

**Review Group 0140 Minutes  
Friday 27 July 2007  
Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London NW1 3AW**

**Attendees**

John Bradley (Chair)	JB	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Chris Logue	CL	National Grid Transmission
Claire Rozyn	CR	Ofgem
Eddie Proffitt	EP	MEUC
Ian Barnes	IB	National Grid Transmission
Richard Street	RS	Statoil
Robert Cameron-Higgs	RCH	Northern Gas Networks
Roger Golding	RG	Scotia Gas Networks
Sebastian Eyre	SE	EDF Energy
Stefan Leedham	SL	EDF Energy
Steve Rose	SR	RWE npower
Tim Davis	TD	Joint Office of Gas Transporters

**Apologies**

Alexandra Campbell	AC	EON UK
Chris Wright	CW	BGT
Paul Gallagher	PG	National Grid Transmission

**1. Introduction**

The Chairman welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

**2. Review of Minutes and Actions from the previous meeting****2.1. Minutes**

The minutes were accepted.

**2.2. Updates on Actions**

**Action RG140/02:** National Grid NTS (PG) and DNs (RG) to consider whether both types of demand can be displayed on the system, and establish/confirm that the DNs would be in acceptance of such. RG to ascertain data owned by DNs and confirm that inclusion on a single website would be acceptable.

**Update: Action remained on hold.**

**Action RG140/09:** Provision of LDZ offtake data and Supply Point demand data broken down into three categories to be considered by National Grid NTS (CL/PG).

**Update:** CL reported that National Grid were continuing to look at this, including some technical issues surrounding feasibility. **Action carried forward.**

**Action RG140/10:** National Grid NTS to make proposals at the next meeting on how actual flexibility capacity utilisation could be most usefully reported.

**Update:** CL asked for this to be carried forward in light of the 0116V Appeal outcome. **Action carried forward.**

**Action RG140/11:** National Grid NTS to make proposals at the next meeting on what supply data should be included.

**Update:** NTS proposes no change to the existing information provided, with hourly data continuing to be available. **Action Closed.**

**Action RG140/12:** SL to check internally on the perceived usefulness of the availability of an annual figure of interrupted capacity in each DN on 01 October each year.

**Update:** SL reported that discussions were continuing, including with the DNs. RG said that SGN was concerned to avoid commercial damage as a result of publishing the data. EP indicated that, in the context of Modification Proposal 0090, commitments had been made to release information, and RCH confirmed that further information was planned for release in September/October. JB questioned whether it was appropriate for annual, DN specific, data to be published on the NTS website. Shippers emphasised they wanted to ensure all data accessible from a single site, with consistent definitions – the actual site was not an issue. **Action carried forward.**

**Action RG140/14:** Following each Data Tranche review National Grid NTS (CL/PG) will provide updated spreadsheets, together with an associated draft data dictionary.

**Update:** Updated spreadsheets had been published on the Joint Office website and a data dictionary is being developed. **Action carried forward.**

**Action RG140/15:** Ofgem to clarify the current intent of their proposed Licence obligation with respect to provision by National Grid NTS of a network model.

**Update:** CR reported that the intent was to increase transparency about capability and to inform technical debates. The proposal was that this should be confidential to Ofgem and no responses were received opposing this. However, CR said he had responded and supported wider publication. **Action closed.**

**Action RG140/16:** JO to include consideration of the BGT points on a future Review Group agenda, giving all interested parties an opportunity to consider the issues raised and develop a proposed way forward.

**Update:** Included on agenda, but BGT unable to attend. **Action carried forward.**

### 3. Review of Data Tranche 3

Taking the principles agreed at the previous meeting into account, the data items on the spreadsheet provided by National Grid NTS were reviewed.

#### 3.1. Entry Capacity

CL introduced the spreadsheet information, with all cells “green” such that continued provision of the data items was proposed. He emphasised, however, that much of the information was repetitive. As for other areas, the intent was not to reduce information, but to rationalise publication, and the key was identifying whether there was a better way in which to publish and summarise the data already provided. No proposals to remove items were made. SL questioned whether the specific information on zonal and nodal maxima provided in the context of entry capacity transfers and trades, rather than through the information website, would be updated and published on a regular basis. CL agreed to consider this and saw no reason why the data could not be provided when updated and relevant. RS suggested consideration would need to be given to the impact of trades and transfers in terms of reporting and the definitions adopted, for example what constituted sold capacity at each entry point and how double counting could be avoided.

**Action RG140/17:** National Grid NTS (CL) to consider whether and how NTS should publish zonal and nodal maxima in future, and the wider impact of trades and transfers on data publication.

