

# UNC Workgroup 0461 Minutes Changing the UNC Gas Day to Align with the Gas Day in EU Network Codes

**Thursday 04 July 2013**

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

## **Attendees**

Tim Davis (Chair)	(TD)	Joint Office
Lorna Dupont (Secretary)	(LD)	Joint Office
Alena Aliakseyeva	(AA)	Ofgem
Alex Whitmarsh	(AW)	Ofgem
Andrew Pearce	(AP)	BP Gas
Charles Ruffell	(CR)	RWE npower
Chris Hill	(CH)	Cornwall Energy
Chris Shanley	(CS)	National Grid NTS
Chris Wright	(CW)	Centrica
Clement Perry	(CP)	Ofgem
David Addison*	(DA)	Xoserve
Erika Melen	(EM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Fergus Healy	(FH)	National Grid NTS
Gareth Evans	(GE)	Waters Wye
Gerry Hoggan	(GH)	ScottishPower
Graham Jack	(GJ)	Centrica
Hayley Burden	(HB)	National Grid NTS
Hilary Chapman	(HC)	Xoserve
Jeff Chandler	(JC)	SSE
Joanna Ferguson	(JF)	Northern Gas Networks
John Costa	(JCo)	EDF Energy
Julie Cox	(JCx)	Energy UK
Mark Baker	(MB)	Centrica Storage
Matt Hatch	(MH)	National Grid NTS
Mike Wassell	(MW)	National Grid NTS
Phil Broom	(PB)	GDF Suez
Rhys Ashman	(RA)	National Grid NTS
Richard Fairholme	(RF)	E.ON UK
Richard Lea	(RL)	Gazprom
Rob Cameron-Higgs	(RCH)	Wales & West Utilities

\*via teleconference

Copies of all papers are available at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0461/040713>

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

## **1.0 Outline of Modification**

As most participants had attended the Ofgem open meeting on the change to the Gas Day (held on the previous day) and the Workgroup was familiar with the background to the issue HB moved directly to the middle section of the presentation (slide 7 – ‘Phase 1 Understanding the Issue’).

## **2.0 Initial Discussion**

It was noted that, as well as the UNC itself, a number of associated and UNC related documents might also require amendment.

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### *Approach to development of the Modification*

A 3 phase work plan to develop the solution was proposed. The first phase was focused on understanding the issue and its magnitude. The second phase would entail a close review of the UNC section by section, and other impacted documents, with the aim of reaching an appropriate approach for further development in the third phase.

Phase 1 was presented in greater detail. There were 3 elements to understanding the issue – the UNC definition of the Gas Day, the UNC times that define the start/end of the Gas Day, and the UNC process times. National Grid NTS suggested there were two potential options to addressing the third element – either move only the process times that have to move, or move all process times forward by an hour.

It was suggested there might also be a ‘half way measure’, somewhere between the two options outlined. JF was concerned that the industry should not be made to over-engineer systems any more that it had to. TD suggested that this might be an opportunity to review and question if some things were either no longer required to be done or could be done less frequently.

National Grid expected to share the results of its review of the UNC and its analysis of any potential process impacts and interrelationships, and gave an example of processes managed within a day and the interlinkages identified.

JCh emphasised that Shippers need sufficient time to address and implement any required changes to their systems and the suggestion of an Ofgem decision in August 2014 would leave things very tight. JF suggested that the UK Link Committee (UKLC) should be involved at the earliest possible stage. DA confirmed that UKLC discussions had started (it was a standing agenda item) and Shippers had been asked to perform impact assessments on their systems. Asked if having to move the Gas Day would affect the UK Link Replacement programme (Nexus) and which systems/processes might be impacted, DA outlined the schedule and explained it was difficult to quantify/assess the cut off point when any information/decision might be required, but it was highly likely that an August 2014 decision would be too late for Nexus planning and schedules.

TD observed that the extent of the changes that might be required lacked clarity at this point, and the more that could be brought forward the better; timescales for delivery will be very challenging for all parties.

HB asked for initial views on Option 1 or 2; JF suggested it would be useful to see the output from Xoserve’s analysis. CS confirmed this was in progress.

### *Wider Impacts*

AA encouraged all parties to send their views/suggestions on how to identify/co-ordinate wider impacts to Ofgem (Clare Cameron). Suggestions of contacts for potentially affected non-UNC parties would also be welcomed.

JCx reiterated that exercise of good ‘Issues Management’ would be required, and maintaining a proactive surveillance over ‘who was doing what, when and how’ would be extremely important. Ofgem was best placed to focus on and take responsibility for this and perhaps should consider identifying and capturing these details and recording, monitoring and communicating progress made in all parts of the industry, so that any areas of concern can be immediately addressed.

### *Next Steps*

Dedicated meetings will be required to assess each UNC area and any associated documents. RF stressed that to maximise the time available it would be of benefit to provide relevant papers well in advance of each meeting so that parties have an opportunity to seek internal views and prepare before attendance.

A series of meetings will be organised and details of the arrangements will be confirmed.

It is expected that the first meetings will cover:

- UNC sections associated with the physical regime and demand forecasting; and
- UNC sections associated with capacity.

### 3.0 Diary Planning for Review Group

Details of the next Workgroup meeting will be confirmed when arrangements have been made.

**Action Table – Workgroup 0461**

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update