Transmission Workstream Minutes Thursday 07 January 2010 Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London NW1 3AW

Attendees		
John Bradley (Chair)	(JB)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Mike Berrisford (Secretary)	(JB)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Alan Raper	(AR)	National Grid Distribution
Alex Barnes	(AB)	Gazprom
Amrik Bal	(ABa)	Shell
Angus Paxton	(AP)	Poyry Energy Consulting
Bogdan Kowalewicz	(BK)	Ofgem
Chris Wright	(CW)	Centrica
David Moore	(DM)	The Gas Forum
Debra Hawkin	(DH)	National Grid NTS
Fergus Healy	(FH)	National Grid NTS
lan Taylor*	(IT)	Northern Gas Networks
Jean-Raymond Rastoul	(JR)	Gaselys
Joanna Ferguson	(JF)	Northern Gas Networks
Julie Cox	(JC)	AEP
Leigh Bolton	(LB)	Holmwood Consulting
Luigi Rizzi	(LR)	Gazprom
Mark Dalton*	(MD)	BG Group
Nick Reeves	(NR)	National Grid NTS
Paul O'Donovan	(PoD)	Ofgem
Rekha Patel	(RP)	Waters Wye
Richard Fairholme*	(RF)	EON UK
Richard Street*	(RS)	Corona Energy
Ritchard Hewitt	(RH)	National Grid NTS
Roddy Munroe	(RM)	Centrica Storage Ltd
Shelley Rouse	(SR)	Statoil
Simon Trivella	(ST)	Wales & West Utilities
Sofia Fernandez Avendano	(SA)	Total Gas & Power
Stefan Leedham	(SL)	EDF Energy
Steve Fisher	(SF)	National Grid NTS
Steven Sherwood	(SS)	Scotia Gas Networks
Tim Davis*	(TD)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Tony Thornton	(TT)	The Gas Forum
Apologies	· ·	
Chris Shanley		National Grid NTS
Chandima Dutton		National Grid NTS

1. Introduction

JB welcomed attendees to the meeting.

1.1. Minutes of the previous Workstream Meetings

The minutes of the 03 December 2009 meeting were accepted.

1.2. Review of Outstanding Actions

1.2.1. Actions from the Workstream

Action TR1097: Ofgem to consider and report back whether they would wish to encourage the establishment of a group involving all stakeholders, both Government and industry, to look holistically at gas emergency arrangements.

Update: Linked to Project Discovery, work is ongoing. BK was unable to provide a date for the proposed Ofgem publication but agreed to investigate and provide a timetable (if available) for publication alongside these minutes.

Action: Carried Forward

Action TR0902: Ofgem to consider publishing details of the back casting exercise that suggested 50% of change proposals might fall to self-governance.

Update: This was provided at the December 2009 Modification Panel

Action: Closed

Action TR0904: National Grid NTS to consider quantifying the likely impact on unbilled energy if Modification Proposal 0266 were to be implemented.

Update: RH informed members that the action had been completed (23/24 December 2009) with no significant impacts anticipated and we now await Ofgem approval of the modification. JB reminded members that following provision of an appropriate analysis from National Grid, Ofgem had indicated that they were minded to accept. BK added that he is unaware of whether or not Ofgem have completed their own analysis.

Action: Closed

Action TR1201: E.ON (RF) to develop draft Terms of Reference for UNC Modification Proposal 0273 for discussion/consideration whilst proposing some initial meeting dates.

Update: See agenda item 2.1 below.

Action: Closed

Action TR1202: All members to provide views on the NTS Exit (Flat) Capacity Charges – Credit Arrangements (UNC TPDV3.3.4).

Update: ST informed members that he had discussed this matter with National Grid NTS and concluded that Wales & West Utilities would be able to 'tailor' their solution(s) to match Shippers needs (if required). Furthermore, the matter is due to be discussed under the 0252 banner at next weeks Distribution Workstream meeting (14/01/10) and attendance at the meeting would be welcomed. Once feedback is received, a UNC modification could be raised.

Action: Carried forward

Action TR1203: National Grid NTS (FH) to quantify the effect (if any) on customers, of the intended revision of the value of the Design Margin within the long term planning models.

