

UNC Workgroup 0384 Minutes

UNC Modification Rules; housekeeping, clarity and minor drafting changes

Thursday 15 March 2012

ENA, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AF

Attendees

Tim Davis (Chair)	(TD)	Joint Office
Bob Fletcher (Secretary)	(BF)	Joint Office
Chris Warner	(CWA)	National Grid Distribution
Chris Wright	(CWR)	British Gas
David Mitchell	(DM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Dora Ianora	(DI)	Ofgem
Erika Melen	(EM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Joanna Ferguson	(JF)	Northern Gas Networks
Peter Bolitho	(PB)	E.ON UK
Steve Fisher	(RF)	National Grid NTS

1. Review of Minutes and Actions from previous meeting

1.1 Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved. No actions were outstanding.

2. Workgroup Discussion

SF explained the recent amendments to the draft text. DI was concerned that the recent changes to Modification 0384S appear to be amending the Modification Rules in a similar way to Modification 0394, so Self-Governance may no longer be appropriate.

PB was not convinced that legal text should be subject to a Panel request - the rules should allow for the provision of text as mandatory unless there is a unanimous vote against doing so. He would prefer provision for the request for text by a Workgroup (when sufficient clarity is available to support text provision) and not just Panel or Ofgem request. CWA was concerned about the number of modifications that are underdeveloped and for which it may not be possible to draft text. He felt there should be provision for the development of detailed business rules to inform the drafting of text, with the modification leading the text rather than text being used to drive out issues. This would also avoid abortive expenditure on legal resources.

PB noted that issues surrounding the provision of text do not arise in other codes. He felt it would aid the process if the Joint Office procured the drafting of text, supporting a consistent approach. JF shared CW's view that it is development of modifications that is critical rather than how text is procured. She felt it appropriate for the Panel to agree whether formal text should be produced for consultation, or if draft or suggested text already provided is sufficient for consultation. JF also thought it useful for text to be considered by a Workgroup in all but the most time-constrained circumstances. TD observed that it can be difficult to get Workgroups to contribute to a review of text.

In light of the discussion, SF agreed to consider amending the modification and text for discussion at the next meeting.

3. AOB

None.

4. Diary Planning for Workgroup

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 19 April 2012, at ENA, following the UNC Committee meeting.