In terms of presentation, CL asked if the form of reports provided was useful. Shippers felt they could be, such as when a specific event occurred, but they were not likely to be used regularly. SR suggested that, as the Group was looking towards a data dictionary approach, it was appropriate to create the ability to pull out reports as required rather than having, for example, fixed reports available daily or monthly.

It was agreed that, subject to confirmation that it was derivable, all data items reported on NORD23 could be red rather than green.

**Action RG140/18:** NTS(CL) to ascertain whether all NORD23 data items are derivable.

### 3.2. Capacity Auctions

SL suggested that the large quantity of data available made it difficult to handle and that some additional summaries showing, for example, the split of sales between different auctions (QSEC, MSEC, RMSEC, DSEC, DISEC). Graphs in this format were presented to the Operational Forum and it would be helpful to have the data behind this. SR supported that it was not always easy to track how much had been sold and was left unsold, which was why RWE had raised a Modification Proposal seeking to require this to be published. Adding some granularity to this would help, especially if transfers and trades were superimposed on the arrangements. All agreed that if this could be available as a result of the data dictionary approach, that would be very welcome. CL confirmed that was the intent, but was unlikely to be available before 2008 given the development lead time. CL asked if there was a specific urgent requirement ahead of the forthcoming winter.

**Action RG140/19:** National Grid NTS (CL) to consider whether the data behind the capacity sold graphs presented to the Operational Forum could be published on a daily basis during the forthcoming winter.

On the spreadsheet actuals and summary perspectives, it was agreed that the amber items regarding options should be green. All other categorisations proposed by NTS were accepted.

### 3.3. Exit Capacity

NTS had categorised all the items as green, and this was accepted. This may, however, need to be reviewed in light of experience during the implementation of exit reform.

## 4. Update on Data Tranches 1 and 2

All were invited to review the updated spreadsheets which had been published on the JO website and raise any concerns. Supported by others, RS emphasised that he was keen to see the data dictionary which was central to the process since it would inform the suitability of the spreadsheets.

CL handed out an example of the format of data dictionary which National Grid NTS is developing, covering demand data, inviting comments on the format and approach rather than the detail at this stage. As a practical point, RS said commas should be avoided in data item names as this causes difficulties, for example if exported to a CSV file. SL questioned the units used, highlighting inconsistencies between periods, and emphasised the need for clear, unambiguous, data definitions. RS suggested the source of data should be included to help clarify the precise nature of the information, and that it would also be useful for the format of data to be included. SR suggested it should be made clear which were specific items that would remain unaltered, and which would be overwritten by subsequent, updated, data. The availability of and requirement for archived data that may be changed over time was questioned. Shippers felt it was important to be able to ask for information on how data items had changed and that the dictionary should indicate the items for which

archive values were available on request. CL said that when changes were made, for example as a result of manifest error, the intention would be to retain the original data and make this available if required.

RG asked if it would be made explicit how data should, and should not, be used – for example where summing things was inappropriate since the sum of parts may not equal the whole. CL said the intention was to be as explicit as possible what information was being presented, but not to say what the data items were not and not to offer guidance on how it might be used.

CL asked for views about how to capture in the data dictionary items which are published with a confidence interval. These had not been included in the draft data dictionary, in the interests of simplicity and clarity. RS said a column might usefully be added referring to associated data items. TD asked if a “Comment” column might be useful in this and other contexts. RS suggested a feedback facility might be useful, as on other websites, which all could see such that questions might be raised against specific data items and considered by a general audience. An alternative was for National Grid to periodically issue a Q&A sheet recording FAQs.

CL agreed to take away the comments raised and produce a revised draft format for the data dictionary for consideration at the next meeting.

**Action RG140/20:** National Grid NTS (CL) to redraft the example data dictionary sheet in light of issues raised.

## 5. Potential Additional Data Items - BGT presentation

In response to the presentation given at the previous meeting, CL said that National Grid NTS had some concerns about the information which had been requested. National Grid NTS has an obligation to operate the network economically and efficiently, and was concerned that SO costs may be increased by publication to the extent that Shippers could use the data for their own commercial advantage. Information publication could be seen as an alternative to incentives, and National Grid NTS would want to see this reconsidered as part of a package rather than simply publishing information and retaining the existing incentives unchanged. SL suggested that having more information published could be expected to reduce National Grid NTS costs, for example in the context of TFAs. RS said that the key was striking an appropriate balance between giving the market information to which it could respond and giving away sufficient data to undermine the commercial position of any market player, including but not only NTS. RS also offered to come to the next meeting with some suggestions for alternative approaches with respect to information release regarding TFAs. EP suggested that rather than publishing pressures allowing people to model what was happening on the system, it would be better to just publish the actual information.