Update: ST informed members that he had raised the matter with colleagues and is awaiting a response.

Action: Carried Forward

Action TR1204: National Grid NTS (CS) to provide a EU 3rd Package Update to clarify what requirements/date was being worked to.

Update: See agenda item 3.2 below.

Action: Closed

Action TR1205: National Grid NTS (CS) to provide a EU 3rd Package Update to clarify how National Grid NTS will interpret how a data item to be published relates to pressure in a balancing zone.

Update: See agenda item 3.2 below.

Action: Closed

1.3. Review of Workstream's Modification Proposals and Topics

1.3.1. Modification Status Report (Modification Proposals Register¹)

JB gave an update on live and recently closed Modification Proposals.

1.3.2. Topic Status Report

JB gave an update by exception only.

The Topic Status Report for the Transmission Workstream is located on the Joint Office website at: http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/mods/

014TR: RH requested that this topic remain open as various outcomes are awaited.

019TR: JB reminded members that this topic had already been discussed and Ofgem's guidance documentation is available to view and/or download from the Joint Office web site at: http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/tx/070110

020TR: This topic is kept open for review on a meeting-by-meeting basis. BK was unable to provide an update at this time. However, AB intimated that this maybe integrated in to Project Discovery in due course.

022TR: To be discussed under agenda item 3.2.

024TR: RH informed members that he had received a first draft of a set of legal text and is planning to meet with the lawyers to discuss their drafting and thinking before reporting his findings at a later meeting.

023TR: RH suggested that this should remain 'on hold'.

1.4. Related Meetings and Review Groups

There were no matters arising that required the attention of the Workstream.

2. UNC Modification Proposals

2.1. Modification Proposal 0273 "Governance of Feasibility Study Requests to Support Changes to the Network Exit Agreements"

In opening, JB provided a brief update on background discussions so far which have concluded that it is prudent to treat development of this work in a similar manner as undertaken by a UNC Review Group and as a consequence, draft terms of reference have been developed.

A copy of the draft terms of reference are available to view and/or download from the Joint Office web site at: http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/tx/070110

2.1.1 E.ON Presentation on the Draft Terms of Reference

RF provided an overview of the presentation before enquiring if anyone had any questions, or comments to make. In response, RH advised that he will email his comments to RF directly after the meeting. In essence, his comments relate to which supply points and (very) large DN sites are impacted. ST added that it includes any DN site with a NExA. All the DN representatives present indicated that they would be able to identify this level of information.

-

¹ The Modification Proposals Register is available to view at: http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/mods/

Members agreed to include approval of the terms of reference as an agenda item on the next Transmission Workstream meeting scheduled for Thursday 04 February 2010, immediately prior to the TCMF meeting.

3. Topics

Copies of the various presentations are available to view and/or download from the Joint Office web site at: http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/tx/070110

3.1. Review Group 0252: V3.3.4 Exit Capacity/VAR Credit Arrangements

It was agreed that this item had been sufficiently covered elsewhere in this meeting.

3.2 Topic 022TR European Transparency Requirements

3.2.1 EU 3rd Package Update Clarification – National Grid NTS

RH confirmed that the linepack provisions are on a daily basis. AB highlighted that the proposed amendments should be subjected to the 'comitology' process to avoid a clash of political versus practical provisions.

In response to a point made by JC regarding whether or not the actual implementation date is still open to discussion, RH suggested that in his view this item could still align with the proposed implementation for 715/2009, but acknowledged that this may not be a view shared by everyone.

3.3 Potential UNC Changes/Review from the Entry Charging Review Group – National Grid NTS

National Grid NTS (DH) provided an overview of the presentation.

DH confirmed that the removal of entry capacity will require a licence change associated with derivation. DH went on to inform members that a draft of the discussion paper is already available on the National Grid web site, whilst BK suggested that the final version should be available in January 2010.

In considering the 'Potential UNC Changes – Initial Thoughts', DH pointed out that National Grid NTS is seeking users' views and the list provided is by no means complete. When asked if the document considers how capacity and discounts (i.e. scale/size etc) will be managed via the TO Commodity Charge, DH confirmed that this had in fact, been taken into consideration. The analysis for this is available to view and/or download from the National Grid web site. SL added that discussions have also taken place identifying the risks associated to releasing capacity – the how and when. DH indicated that she expects that more detail will be forthcoming during the Phase II discussions.

