

**Distribution Workstream Minutes**

**Thursday 27 April 2006**

**Novotel, Birmingham International Airport**

**Attendees**

Julian Majdanski (Chair)	JM	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Helen Cuin (Secretary)	HC	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Lorna Dupont	LD	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Adam Frak	AF	Scottish and Southern
Alex Travell	AT	E.ON UK
Alison Jennings	AJ	National Grid UK Distribution
Angus Paxton	AP	ILEX Energy Consulting Ltd.
Chris Warner	CW	National Grid UK Distribution
Joanna Ferusson	JF	Northern gas Networks
Mick Curtis	MC	E=MC <sup>2</sup>
Richard Fairholme	RH	E.ON
Richard Pomroy	RP	Wales and West Utilities
Simon Howe	SH	RWE Npower
Steve Nunnington	SN	Xoserve

**Apologies**

Gareth Evans	Total Gas & Power
Jon Dixon	Ofgem

**1. Status Review**

1.1. Minutes from March Distribution Workstream

Comments received:-

Addition to Minute Ref 3.1 Para 4. CW expressed the view that the UNC Proposal should be viewed as complementary to those raised to amend the iGT Network Codes given the 'hand off' approach previously discussed. Ofgem responded that it would expect to consider these concurrently.

Addition to Minute Ref 3.2.1 Para 4. CW noted that a significant consideration affecting the release of information was the Protected Information UNC provisions within TPD Section V5.

Addition to Minute Ref 3.2.2 Para 2. SH/CW noted a concern that it was unlikely that systems changes could be expedited prior to February 2007. This was dictated by the requirement to 'bundle' changes in accordance with the recently implemented UNC Modification.

Minutes approved.

1.2. Review of Actions from March Distribution Workstream meeting.

See Action Table Appendix for updates.

Dis0304: Steve Pownall has advised that the NEC would notify the Gas Action Task Group (GATG) which is a subgroup of Energy Emergency Committee, of any forthcoming changes. Steve Ladle (Total) attends and Chris Bielby (Centrica) is the chair. Significant changes might also be

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discussed at the main group. The NEC would also notify the Joint Office, and, request the wider publication, of any changes. However, it should be noted that this is not a consultation process.

### 1.3. Review of Live Modification Proposals and Topics Log

Modification Proposals:

JM reviewed the current Distribution Modification Proposals, highlighting that Modification Proposal 0005 (0726) "Provision of a Guarantee of Pressure for Meter Points operating above 21 mbar by the Relevant Transporter" had been rejected by Ofgem on the 19 April 2006. JM referred to the third paragraph from the end of the decision letter highlighting the improvement to transparency if generic terms were published and enquired whether the Transporters would be considering this.

CW confirmed he will examine current UNC provisions.

**Action Dis0401:** MP: 0005(0726). CW to examine current UNC provisions and co-ordinate a response providing a summary on current procedures and obligations to the next meeting.

RP confirmed that WWU are working on a standard letter for Shippers regarding guaranteed pressures. RP expressed a concern with agreeing guaranteed pressures and simply hoping that it will be available, as guaranteed pressures can only be maintained during normal operating conditions. RP suggested the possibility of having two meters in situ, one for the guaranteed pressure and another for non guaranteed pressure services.

MC expressed concern for the customers who believe they already have guaranteed pressure agreements when they have installed equipment to operate at that pressure particularly should they want to transfer supplier.

JM referred attendees to the penultimate paragraph in the Ofgem decision letter, i.e. "If shippers wanted to formalize the 'flagging' of a pressure agreement by means of a customer transfer data item, they are at liberty to bring forward proposals to this effect." However the Workstream noted that this would have a major impact on the relevant file formats.

Topics log:

Topic 015Dis Significant escapes of gas from the System. Having considered this topic further, SH requested its closure.

Topic 002Dis Isolation of Prime & Sub-deducts. AT questioned if it had been agreed that a manual process would be set up to manage Sub-deduct Isolations. SN confirmed that a process had not been set up as the numbers so far provided, did not warrant this. In the absence of evidence that this was a major problem, the Workstream agreed closure of this topic.

Topic 006Dis DN Interruption. JM confirmed that this Topic was going to be managed under the Transmission Workstream. As a result the Workstream agreed closure of this topic.

Topic 009Dis Sunset Provision 12 July 2006 – Modification 0704. CW confirmed that MAMCop1C has been drafted and that relevant provisions have been inserted. CW highlighted that there is still need to address identified gaps. CW will be raising relevant issues for discussion at future MAMCoP Meetings. AT questioned if the provision within MAM Cop1C was robust enough, CW confirmed that there are a lot of reassurances and given commitments within the provisions.

