

UNC Workgroup 0461 Minutes

Changing the UNC Gas Day to Align with the Gas Day in EU Network Codes

Monday 05 August 2013

Energy Networks Association, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AF

Attendees

Tim Davis (Chair)	(TD)	Joint Office
Lorna Dupont (Secretary)	(LD)	Joint Office
Alan Raper	(AR)	National Grid Distribution
Aled Moses	(AMo)	Ofgem
Alex Ross-Shaw	(ARS)	Northern Gas Networks
Andrew Pearce	(AP)	BP Gas
Antony Miller	(AM)	Centrica Storage
Bethan Winter	(BW)	Wales & West Utilities
Charles Ruffell	(CR)	RWE npower
Chris Shanley	(CS)	National Grid NTS
Chris Wright	(CW)	Centrica
Clare Cattle-Jones	(CCJ)	ENA
Clem Perry	(CP)	Ofgem
David Addison*	(DA)	Xoserve
Erika Melen	(EM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Gerry Hoggan	(GH)	ScottishPower
Graham Jack	(GJ)	Centrica
Hayley Burden	(HB)	National Grid NTS
Hilary Chapman	(HC)	Xoserve
Jon Dutton	(JD)	National Grid NTS
Lorna Lewin	(LL)	DONG
Richard Fairholme*	(RF)	E.ON UK
Steve Catling	(SC)	Scotia Gas Networks

*via teleconference

Copies of all papers are available at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0461/010813>

The Workgroup Report is due to the Modification Panel by 19 December 2013.

1.0 Review of Minutes (01 August 2013)

The minutes were accepted.

2.0 Discussion

2.1 Assessment of the UNC

HB gave a presentation outlining changes required to various references in UNC – General Terms. There were numerous references to “Day” and “Gas Day” throughout the UNC and associated documents, and National Grid NTS proposed that these references in the General Terms section were changed to 05:00 hours.

Changing the hour from 06:00 to 05:00 would pose the problem of how to treat the hour’s difference on the day of implementation. At what point would you change from one to the other? Some options were outlined. DA asked if it was necessary for the changeover to be carried out on 01 October 2015. CS confirmed that 01 November was the implementation date for CAM, but it was felt that changing at the start of the gas year might be preferred. HC pointed out that the clocks are altered on the last weekend in October - did this need to be taken into account when considering an appropriate time?

The treatment of historical data was briefly considered and it was agreed this should be left alone rather than attempting to restate it on a 0500 to 0500 basis.

2.2 System Impacts

HB reported that as a result of initial findings more detailed analysis is now being carried out by National Grid IS and Xoserve, and the results are expected by the end of October.

AR reported that Impact Assessments were being carried out on DN operating systems to see how these might interface; these were at an early stage.

2.3 Demand Forecasting – Review of Demand Estimation Times

HB explained that the same methodology had been applied for all analyses.

The time differences between the UNC and process run times were illustrated; with the odd exception, most process runs may not be affected by changing the time. CS confirmed that discussions indicated that the NEXUS suite of modifications would have very little impact and were not time dependent.

The timing relationships regarding NDMA were also illustrated. Responding to questions, CS confirmed that existing time differences might have originally reflected contingency times being built in. Shippers were asked for their views on any impacts. AM observed there may be impacts on trading market hours. CW suggested deferring any decision on this area until Shippers had conferred with their internal experts. CS observed that the 14:00 run was the critical one to consider. TD referred to the NDMA run and questioned if the driver was to publish at or by 12:00. CS confirmed the EU Balancing Code stated ‘...no later than...’; it would be an ‘extra’ one. TD asked if this would affect the DNs. CS added that any other particular issues that may arise might have to be considered with a further modification.

TD summarised that an extra run might be put in at D-1 (possibly through this modification or a different one), and that all the other times would be left where they are, subject to Shippers and DNs confirming their views and concurring.

