

**UNC Workgroup 0410/0410A Minutes
Responsibility for gas off-taken at Unregistered Sites following New Network
Connections**

Thursday 23 August 2012

ENA, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AF

Attendees

Bob Fletcher (Chair)	(BF)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Lorna Dupont (Secretary)	(LD)	Joint Office of Gas Transporters
Alan Raper	(AR)	National Grid Distribution
Alex Ross	(ARo)	Northern Gas Networks
Andrew Margan	(AMa)	British Gas
Anne Jackson	(AJ)	SSE
Brian Durber	(BD)	E.ON UK
Chris Warner	(CW)	National Grid Distribution
Darren Lond*	(DL)	National Grid NTS*
David Addison	(DA)	Xoserve
David Mitchell	(DM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Elaine Carr	(EC)	ScottishPower
Erika Melèn	(EM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Fergus Healy*	(FH)	National Grid NTS
Gareth Evans	(GE)	Waters Wye Associates
Joanna Ferguson	(JF)	Northern Gas Networks
Kathryn Heard*	(KH)	National Grid NTS
Lorna Lewin	(LL)	DONG
Marie Clark	(MC)	ScottishPower
Richard Vernon*	(RV)	RWE npower
Rob Cameron-Higgs	(RCH)	Wales & West Utilities

**via teleconference*

Copies of all papers are available at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0410/230812

1. Review of Minutes and Actions from previous meeting

1.1 Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

1.2 Actions

0004: SGN to confirm whether they share the National Grid Distribution intention to proactively visit unregistered sites and disconnect them if no action is taken to address registration.

Update: EM indicated that SGN do share the intention to proactively visit, but that she still needs to confirm the second point, and explained that she is still awaiting a (internal) formal legal view.

AMa asked how formal notification of these instances should be made. JF confirmed that Shippers should use ConQuest for formal notification, and should also informally send an email to their network contact to help to move it forward. Transporters will manage these instances on a case by case basis, which will enable the development of a best working practice. It was agreed this action could be closed. **Closed**

0010: Ofgem (AW) to review/clarify the position relating to deemed contracts and unregistered and Shipperless sites.

Update: None available. In the absence of an Ofgem representative the action was carried forward. **Carried Forward**

2. Discussion

Having considered the Workgroup's Report the UNC Modification Panel had agreed with the Workgroup's recommendation and decided to refer the modifications back to Workgroup for further assessment. The Workgroup's reporting date has been extended to 15 November 2012.

2.1 Modification 0410

GE had received questions from Xoserve; these were under review and would be brought to the next meeting.

AMa expressed concern that the modification appeared to have lost momentum. GE responded that the questions received related to how the system/process might work and these were being addressed. JF added that the legal text could not be drafted until the points raised had been resolved.

AMa observed that the Business Rules were hard to make sense of, and may benefit from some simplification. GE responded that these would be revised and reissued and JF added that the legal text will be shorter in many respects and will help to present a logical picture.

CW suggested that more detail was likely to be required for the User Pays element. GE noted this.

Next Steps

GE, JF and Xoserve will address and resolve the outstanding questions and provide the Business Rules and the draft legal text as soon as possible in advance of the next meeting (27 September 2012).

2.2 Modification 0410A

National Grid Distribution had revised the modification; minor changes had been made to the Business Rules and Appendix 1 (flow diagram). CW explained the amendments, and noted comments and suggestions made for further consideration and revision as appropriate.

In discussion, CW pointed out that there were certain circumstances where the Transporter cannot take immediate steps to curtail the offtake of gas, eg prepayment meters. These would be looked at on a case-by-case basis and many solutions may be considered, depending on the individual circumstances. CW will reflect on the words "not able to" and revise if appropriate. Responding to a question from MC, CW and JF confirmed that any sites cut off/curtailed would continue to be monitored, as a minimum through the regular safety check

visits or more frequently if the previous circumstances made it clear that it would be prudent to maintain a closer watch.

CW confirmed that the Transporters were mandated by licence to comply with SPAA.

GE made some observations relating to the Business Rules:

- Rule 16 – Incorrect references – revise
- Rule 17 – Lacked clarity – review.

There was still the question as to what happens if a site is not curtailed and no Shipper/Supplier activity was apparent, and GE suggested that specific scenarios that demonstrated the Transporters behaviour in each case would be welcome.

Next Steps

The draft legal text will be prepared for review at the next meeting.

3. Any Other Business

None raised.

4. Diary Planning for Workgroup

The next meeting will take place within the business proceedings of the Distribution Workgroup on:

Thursday 27 September 2012, at 10:30, at ENA, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AF

Workgroup 0410/0410A – Action Log

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
0004	22/03/12	2.	SGN to confirm whether they share the National Grid Distribution intention to proactively visit unregistered sites and disconnect them if no action is taken to address registration.	SGN (EM)	Closed
0010	28/06/12	2.1	AW to review/clarify the position relating to deemed contracts and unregistered and Shipperless sites.	Ofgem (AW)	Carried forward