CW confirmed Ofgem have expressed some concerns and that these will be discussed at MAMCoP Meetings. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

Topic 011Dis Must Reads. SH reported that he is not in a position to progress this topic at the moment. AT suggested that as Ofgem are undertaking a Supply Licence Review, this topic is left on hold until after this review.

## **2. Modification Proposals**

### **2.1. 0081 "AQ Review Process - publication of information"**

It was agreed instead of using an A-Z system to name Shippers within the proposed reports that the use of American States will be used to keep information anonymous but consistent.

RP questioned if data would be collated by DN or LDZ, SN confirmed most of the information is already available, some by LDZ some by Shipper. Within the Workstream Report it was identified which reports would be produced by Shipper by LDZ and which ones would be produced by Shipper in aggregate.

AT confirmed it would be useful to have the information published on the Joint Office Website. SH expressed concern with the timing of reports. SN confirmed the publication of data is typically November (this is as soon as possible after the AQ Review).

SN expressed concern that the data could not be calculated within the 5 days outlined in the Proposal, as it normally takes four weeks due to validation. GW agreed to amend the Modification Proposal to reflect 01 November date.

RP questioned whether the information would actually show any gaming, AT noted it would show changes and that should deter any potential gaming.

SN confirmed that amendments are tracked and reported to Ofgem. He confirmed that an interim report could be produced 01 July and 01 August and then a final report by 1 November. GW agreed to amend the Modification Proposal to reflect this and also include an additional report covering the numbers that a Shipper is inputting into the meter reading speculative calculator

SN informed the workstream that reporting the scale of change by percentage would involve rewriting existing reports and may not be achievable for this calendar year. He also confirmed that there would be a cost to amending the reports and that this needs to be reflected in the workstream report. It was agreed that the requirement for reporting by percentage change would be removed and replaced by change of AQ Band and that a new Modification Proposal may potentially be raised to implement percentage changes for next years AQ Review Process.

A Workstream Report was produced incorporating comments from attendees and agreed by the Workstream (attached).

## **3. Topics**

### **3.1. 014Dis CSEP NExA Agreements to**

CW provided an update to the Workstream, highlighting that a number of modifications have been produced, however iGTs are opposed to some of the modifications, National Grid will be writing to the iGTS proposing to seek changes to the NExA .

**3.2. Any new topics**

None raised

**4. AOB**

**4.1. Single Centralised Online Gas Enquiries System (SCOGES)**

CW confirmed that a draft modification proposal on how SCOGES will be implemented is being developed. CW highlighted that, if the proposal is implemented, it will change the existing Supply Point Information Services.

**4.2. Business Days**

JM highlighted that the Non-Business days for 2007 have been produced and will be published shortly.

**Action Dis0402:** Joint Office to publish the 2007 Non-Business Days

**5. Diary Planning for Workstream**

Next Meetings:

Thursday 25 May 2006, 10:00 at Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London

Thursday 22 June 2006, 10:00 at Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London

Thursday 27 July 2006, 10:00 at Novotel, Birmingham International Airport

Thursday 24 August 2006, 10:00 at Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London

Thursday 28 September 2006, 10:00 at Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London

Thursday 26 October 2006, 10:00 at Novotel, Birmingham International Airport

Thursday 23 November 2006, 10:00 at Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London

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### Action Table (Appendix 1)

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
Dis0905	22/09/05	3.1	BS, Ofgem to provide view of Prime and Sub-deduct Network ownership and Network Licence Conditions.	Ofgem (BS)	Action: C/F 23.03.06: Ofgem not able to provide view at present.
Dis0301	23/03/06	3.1	MCI to submit UNC Modification Proposal and consider a change to the proposed implementation date.	Gas Forum (MCI)	Action: Complete
Dis0302	23/03/06	3.2.1	MY to amend AQ Review Modification Proposal and submit to the UNC Panel	British Gas Trading (MY)	Action: Complete
Dis0303	23/03/06	3.2.2.	MD to amend AMR Read Modification Proposal and submit to the UNC Panel	British Gas Trading (MD)	Action: Complete
Dis0304	23/03/06	4.1	SP to confirm the notification process when changes are made to the NEC Safety Case.	National Grid (SP)	Action: Complete
Dis0305	23/03/06	4.2	All to consider, and propose if necessary, potential amendments to the ORGSICs before 30/03/06	All	Action: Closed No amendments proposed. Document to be submitted to UNCC
Dis0401	27/04/06	1.3	MP: 0005(0726). CW to examine current UNC provisions and co-ordinate a response providing a summary on current procedures and obligations to the next meeting.	National Grid (CW)	Action: Pending
Dis0402	27/04/06	4.2	Joint Office to publish the 2007 Non-Business Days	Joint Office	Action: Complete