

UNC Workgroup 0387 Agenda Removal of Anonymity from Annual Quantity Appeal and Amendment Reports

Wednesday 07 September 2011
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
Chris Warner	(CW)	National Grid Distribution
Darren Lindsey	(DL)	E.ON UK
David Watson	(DW)	British Gas
Emma Smith	(ES)	Xoserve
Gareth Evans	(GE)	Waterswye
Joel Martin	(JM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Karen Kennedy	(KK)	Scottish Power
Linda Whitcroft	(LW)	Xoserve
Lisa Harris	(LH)	Shell
Mark Jones	(MJ)	SSE
Mark Woodward	(MW)	Xoserve
Martin Brandt	(MB)	SSE
Nick King	(NK)	National Grid Commercial
Sasha Pearce	(SP)	RWE npower
Simon Trivella	(ST)	Wales & West Utilities
Sue Prosser	(SP)	Xoserve

Copies of all papers are available at www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0387/070911.

1. Review of Minutes and Actions from previous meeting(s)

1.1. Minutes from the previous meeting

The Minutes from the previous meeting were accepted.

1.2. Review of actions from previous meetings

Action 001: Seek a view on whether there are any wider obligations or legislative implications in respect of removing the anonymity from the reports.

Update: BD raised a concern surrounding a known Gas Forum issue and the identification of Shippers. BD questioned if the report appears to identify that a Shipper is acting inappropriately, would they have a right of reply to respond to the data. He was concerned that a shipper with a niche market may be perceived to be behaving inappropriately but the action may be justified due to the nature of the market. BD suggested having an assessment undertaken into the reasons for the behaviour, to give the Shipper a right of reply to justify the actions that have taken place. Concern was expressed by GE and BD that incorrect conclusions drawn from the reports may

jeopardise a parties reputation before they can justify their actions.

Complete.

2. Discussion

DW believed that the report simply gives transparency around the use of the AQ appeals and amendments process. Further debate continued on the appropriateness of attributing Shipper identifications with data and how inappropriate conclusions could be made from the published data. DW highlighted that it is currently possible to identify certain Shippers by the portfolio size.

ST questioned the actual use of the report and whether it was actually needed at all. KK suggested that the report would not necessarily illustrate a Shipper is compliant with existing Code obligations. DW believed the report provided data on Shipper activity and would deter parties not to misuse the AQ amendment and appeal process.

GE was concerned about the peace-meal process and believed the industry ought to look much wider review. He was keen to have a look at the processes on performance reporting. GE was keen for Ofgem to provide guidance.

AW explained that it was clear from Ofgem's previous letter on this subject that there is a recognised deficiency and that they are looking to the industry to put in place arrangements to address the deficiency. DW believed that the industry should be able to police itself and should not be turning to Ofgem to police the market. AW confirmed Ofgem would look for a genuine reasons why transparency is or isn't appropriate.

DW did not want to delay the progression of this modification for a wider industry debate, which could hold up improvements.

DW explained Modification 0379 - Provision for an AQ Review Audit provided an independent scrutiny of the reports.

The Workgroup Report was updated to reflect discussions held.

2.2 Terms of Reference

No further comments were received.

3. Any Other Business

None raised.

4. Diary Planning for Workgroup

No further meetings planned.

Action Log - Workgroup 0387

Action Ref	Meeting Date(s)	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
0387 001	25/08/11	2.1	Seek a view on whether there are any wider obligations or legislative implications in respect of removing the anonymity from the reports.	E.ON UK (BD) and National Grid Distribution (CW)	Complete.