Looking at the 'Potential UNC Timeline' slide, DH informed members that the intention is to run both the charging and UNC timelines alongside each other. When asked if the discussions had considered booking capacity, discounts and revenue recovery impacts (inc. risks associated with over/under recovery), DH advised members that a whole range of benefits had been considered. SL also confirmed that analysis has also looked at annual booking profiles.

In closing, DH advised members that the next charging meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 26 January 2010. SF added that it is his intention to provide a draft UNC Modification Proposal in time for the February 2010 Transmission Workstream meeting.

4. Any Other Business

4.1. Gas Day 04 January 2010 (Gas Balancing Alert)

In opening his presentation, RH stressed that the information provided is in a rough draft format only and National Grid NTS are keen to share its experience with users and to seek feedback on the events experienced earlier in the week.

A more detailed presentation will be provided at the Gas Operational Forum meeting on Wednesday 13 January 2010.

In considering the 'Leading into the day' slide, RH informed members that demand increased (50 mcm) in response to Met Office predictions and thereafter continued to creep up during the period 02/01 to 04/01/10. He went on to point out that the blue line reflects a 1:50 winter. When asked about what temperatures were utilised for the cold assumptions, JB pointed out that the relevant information is available to view on the 'prevailing view/demand pages on the National Grid web site.

ie http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Gas/Data/prevailingview/

RH advised that there are between three and four forecasts undertaken during a day, which give the relevant views. However, it should be noted that the period concerned included a bank holiday.

Moving on to the 'Linepack Graph for 04 Jan 2010' slide, RH pointed out that the blue line represents the projected line pack whilst the green line represents the actual value. RH provided a brief overview of the data as follows:

- the Gas Day started with light linepack;
- the sharp initial reduction was expected to average out;
- o the OCM started at approximately 40p/therm rising later to 50p/therm;
- trade taken around 10:00am following notification of a significant supply loss (>25mcm) and OCM residual balancing invoked to balance the system, including the release of additional capacity;
- at around 11:30am meeting underway to discuss additional supply losses and decision to invoke a GBA (Gas balancing Alert) was undertaken thereby encouraging National Grid Market Trades;
- o during the period of 12:00 to 12:30pm, the OCM was trading at approximately 60p/therm, and
- o parties notified that the loss of the terminals would not be recovered before the next day.

When asked about the apparent jump towards the end of day position, RH suggested that this may be a reflection of the web site information refresh rates alongside the impact of various market actions (GBA, OCM trades and supplier reactions etc.). RH agreed to investigate further and provide a more detailed view at the Gas Operational Forum.

Members went on to voice their concerns surrounding the possible (future) impact of the loss of National Grid's LNG sites in 2011 and whether or not this would potentially make any similar future incident(s) even worse. In response, RH indicated that he was unsure if any of the NG LNG sites were operating at full flow during the GBA, but was able to confirm that some sites were flowing gas at the time. It was also pointed out that National Grid LNG have stated that they will not be undertaking auctions for their sites after August 2010. Returning to his overview of the timeline, RH went on to point out:

- additional balancing actions undertaken around noon time;
- between 1:00 and 2:00pm observed 'arresting' of linepack movements (possibly as a result of GBA actions) – although this was not a view shared by everyone present as there was a perceived delay in issuing the GBA and the market appeared to have stabilised before then, and
- timing of the GBA release was a product of the duration of the meeting and the method of issuing (i.e. SMS texts) the provision of information

relating to when the significant losses would be recovered (i.e. 2/3 day recovery) triggered NG's view that a GBA was required and RH believes that this was the correct and successful action.

RH was unsure of what level of load was involved but pointed out that the information was/is available on the National Grid web site. He pointed out to those present that once invoked, a GBA cannot be removed until the end of that particular Gas Day.

