

Development Work Group 0194 Minutes
Monday 30 June 2008
Holiday Inn, 61 Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3QD

Attendees

Julian Majdanski (Chair)	JM Joint Office
Helen Cuin (Secretary)	HC Joint Office
Mitch Donnelly (Proposer)	MD British Gas
Fiona Cottam	FC xoserve
Denis Aitchison	DA Scotia Gas Networks
Chris Warner	CW National Grid Distribution
James Crump	JC Ofgem
John Edwards	JE Wales & West Utilities
Linda Whitcroft	LW xoserve
Richard Dutton	RD Total
Shelley Rouse	SR Statoil (UK)
Richard Street	RS Corona Energy
Tom Vickers	TV Gaz de France
Stefan Leedham	SL EDF Energy
Joanna Ferguson	JF Northern Gas Networks

Apologies

1. Introduction and Status review

1.1. Minutes from previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

1.2. Review of Actions from previous meeting

Action DG0194 0003: All to consider suggested Work Plan and the data required in preparation for the next meeting

Action Update: Ongoing

Action Complete

Action DG0194 0010: Ofgem to provide any available data on the accuracy of meters by type.

Action Update: JC confirmed that he had located the last output on meter accuracy for an 11 month period between 01 February 2003 and 01 January 2004, however he explained that the information is very limited. For further information refer to:

[http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Networks/Techn/Metrology/Documents/1/7222-](http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Networks/Techn/Metrology/Documents/1/7222-Gas_Meter_Dispute_june04.pdf)

[Gas_Meter_Dispute_june04.pdf](http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Networks/Techn/Metrology/Documents/1/7222-Gas_Meter_Dispute_june04.pdf). MD concluded that the group have not been able to identify any bias in meter accuracy due to the lack of public information available.

Action Complete

Action 0013b: Shippers to check internal processes for reporting Meter bypass consumption when a bypass has been used.

Action Update: CW reported that National Grid Metering had been contacted he provided the response which confirmed that it was difficult to identify what has been reported. RD believed that the number of sites is likely to minimal. MD questioned if the RGMA flow can be used to identify cases. LW reiterated that xoserve are not aware of any reported information. RS confirmed that the MAM is obliged to report Meter bypass via RGMA flows. xoserve agreed to examine the RGMA flows and provide an update.

Action Complete

New Action 0013c: xoserve to examine RGMA flows for Meter bypass consumption reporting and provide an update.

Action 0014: xoserve to provide a corrected copy of the Theft of Gas statistics for publishing on the Joint Office website.

Action Complete.

Action 0015: British Gas to populate the RbD Allocation Table and provide the methodologies for the figures used.

Action Update: Ongoing

Action Carried Forward.

Action 0016: xoserve to report the ages of Unregistered Sites.

Action Update: See item 2.1

Action Complete.

2. Review Group Discussion

2.1. Agree RbD Allocation Table

LW provided an updated presentation for Unregistered Sites which contained two additional slides to the presentation provided at the last meeting. The slides illustrated the ages of Unregistered Sites where there is evidence of Shipper activity but not a registered site. xoserve reported 6921 sites remain unregistered of which 580 sites have had some shipper activity since June 2004. LW explained that Shipper Activity can be an attempt to attach a meter, a request for an MPRN for an urgent meter fix, or a confirmation rejection.

MD was interested in understanding the actual risk to RbD, and how many of the 580 sites would be impacted by the reconciliation cut off next April. He believed this would assist with understanding the potential risks.

Action 0017: xoserve to provide the AQs for the sites which are likely to drop off the reconciliation

RD expressed concern that the AQ may be overstated and that the information may be unreliable. MD acknowledged RD's concerns however he explained that this was the only data available and could provide an understanding to the energy element involved and the risk to RbD.

FC provided a presentation on orphaned sites this included the lifecycle of a meter point. She confirmed that some are created and cancelled but these will be investigated and the meter point end dated after investigation. FC explained that where there is evidence of a meter installation these can fall into three scenarios, not yet confirmed, Scenario A and scenario B (late confirmed or orphaned sites).

FC explained that to encourage the registration of orphaned sites (where the requesting Shipper has not confirmed) the incoming Shipper can avoid pre-confirming energy, this results in the pre-confirmed energy remaining in RbD.

The statistics illustrated a total of 656 orphaned sites of which 494 were small supply points the remainder within the smaller LSP and Large Supply Points between Jan 06 and May 08. In energy terms this was estimated at 164,178 mWh, of which 25% falls within the SSP market.

MD confirmed that the group had previously indicated that the governance arrangements should ideally reside within the UNC as this would control the amendment of the Allocation Table through the Modification process. MD highlighted the potential increase of Modification activity each time a Modification is implemented that could affect the Allocation Table. The group re-considered having the table as a UNC Related document governed by the UNC Committee. There was a consensus for UNC Governance with RbD Allocation Table existing as an Annex within Section E.