A Process Map was then displayed, followed by a spreadsheet indicating the code references and the NTS view on whether or not any change was required. HB explained the colour coding used and outlined the changes identified. All the proposed changes were given initial support, subject to final confirmation by Shippers and DNs (which is expected at the next meeting).

2.2 Assured Pressures/Flexibility

A brief outline of the physical regime times was given; National Grid NTS had identified 27 references and believed these should remain unchanged. A further reference relating to revised OPNs might require change as it was close to the end of the gas Day. TD asked if there were any consumers that might change their behaviours around the hour, for example Storage users. It was considered to be very unlikely that any usage would change.

Attention was then drawn to the spreadsheet, and the individual TPD and OAD references and potential effects of change were considered. The DNs were asked for their views. BW voiced concerns relating to Flex timings, and indicated that the DNs needed to understand more about how their systems will cope. Details were briefly discussed and it was agreed that impacts on Flex required further consideration by all parties, but unless subsequent views were received that indicated the contrary should be the case, the time period will be left as 06:00 – 10:00. TD reiterated that the proposal is to leave most things as they are unless parties indicate it should be otherwise; if something needs to change, however, it will be examined further.

Action 0461/0801: *Flex Impacts* - DNs and Shippers to consider impacts on Flex and return with views on the most appropriate time period, eg 06:00 – 10:00 or 05:00 – 10:00.

2.3 Review of Capacity Process Times

HB gave a brief overview of the capacity process and auction runs, and the results of the analysis carried out. UNC TPD Section B contained a large number of time references, and these were examined in more detail, line by line, on the spreadsheet provided. CS and HB noted comments for further consideration as the review progressed.

Lines 21 and 22 (B2.4.3 and 2.4.7) – Shippers unanimously supported moving to 01:00.

Line 23 (B2.4.13) – JD queried if the clearing auction time also needs to move. There was an absence of strong feedback but Shippers may need to confirm. CS noted for consideration.

Line 33 (B2.9.3) – TD asked whether ‘deleted’ should be replaced with ‘changed’; a principle of minimum change means leaving it alone?

Line 45 (B3.5.2) – JD commented there was very little activity in these auctions; the move to 01:00 was supported.

Line 51 (B3.13.6) and Line 52 (B3.13.11) – DNs need to confirm their views on these aspects.

Line 56 (Annex B1 3.2) – JD observed this might need to go back; CS noted for review.

Action 0461/0802: *Capacity Processes and Auctions* - DNs to consider impacts and return with views as soon as possible.

The Capacity Process Map was then displayed.

2.4 Next Steps

CS reiterated the two options, ie to move everything, or to cherry-pick, and asked if there were any views at this point as to which was the best approach. Cherry-picking, with minimal change, was agreed as the preferred option.

Parties appreciated going through the topics one by one and found this to be beneficial.

TD summarised that the only major difficulty at present seemed to be centred on Flex, and this was for the DNs to consider and confirm views (and reasons for views) as soon as possible. BW suggested that National Grid NTS might also have further discussions with its planners.

Decisions regarding capacity auctions were relatively easy.

CS commented that good progress had been made so far but National Grid NTS would like to receive confirmation of views as soon as possible. As soon as agreements were received National Grid NTS would start to populate the modification with the information and this could give more visibility to a wider audience. It was agreed to confirm views by the end of August.

3.0 Any Other Business

None raised.

4.0 Diary Planning for Workgroup

The next Workgroup meeting is planned for 10:30 on Friday 13 September 2013, the venue details to be advised when confirmed.

Action Table – Workgroup 0461

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
0461/0801	05/08/13	2.2	<i>Flex Impacts</i> - DNs and Shippers to consider impacts on Flex and return with views (as soon as possible) on the most appropriate time period, eg 06:00 – 10:00 or 05:00 – 10:00.	DNs and Shippers	Confirm views by 30 August 2013 at latest
0461/0802	05/08/13	2.3	<i>Capacity Processes and Auctions</i> - DNs to consider impacts and return with views as soon as possible.	DNs	Confirm views by 30 August 2013 at latest