RM advised members that in his view, the differential between the UK and European Market Prices of around 20p/therm had a direct bearing on the number of market bids undertaken and the subsequent recovery. In response, RH acknowledged that various market forces and actions had come together to resolve the problems. RS whilst voicing his concern that National Grid NTS appeared to be still buying gas even though the interconnector was flowing (a possible reflection of the web site information refresh rates), stated that Corona were happy with the actions undertaken by National Grid NTS, but would still welcome improved visibility of information. RH took these points on board and will respond to the request at the Gas Operational Forum meeting in due course.

Moving on, RH pointed out that:

- o on or around 16:00hrs, linepack depletion was halted with a steady recovery observed continuing through to 05/01/10;
- OCM prices falling back to approximately 40p/therm, and
- GBA trigger for the following day (449mcm) was no longer required current trigger is sitting at 461mcm.

When asked by JC, whether or not the decision to increase storage withdrawals was based on flow rates (i.e. interconnector, Isle of Grain etc.), RH confirmed a decision was based on a combination of all factors. JC then indicated that she also has concerns in relation to the time factors involved, changes to the prevailing views (information refresh rates) and the general lack of data provided via the National Grid screens. When asked, RH confirmed that a GBA maybe issued anytime up to 5:59pm on a preceding day.

RH confirmed that to date, no feedback had been received from either the government or the Authority. However, both parties along with the HSE have been provided with all the information relating to the GBA concerned. He went on to remind members that this is only the second occasion that this has happened, with the first being what may be commonly referred to as a 'slow burn' incident – the current event was within the Gas Day and therefore different in nature. JC also pointed out her concern surrounding the 'deliverability capability monitors' calculation and RH agreed to discuss this in more detail with his colleagues before responding at the Gas Operational Forum meeting.

Action TR 0101: National Grid NTS (RH) to ensure that questions asked on Gas Day 04 January 2010 at the Transmission Workstream are addressed at the January Gas Operations Forum.

4.2. UNC Modification 0262 "Treatment of Capacity affected by Force Majeure" Rejection Issues

In opening this item, MD voiced his disappointment that the modification had been rejected (09 December 2009) and that as a consequence believes that a change to the FM Notifications (Milford Haven) would now be required and he would like to discuss requirements in more detail at the February 2010 Transmission Workstream meeting. MD agreed to take an action to provide a presentation on this matter at the next meeting.

Action TR0102: BG Group (MD) to provide presentation on the way forward for Force Majeure at the February 2010 Workstream.

When asked, FH confirmed that updates are issued to ALL parties, but the UNC only requires notifications (currently via facsimile) when relating to a change in circumstances rather than on a regular basis. However, National Grid NTS is considering if a more regular notification mechanism is viable. FH asked members to check their respective contact names and let him know if they believe that they may not be receiving the notifications.

4.3. Project Discovery Update

BK informed members that the latest project discovery documentation is scheduled for release in Spring 2010.

5. Diary Planning

The next Transmission Workstream meeting is due to be held at 10:00 on Thursday 04 February 2010, at Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London NW1 3AW.

Details of all planned meetings are on the Joint Office website at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/Diary

6. Exit Reform Review

National Grid (SF) provided an overview of the presentation with the following items of interest being raised/discussed.

<u>Slide 6 – 2009 process overview (2)</u> – feedback on the level of (window) traffic and any learning points would be welcomed by National Grid NTS. ST suggested that from a DN's perspective, there is little to be gained by applying early but would support a review of the timescales involved;

Slide 7 – 2009 process overview (3) – the Booking Agent process has not been utilised;

<u>Slide 8 – 2009 process review – key learning points</u> – feedback on information provision would be welcomed. In responding to a question from JC in regard to provision of procedures to support new sites, SF indicted that he was under the impression that this had already been published. PoD added that the Authority anticipate issuing a Generic Revenue Information Consultation in due course:

<u>Slide 9 – Review of July 2009 applications</u> – when asked about how many requests related to either increases or reductions, SF agreed to find out the answer and feedback at a later date.

Action TR 0103: National Grid NTS (SF) to report number of requests related to increases and reductions.

