

Uniform Network Code Committee

Minutes of the 55th Meeting Held on Thursday 15 October 2009

Members Present:

Transporter Representatives: R Hewitt (National Grid NTS), C Warner (National Grid Distribution), J Ferguson (Northern Gas Networks), J Martin (Scotia Gas Networks) and S Trivella (Wales & West Utilities)

User Representatives: A Bal (Shell), C Wright (British Gas Trading), P Broom (GDFSuez), S Rouse (Statoil UK) and S Leedham (EDF Energy)

Ofgem Representative: J Dixon

Joint Office: T Davis (Chair) and J Bradley (Secretary)

55.1 Note of any alternates attending meeting

J Martin for A Gibson (Scotia Gas Networks)

55.2 Record of Invitees to the meeting

Gareth Evans and David Moore

55.3 Record of apologies for absence

A Gibson, and A Hall (Consumers' Representative).

55.4 Monthly Reports from Sub-Committees

Demand Estimation Sub-Committee

B Fletcher gave a brief overview of the recent Seasonal Normal Review and consultation recently undertaken by Transporters and discussed in DESC. He confirmed that DESC failed to reach a consensus in favour of the Transporters' proposal.

S Leedham identified the issue raised at this Committee. A proposed methodology change, prompted by the inclusion of EP2 data, had been tabled by the Transporters. Alternative suggestions had been made by the Shippers but the Transporters had not accepted these and identified that the revised methodology would be adopted. S Leedham considered that consultation had not taken place, although he conceded that the Transporters did not share this view. Shippers were obtaining a view on the proposed methodology from the Met Office and initial indications were that the Transporters methodology may be fundamentally flawed. In the meantime, xoserve was implementing the changed methodology.

S Trivella referred to the extensive discussions in DESC and maintained that the Transporters had consulted with Shippers. He also referred to the Transporters' readiness to use the EP2 data, which lay behind the change.

C Wright suggested that the Transporters should await the publication of the Met Office report. S Leedham supported this but referred to conversations with xoserve that had indicated such a delay would not fit the timetable. He suggested Shippers and Transporters meeting without xoserve to help resolve the issue. However, J Dixon responded that there would be value in the presence of xoserve as it would need to implement any change discussed. J Dixon suggested also that the impact should be quantified before launching any dispute.

C Wright asked whether Shippers could be given the opportunity to review the methodology. S Leedham responded that National Grid NTS had not been

able to release the necessary data, as it was third party data, so the methodology could not be evaluated.

S Trivella agreed to ascertain:

1. Whether it was possible to delay implementing the Transporters' proposal;
2. Confirmation that the correct consultation process had been followed; and
3. Whether Ofgem approval is required before the proposal is implemented.

B Fletcher agreed to review the existing governance, processes and associated deadlines and report back to DESC and UNCC.

55.5 Matters of Implementation

Network Code Operations Reporting Manual

The Committee UNANIMOUSLY approved the changes proposed by National Grid NTS.

55.6 Any Other Business

None

The Committee noted the date and time of the next meeting as Thursday 20 November 2009, immediately after the Modification Panel meeting.