

Governance Strawman for Mod Review Group 280

Expert Group Constitution or DESC

There are a number of options, which could be considered for the constituency of an Expert group should it be assigned the role in the consultation process, currently undertaken by DESC on behalf of UNCC. Current examples where different membership models and voting processes are used are User pays user committee, Energy Balancing Credit Committee and UNC Panel.

Membership and Voting Options

The group will need to decide if both Transporters and Shippers vote during the consultation process, or just Shippers.

Option 1 – 1 member 1 vote basis

Each attending Shipper member has a vote subject to nomination for membership of the committee being approved by an industry body, such as the Gas Forum. Each Transporter can nominate a representative [non voting].

Voting will be on a 1 member 1 vote basis.

Option 2 – votes based on portfolio

Each attending Shipper member has a vote subject to nomination for membership of the committee being approved by an industry body, such as the Gas Forum. Each Transporter can nominate a representative [non voting].

Voting to be weighted on the basis of system usage and/or numbers of supply points. Balancing factors could be used against portfolio type to ensure different market participants are not over/under represented.

Option 3 – Balanced Representation

Shippers nominate 5 members using a similar election process to UNC Panel, whereby each elected member represents the interests of a constituency of shippers and not a single company. Each Transporter nominates a member and all Shipper/Transporters members are eligible to vote with a balanced membership of 10 votes.

Option 4 – Written Representation

Each Shipper/Transporter has a vote, which is submitted by post/email to the Joint Office for collation into a report following a consultation process agreed by the Expert group/DESC.

1 submission equals 1 vote.

General

Membership will be on an annual basis to commence from the start of the Gas Year. Shipper membership nominations to be provided by an industry forum. Transporters to notify the Joint Office of their representative or member dependant on the options above.

Members will be able to appoint an alternate to take their place at meetings in instances when they are unable to attend.

In the event of a resignation from the group by a Shipper member, the Joint Office will notify the UNCC. The Shippers nominated industry forum will be asked to nominate a replacement member. Transporter will be expected to nominate a replacement representative/member for their respective organisation.

Group Recommendations

The Expert Group/DESC will reach decisions by an agreed voting process.

The group recommendation will be passed to the UNCC for approval. Where the group fails to make a recommendation, it will provide a report to the UNCC identifying:

- the issue that a decision is required upon.
- the views of members both for and against
- the issues that have been raised

This will require a decision from the UNCC.

Process Embodiment

The methodology/ process will be embodied in a UNC Related document. This allows the process to be modified subject to recommendation by the expert group/UNCC, development of a Modification Proposal and decision by the Authority.