SL pointed out that there had been issues with some misleading communications, which incorrectly indicated that some power stations had zero capacity for 2010. Urgent discussions with National Grid NTS (RH) resolved the matter;

<u>Slide 10 – NTS (DC) Offtake Capacity Position</u> – ST enquired whether or not the 602 GWh/day incremental increase is subject to User Commitment, to which JC responded that it probably is. ST acknowledged that the various factors surrounding user commitment maybe different from a DN's perspective.

Action TR 0104: National Grid NTS (SF) to report on the provision of analysis of total volume v's User Commitment.

In further discussions surrounding User Commitment, SF agreed to take an action to investigate the provision of analysis of the total volume v's User Commitment.

<u>Slide 15 – Current Capacity Holdings</u> – actual figures for 2009/10 may be slightly different;

<u>Slide 20 – Increase in Existing Enduring Obligation</u> – ST enquired how much of the 857GWh/day related to User Commitments. SF replied that he would need to discuss this with colleagues before providing a response, and

Action TR 0105: National Grid NTS (SF) to discuss the level of user commitment in the 857GWh/day figure with colleagues and report back findings.

<u>Slide 21 – National Grid's thoughts</u> – when asked by RM about how we would know that the risk profile had changed based on the baseline perception/calculation, SF replied that he would need to discuss this with colleagues before providing a response.

Action TR 0106: National Grid NTS (SF) to discuss how the risk profile may have changed based on baseline perception/calculation and report back findings.

Moving on, in response to a question from AR, SF confirmed that a reduction window runs for the first 15 Business Days in July. In considering power station capacity, JC suggested that a power station that had historically utilised firm capacity would be unlikely to give this up, whereas power stations, which historically had interruptible capacity, probably would. ST reminded parties that the 'end picture' may be significantly different to the predictions.

SS suggested that National Grid NTS requesting in October, that the DN's reduce pressure at the end of the year is a forlorn hope and he would personally prefer a July request. SF acknowledged this point and will take it on board. Supporting this view, ST also has concerns regarding the lack of information relating to flex in these examples. Furthermore, WWU had earlier in the day received a 'short term flex restriction' notice and he still does not understand why direct connects cannot take flex. In response, RH reminded members that the NExA's dictate the amount of flex that a Firm site can take, although he is also aware that the flexibility workshops are considering these matters. Additionally, he believes that the figures presented do include calculations for NTS Offtakes and how the difference would be apportioned across these. ST remained unconvinced, citing that he still has concerns surrounding short term flex for 2012/14.

When asked by PoD, ST confirmed that DN's who have received rejection notices in response to their flex requests have provided the Authority with copies of the related information. He went on to add that, the DN's are unable to 'trade off' between flex and flat capacity and this results in tensions between pressure and flex considerations. SF acknowledged that there is a need for further industry consideration of these issues in due course.

When discussing flat capacity increases, SS suggested that their (the DN's) views on this matter do not necessarily align with either National Grid NTS or the Authority, especially with regard to peak day loads and their concerns have been relayed to the Authority;

<u>Slide 23 – Areas for additional consideration (1)</u> – JC enquired if annual capacity was available, would parties not buy this before ad-hoc? SF suggested that this would very much depend upon baseline considerations. Furthermore, it should be remembered that ad-hoc is subject to User Commitment, being impacted by enduring annual requirements;

<u>Slide 24 – Areas for additional consideration (2)</u> – SF pointed out that the DN flow swapping was not touched by UNC 0195AV considerations. Both SS & ST indicated that they would be more than happy to start the DN adjustment process earlier in the year;

<u>Slide 25 – Areas for additional consideration (3)</u> – SF acknowledged that further clarity surrounding the overrun process and issues is required. When asking about capacity rights and their relationship to the enduring capacity regime, JC agreed to take an action to consider her requirements and contact SF in due course to discuss in more detail, and

Action TR 0107: AEP (JC) to consider capacity rights and their relationship to the enduring capacity regime prior to discussing with National Grid NTS (SF) in more detail and providing an update in due course.

<u>Slide 26 – How should these be taken forward</u> – SF would welcome any feedback forthcoming with a view to initiating any proposed UNC modification proposals in June 2010. JC suggested that some of the issues are granular in nature and may require several related modifications to resolve.

