reduced to circa 1.2k and that it is the 'churn' aspects that add to the problems. **Closed**

1.3. Modification(s) with Ofgem

In the absence of an Ofgem representative, consideration deferred.

1.4. Pre-Modification discussions

There were no pre-modification discussions at today's meeting.

2. Workgroups

The following Workgroup meetings took place:

2.1. 0468 – Unique Property Reference Number (UPRN) Population by Gas Transporters

(Report to Panel 15 October 2015)

www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0468

2.2. 0522 (0479A) - Inclusion of email as a valid UNC communication

(Report to Panel 15 October 2015)

www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0522

2.3. 0526 - Identification of Supply Meter Point pressure tier

(Report to Panel 15 October 2015)

www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0526

3. Issues

3.1. New Issues

No new issues raised.

4. Any Other Business

4.1. Xoserve FGO programme

BF advised that an updated presentation had been published for information only purposes.

SM advised that at a recent meeting, Xoserve appeared to have moved their position with regard to the issue of the Xoserve Board membership split.

4.2. Joint Office Web Site Events Diary – EPRAS Meetings

SM advised that there is an expectation that EPRAS meetings would be added to the Joint Office Events Diary in future. BF pointed out that access could be granted to parties to enable them to manage their respective entries on the diary.

5. Diary Planning

During a brief discussion it was noted that if no new modifications are allocated to the Distribution Workgroup at the forthcoming 20 August 2015 Panel meeting, it is likely that the 27 August meeting would be switched to a teleconference meeting only, on the grounds that both 0468 and 0526 are temporarily on hold until the September meeting.

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

Workgroup meetings will take place as follows:

Time/Date	Venue	Workgroup Programme
10:30 Thursday 27 August 2015	ENA, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AF	Standard Workgroup considerations plus 0522.

Action Table

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
DX0202	26/02/2015	4.4	<i>Reference Transfer of Meter Points between iGTs and GTs - Xoserve (DA) to clarify discussions around how readings should be provided (i.e. estimated read provisions etc.), as undertaken within other forum (i.e. PN Workgroup & UKLC).</i>	Xoserve (DA)	Carried Forward
DX0203	26/02/2015	4.4	<i>Reference Transfer of Meter Points between iGTs and GTs – All parties to consider requirements and provide feedback.</i>	All	Update provided. Closed
DX0601	25/06/2015	4.1	To provide a link to the UNC Modification 0428 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).	Xoserve (DA)	Update provided. Closed
DX0602	25/06/2015	4.1	<i>Reference Increasing Capacity via Re-Confirmation & Increasing Capacity via Re-Confirmation If Site is Subject to Ratchets - Xoserve (DA) to look to provide performance related data appertaining to the confirmations / reconfirmations process.</i>	Xoserve (DA)	Update provided. Closed