MD explained his aspiration to complete the development process; his intention will be to raise two Modification Proposals, one to install the methodology into the UNC and another to agree the RbD Allocation Table numbers. He also acknowledged that the Business Rules and Billing arrangements need to be considered.

JC welcomed the group providing a robust methodology which moves towards increasing the efficiency of the UNC and finalising the Allocation Table with a separate Modification.

CW suggested that National Grid Distribution could work with xoserve to provide a draft set of Business Rules. MD summarised the process for the development of the Business Rules.

Action 0018: National Grid Distribution and xoserve to develop draft Business Rules.

LW confirmed that an online and offline billing solution would need to be considered to understand which would be the better solution.

CW also highlighted that the group will need to consider User Pays.

A debate evolved about the Proposal and the potential to improve the current allocation of costs. RS reiterated the acceptance from I&C suppliers that the allocation of costs should not be born entirely by the RbD market but he did not agree with the route chosen to improve the current allocation process.

TV questioned the granularity of categories and whether these need to be considered by EUC band or simply by SSP and LSP. RD asked if a geographical split could be achieved for each category.

CW believed that this would over complicate the regime and that he could not support splitting each category geographically. MD also questioned whether trying to geographically split the data available would enable targeted reconciliation.

The management of Smart Meters/advanced metering was discussed. FC confirmed that the equipment would only be flagged by meter read flags when a read is provided. A longer term solution would be to hold this information within the Meter Asset data which is a complex change which could be considered as part of the 2012 developments. MD acknowledged that there would be a lower allocation for advanced metering. It was agreed that advanced metering could not currently be included and would have to wait until a 2012 solution was available. SL challenged whether the advanced meters could be treated as DM but the current flag could not facilitate this solution. MD was keen to establish a principle that sites with AMR/smart meters/ advanced metering have a lower charge (close to that of the DM charge). It was acknowledged that a system change would be required to identify such equipment.

LW highlighted that the group needs to consider sites that switch between monthly and non monthly read.

The group considered what items would want to be itemised within the framework, these were:

- NDM SSP
- LSP NDM Annual,
- LSP NDM Monthly,
- LSP DM (including DM voluntary)
- LSP DM (elective)*
- LSP NDM (smart/AMR/inte/Advanced)*
- SSP and LSP CSEPs NDM (3 categories)

It was acknowledged those items marked with * are not currently identifiable with the current UK Link system with a flag at the level NDM annual, DMD Monthly or DM (including DM voluntary). It was also uncertain how CSEPs would be managed.

RS expressed an interest in understanding how much it would cost to develop a flag for DM elective and NDM (smart/AMR/inte/Advanced) to allow improved allocation.

Action 0019: National Grid to initiate a system impact assessment and investigate the likely development costs of creating a flag for advanced metered and DM elective sites.

Action 0020: British Gas to produce worked up example of how the RbD Allocation Table will operate.

LDZ Measurement errors were briefly discussed however it was agreed that these would stay as they are currently.

3. Diary Planning for Review Group

10:30, 11 July 2008, Holiday Inn, 61 Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3QD.

4. AOB

None.

ACTION LOG – Development Work Group 0194

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
DG0194 003	28/02/08	4.0	All to consider suggested Work Plan and the data required in preparation for the next meeting	All	Complete
DG0194 0010	27/03/08	2.4	Ofgem to provide any available data on the accuracy of meters by type.	Ofgem (JC)	Complete
DG0194 0013b	09/06/08	1.2	Shippers to check internal processes for reporting Meter bypass consumption when a bypass has been used.	Shippers	Complete
DG0194 013c	30/06/08	1.2	xoserve to examine RGMA flows for Meter bypass consumption reporting and provide an update.	Xoserve	Pending
DG0194 0014	09/06/08	2.1	xoserve to provide a corrected copy of the Theft of Gas statistics for publishing on the joint Office website.	xoserve (LW)	Complete
DG0194 0015	09/06/08	2.1	British Gas to populate the RbD Allocation Table and provide the methodologies for the figures used.	British Gas (MD)	Ongoing
DG0194 0016	09/06/08	2.2	xoserve to report the ages of Unregistered sites.	xoserve (LW)	Complete
DG0194 0017	30/06/08	2.2	xoserve to provide the Aqs for the sites which are likely to drop off the reconciliation	xoserve (LW)	Pending
DG0194 0018	30/06/08	2.2	National Grid Distribution and xoserve to develop draft Business Rules.	National Grid (CW) and xoserve (FC)	Pending
DG0194 0019	30/06/08	2.2	National Grid to initiate a system impact assessment and investigate the likely developmental costs of creating a flag for advanced metered and DM elective sites.	National Grid (CW)	Pending

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
DG0194 0020	30/06/08	2.2	British Gas to produce worked up example of how the RbD Allocation Table will operate.	British Gas (MD)	Pending