

UNC Workgroup 0369 Minutes
Re-establishment of Supply Meter Points – measures to address
shipperless sites
Tuesday 15 March 2010
31 Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3LT

Attendees

Bob Fletcher (Chair)	BF	Joint Office
Helen Cuin (Secretary)	HC	Joint Office
Alex Ross	AR	Northern Gas Networks
Alison Jennings	AJ	Xoserve
Andrew Wallace	AW	Ofgem
Brian Durber	BD	E.ON UK
Cesar Coelho	CS	Ofgem
Chris Warner	CW	National Grid Distribution
James Chapel	JC	SSE
Joanna Ferguson	JF	Northern Gas Networks
Mark Woodward	MW	Xoserve
Naomi Anderson	NA	EDF Energy
Paul Hamilton	PH	SSE
Sash Pearce	SP	RWE Npower
Simon Trivella	ST	Wales & West Utilities
Steve Mulinganie	SM	Gazprom
Sue Cropper	SC	British Gas

1. Introduction

BF introduced the meeting.

2. Outline of Modification

CW introduced the modification. He explained the purpose and background to the modification, providing a presentation on the re-establishment of Supply Meter Points to address particular situations for shipperless sites.

The Workgroup discussed the varying ways a meter can be disconnected. BD suggested that there ought to be some clarity provided on the different meter/supply point statuses used on UK Link and the circumstances for each.

Action 0001: National Grid to provide an Engineering interpretation for each different meter/supply point status.

Action 0002: Xoserve to provide clarification on what each meter/supply point status drives e.g. GSR cut offs.

ST explained that problems occur within the existing process whereby Transporters are identifying through Gas Safety (I&U) Regulation (GSR) visits, that where a cut off visit is undertaken, a meter is found to be in situ and consuming gas. It was also recognised that every meter that is left on site following its disconnection poses a risk for the theft of gas. However, the risk of a meter being reconnected is an existing risk and cross subsidy issue for RbD.

It was recognised that there could be two scenarios. One whereby the same meter is in situ and erroneously declared removed, or whereby the customer has procured a reconnection either legally or illegally.

SM asked about the situation where a meter has been removed, taken off site and a customer has procured a new meter and installed it, why should the shipper be responsible if they had isolated and withdrawn?

CW advised if the meter has been disconnected but left on site the registered user will still be responsible for the charges on site if the same meter is reconnected.

SM suggested that the existing principles might want to be reviewed to understand why these were established under RGMA and the risk to inefficient asset removal and disposal.

CW confirmed in accordance with Condition 7 Paragraph 4(c) the Supplier might have recourse to recover from the consumer the charges to which it is entitled.

SM asked if Ofgem could clarify what costs could be recovered. BD suggested that clarity is also sought on whether costs can be recovered under deemed contracts.

Action 0003: Ofgem to clarify the costs that can be recovered by a Supplier under Licence (including deemed contracts) and whether this is restricted.

ST suggested that the scope of the modification might wish to be reconsidered to include the recovery of Transportation Energy and Transportation Charges. Currently the modification as drafted does not enable the recovery of Energy.

It was recognised that the costs of implementation would need to be considered as it was anticipated there would be some system implications for the re-registration process and billing processes.

Action 0004: Xoserve to provide a breakdown of the current 96 Shipperless sites greater than 73,201kWhs into age of meter and AQ

ST suggested the modification should include sites where Shipper Registration has not taken place, however it was discussed whether this ought to be considered in a new modification.

SC asked if implementation could be considered as to how the current 1000+ sites would be managed and contracts established.

CW advised that he aimed to provide draft legal text for review at the next meeting.

3. Consider Terms of Reference

No further comments were received on the Terms of Reference.

4. AOB

None raised.

5. Diary Planning for Review Group

Next meetings:

11:00, 13 May 2011, at 31 Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3LT

13:00, 08 June 2011, at 31 Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3LT

ACTION LOG – Workgroup 0369

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
0369 0001	06/04/2011	1.0	National Grid to provide an Engineering interpretation for each different meter/supply point status.	National Grid (CW)	Pending
0369 0002	06/04/2011	1.0	Xoserve to provide clarification on what each meter/supply point status drives e.g. GSR cut offs.	Xoserve (AJ)	Pending
0369 0003	06/04/2011		Ofgem to clarify the costs that can be recovered by a Supplier under Licence (including deemed contracts) and whether this is restricted.	Ofgem (AW)	Pending
0369 0004	06/04/2011		Xoserve to provide a breakdown of the current 96 Shipperless sites greater than 73,201kWh into age of meter and AQ	Xoserve (AJ)	Pending