SS suggested that there maybe a need for impacted parties to discuss these matters in more detail before returning to the next Transmission Workstream meeting with a more formulated view – a similar approach to the operation of a UNC Review Group could be considered advantageous. ST was of the view that this is not necessarily a DN specific issue and could be 'tied in' with the Exit Substitution Workshop meeting scheduled to take place on 27 January 2010. SF agreed to take an action to investigate the feasibility of incorporating these items within the Exit Substitution Workshop meeting along with identification of any potential system impacts and thereafter, provide a progress update at the February 2010 Transmission Workstream meeting.

Action TR 0108: National Grid NTS (SF) to investigate the feasibility of incorporating discussions on how best to initiate (and subsequently govern) development of any UNC modification proposals within the Exit Substitution Workshop arena and report back findings.

Action Log – UNC Transmission Workstream: 07 January 2010

Action Ref	Meeting Date(s)	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
TR 1097	03/07/08	2.2.3	Ofgem to consider and report back whether they would wish to encourage the establishment of a group involving all stakeholders, both Government and industry, to look holistically at gas emergency arrangements.	Ofgem (BW)	To be reconsidered early on 2010 in light of Project Discovery Carried forward
TR 0902	03/09/09	2	Ofgem to consider publishing details of the back casting exercise that suggested 50% of change proposals might fall to self governance.	Ofgem (MF)	Ofgem presented at December Modification Panel Closed
TR 0904	03/09/09	5.1	National Grid NTS to consider quantifying the likely impact on unbilled energy if Modification Proposal 0266 were to be implemented.	National Grid NTS (SF)	Work sent to Ofgem Closed
TR 1201	03/12/09	2.1.2	Modification Proposal 0273 - Develop draft Terms of Reference for discussion/ consideration at the next Workstream, and propose some initial meeting dates.	E.ON (RF)	Presented at January Workstream Closed
TR 1202	03/12/09	3.1	NTS Exit (Flat) Capacity Charges - Credit Arrangements (UNC TPD V3.3.4) - Views to be provided in advance of the next Workstream meeting.	ALL	Carried Forward
TR 1203	03/12/09	3.2.2	Quantify the effect (if any) on customers, of the intended revision of the value of the Design Margin within the long term planning models.	National Grid NTS (FH)	Carried Forward
TR 1204	03/12/09	3.3.1	EU 3 rd Package Update - clarify what requirements/date was being worked to.	National Grid NTS (CS)	Presented at January Workstream Closed
TR 1205	03/12/09	3.3.1	EU 3 rd Package Update – a data item to be published relates to pressure in a balancing zone – clarify how is this to be interpreted by National Grid	National Grid NTS (CS)	Presented at January Workstream Closed

Action Ref	Meeting Date(s)	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
			NTS.		
TR 0101	07/01/10	4.1	Ensure that questions asked on Gas Day 04 January 2010 at the Transmission Workstream are addressed at the January Gas Operations Forum.	National Grid (RH)	Update due at February meeting.
TR 0102	07/01/10	4.2	Provide presentation on the way forward for Force Majeure at the February 2010 Workstream.	BG Group (MD)	Update due at February meeting.
TR 0103	07/01/10	6.	Report number of requests related to increases and reductions.	National Grid (SF)	Update due at February meeting.
TR 0104	07/01/10	6.	Report on the provision of analysis of total volume v's User Commitment.	National Grid (SF)	Update due at February meeting.
TR 0105	07/01/10	6.	Discuss the level of user commitment in the 857GWh/day figure with colleagues and report back findings.	National Grid (SF)	Update due at February meeting.
TR 0106	07/01/10	6.	Discuss how the risk profile may have changed based on baseline perception/calculation and report back findings.	National Grid (SF)	Update due at February meeting.
TR 0107	07/01/10	6.	Consider capacity rights and their relationship to the enduring capacity regime prior to discussing with National Grid NTS (SF) in more detail and providing an update in due course.	AEP & National Grid (JC & SF)	Update due at February meeting.
TR 0108	07/01/10	6.	Investigate the feasibility of incorporating discussions on how best to initiate (and subsequently govern) development of any UNC modification proposals within the Exit Substitution Workshop arena and report back findings.	National Grid (SF)	Update due at February meeting.