
UNC 0594R Workgroup Minutes
Meter Reading Submission for Advanced & Smart Metering
Thursday 23 March 2017
at Consort House, 6 Homer Road, Solihull B91 3QQ

Attendees

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|
| Bob Fletcher (Chair) | (BF) | Joint Office |
| Mike Berrisford (Secretary) | (MB) | Joint Office |
| Andy Clasper | (ACI) | National Grid Gas Distribution |
| Andrew Margan* | (AM) | British Gas |
| Angela Love* | (AL) | ScottishPower |
| Chris Warner | (CW) | National Grid Gas Distribution |
| Colette Baldwin | (CB) | E.ON Energy |
| David Addison | (DA) | Xoserve |
| Eleanor Laurence* | (EL) | EDF Energy |
| Fraser Mathieson | (FM) | Scotia Gas Networks |
| Gavin Anderson* | (GA) | EDF Energy |
| Jon Dixon* | (JD) | Ofgem |
| John Welch | (JW) | npower |
| Kathryn Turner* | (KT) | Good Energy |
| Kish Nundloll | (KN) | ESP |
| Lorna Lewin | (LL) | DONG Energy |
| Mark Jones | (MJ) | SSE |
| Phil Lucas* | (PL) | National Grid NTS |
| Rachel Hinsley | (RH) | Xoserve |
| Richard Pomroy* | (RP) | Wales & West Utilities |
| Sean Hayward | (SH) | Ofgem |
| Shanna Key* | (SK) | Northern Gas Networks |
| Steve Mulinganie | (SM) | Gazprom |
| Steven Britton* | (SB) | Cornwall |

* *via teleconference*

Copies of all UNC meeting papers are available at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0594/230317>

The UNC Workgroup Report is due to be presented at the UNC Modification Panel by 15 June 2017.

1.0 Introduction and Status Review

1.1. Approval of Minutes (23 February 2017)

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

2.0 Discussion – Way Forward

Review of the Draft Questions for Request for Information – Request 0594R document

SM provided a brief overview of the draft document and requested that should anyone have any views, they contact him direct to discuss.

In explaining that item 1.1 reflects the current arrangements, SM agreed to reword the item to provide better clarity.

In referring to item 1.4, CW enquired whether there would be any value in revisiting the DME read provisions (i.e. can Class 1 sites be treated in a similar way to Class 2 but with a Shipper obligation applied for meter read provision), especially as the subject matter has moved on since the industry first considered this area. Responding, FM advised that Scotia Gas Networks are currently considering these matters, although he is unable to provide a clear view on their progress at this time. It was noted that this could be resolved by a separate UNC modification to be raised at a later date.

Moving on SM explained that section 2.0 represents a set of questions for people to consider of which item 2.6, is of special interest. It was suggested that perhaps further clarification around industry arrangements in support of the provision of reads might be beneficial (i.e. do product classes need to be amended, or relax the Service Level Agreement (SLA) timescales etc.) – SM agreed to consider and make appropriate changes.

Some parties wondered whether it should include additional items to cover aspects such as potential market cost, smearing factors for Class 3's and possibly AUGE aspects relating to Uncontrolled Gas in Class 4 products. It was also noted that whilst it would be beneficial to include some cost v's benefit analysis, it might prove difficult on the grounds that these are confidential matters that parties might wish to discuss with Ofgem directly.

Continuing, SM explained that he is unsure how best to progress matters from this point onwards as he believes that it is now down to Ofgem to take these Requests for Information (RFI's) and undertake the necessary steps/actions.

When asked whether Gazprom would consider formally withdrawing the modification/request once the information has been passed to Ofgem, SM advised that this is not necessarily the case, as he expects that the Request Group would provide a report outlining its deliberations and findings, in due course.

When BF asked whether this concludes the (sub) Workgroup's deliberations on the matter, SM suggested that parties should be given one more opportunity to consider the RFI aspects and provide feedback for consideration at the next meeting.

A debate quickly ensued around whether it would be beneficial to mandate migration to daily reads and would specific market sectors benefit from such an action. Furthermore, it was suggested that consideration of what potential benefits End Users/Consumers might receive from end packages could be a valuable exercise. Some parties also wondered whether there is a 'soft landing' requirement for recent SMART installations, although it was noted that this is subject to when SMART equipment is deemed to be operational. Possible consideration of a move away from the base case position was also suggested. In the end, DA agreed to provide a list of suggested changes to SM so that these could be considered at the next Workgroup meeting.

3.0 Review of Plan

A quick verbal update on the RFI timescales was provided and thereafter further consideration of this item was deferred.

4.0 Review of Actions Outstanding

1201: Gazprom (SM) to develop a draft 0594R Workplan for consideration at the next meeting.

Update: When SM advised that this is subject to the development of a set of assumptions, the Workgroup acknowledged that matters have moved on since the action was first established, and the action could now be closed. **Closed**

1202: All parties to liaise with Gazprom (SM) to identify suitable items for inclusion within a Workplan.

Update: As with outstanding action 1201 above. **Closed**

0201: *Reference development of an analysis and assumptions matrix and establishing an initial position on a future methodology* - Ofgem (JD) to set up an informal Ofgem led meeting between interested parties with the aim of reporting back at the March 2017 Workgroup meeting.

Update: BF advised that this action had now been completed. **Closed**

5.0 AOB

None.

6.0 Next Steps

BF proposed that at the next meeting the Workgroup would consider any amendments made to the draft RFI document with a view to concluding the Workgroup Report.

7.0 Diary Planning

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 April 2017 | Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London NW1 3AW | Standard agenda plus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Consideration of amended draft RFI document</i> • <i>Completion of Workgroup Report</i> |

Action Table (as at 23 March 2017)

| Action Ref | Meeting Date | Minute Ref | Action | Owner | Status Update |
|------------|--------------|------------|---|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1201 | 14/12/16 | 2.0 | To develop a draft 0594R Workplan for consideration at the next meeting. | Gazprom (SM) | Update provided. Closed |
| 1202 | 14/12/16 | 2.0 | To liaise with Gazprom (SM) to identify suitable items for inclusion within a Workplan. | All | Update provided. Closed |
| 0201 | 23/02/17 | 2.0 | <i>Reference development of an analysis and assumptions matrix and establishing an initial position on a future methodology</i> - Ofgem (JD) to set up an informal Ofgem led meeting between interested parties with the aim of reporting back at the March 2017 Workgroup meeting. | Ofgem (JD) | Update provided. Closed |