The best way to report TFAs was discussed and it was recognised that this may be more an issue of information provision and explanation, as and when a TFA is raised, as opposed to a matter of data provision and publication. EP suggested that it may be worth looking at the electricity side to see if lessons could be learned about when general notices are given concerning the state of the transmission system.

JB suggested that if publication of additional information on the state of the system was to be pursued it may be appropriate for a specific UNC Modification Proposal to be raised.

## 6. Progress Check

### 6.1. Review Group Report

JB said that the JO had started to draft a Review Group Report. This would be placed on the JO web site along with these meeting minutes and comments would be welcome.

**6.2. NCORM Draft**

CL envisaged the NCORM being completely restructured to become a data dictionary in the form of the handout provided earlier in the meeting, plus some commentary at the start. Any such change would be subject to the governance process within the UNC, which meant obtaining approval from the Uniform Network Code Committee to the proposed changes.

**6.3. UNC Proposal?**

It was agreed that if publication of additional items was to be mandatory, a UNC Modification would be required. Equally if some of the red items in the spreadsheets were not to be provided but were presently mandatory in the UNC, a Modification would be necessary. At this stage, however, it was agreed that this would need to be reconsidered once the data dictionary had been completed.

**7. Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

**8. Diary Planning for Review Group**

It was agreed that linepack, maintenance and "Misc/Other" spreadsheets would be considered at the next meeting, when RS would also present on TFAs. CL also offered to bring a revised draft data dictionary.

Meetings have been arranged for:

Tuesday 21 August 2007, and 18 September 2007 at Elexon Offices, 350 Euston Road, London NW1 3AW (10:00 – 16:00)

**ACTION LOG - Review Group 0140: 09 July 2007**

<b>Action Ref</b>	<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Minute Ref</b> (original ref)	<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner*</b>	<b>Status Update</b>
RG140/02	18/05/07	2.2	National Grid NTS and DNs to consider whether both types of demand can be on the system, and establish/confirm that the DNs would be in acceptance of such. RG to ascertain data owned by DNs and confirm that inclusion on a single website would be acceptable.	National Grid NTS (PG) and DNs (RG)	<b>Action on hold.</b>
RG140/09	19/06/07	4	Consider provision of LDZ offtake data and Supply Point demand data broken down into three categories.	National Grid NTS (CL/PG)	National Grid considering, including technical feasibility. <b>Action carried forward.</b>
RG140/10	19/06/07	4.1	Make proposals at the next meeting on how actual flexibility capacity utilisation could be most usefully reported.	National Grid NTS (CL/PG)	To be reconsidered when exit reform clearer. <b>Action Carried Forward.</b>
RG140/11	19/06/07	4.2	Make proposals at the next meeting on what supply data should be included.	National Grid NTS (CL/PG)	Propose to continue as at present. <b>Action Closed.</b>
RG140/12	19/06/07	4.4	Check internally on the perceived usefulness of the availability of an annual figure of interrupted capacity in each DN on 01 October each year.	EDF Energy (SL)	Discussions continuing, including with the DNs. <b>Action Carried Forward.</b>
RG140/14	19/06/07	4	Following each Data Tranche review provide updated spreadsheets, together with an associated draft data dictionary.	National Grid NTS (CL/PG)	Updated spreadsheets published. Dictionary under development. <b>Action carried forward.</b>

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref (original ref)	Action	Owner*	Status Update
RG140/15	09/07/07	3	Ofgem to clarify the current intent of their proposed Licence obligation with respect to provision by National Grid NTS of a network model.	Ofgem (CR)	Intent was to increase transparency and inform technical debates. To be confidential - for Ofgem only. <b>Action closed</b>
RG140/16	09/07/07	3	JO to include consideration of the BGT points on a future Review Group agenda, giving all interested parties an opportunity to consider the issues raised and develop a proposed way forward.	JO (JB)	Included on agenda, but BGT not present at meeting. <b>Action carried forward.</b>
RG140/17	27/07/07	3.1	National Grid NTS to consider whether and how NTS should publish zonal and nodal maxima in future, and the wider impact of trades and transfers on data publication.	National Grid NTS (CL)	
RG140/18	27/07/07	3.1	National Grid NTS to ascertain whether all NORD23 data items are derivable.	National Grid NTS (CL)	
RG140/19	27/07/07	3.2	National Grid NTS to consider whether the data behind the capacity sold graphs presented to the Ops Forum could be published on a daily basis during the forthcoming winter.	National Grid NTS (CL)	
RG140/20	27/07/07	4	National Grid NTS (CL) to redraft the example data dictionary sheet in light of issues raised.	National Grid NTS (CL)	

**Action Owners:** CW – Chris Wright, PG – Paul Gallagher, RG – Roger Golding, CL – Chris Logue, JB – John Bradley, SL – Stefan Leedham, CR – Claire Rozyn.