

UNC Workgroup 0472 Minutes
Restricting the number of registration attempts by a supplier
Wednesday 07 May 2014
31 Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3LT

Attendees

Bob Fletcher (Chair)	(BF)	Joint Office
Helen Cuin (Secretary)	(HCu)	Joint Office
Amie Charalambous	(ACh)	RWE npower
Andy Clasper*	(ACI)	National Grid Distribution
Chris Warner	(CW)	National Grid Distribution
Colette Baldwin	(CB)	E.ON UK
Edd Hunter	(EH)	RWE npower
Eleanor Laurance*	(EL)	EDF Energy
Hilary Chapman	(HCh)	Xoserve
Huw Comerford	(HCo)	Utilita
Jeremy Guard	(JG)	First Utility
Kirsten Elliott-Smith	(KES)	Cornwall Energy
Lorna Lewin	(LL)	DONG Energy
Marie Clark*	(MC)	Scottish Power
Mark Jones	(MJ)	SSE
Steve Mulinganie*	(SM)	Gazprom

* via teleconference

Copies of all papers are available at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0472/070515>

The Workgroup Report is due to be presented at the UNC Modification Panel by 19 June 2014.

1.0 Review of Minutes and Actions**1.1 Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

1.2 Actions

0401: Xoserve to provide a high level cost estimate of creating a report to provide to Shippers upon request the identity of the incumbent Shipper – where a confirmation attempt has been objected to more than 5 times.

Update: HCh confirmed that the current confirmation/objection process provides the incumbent shipper with a withdrawal notice but this does not provide the identity of the confirming party. Nevertheless the confirming party will be notified the identity of the incumbent shipper. CB challenged the non-disclosure of the confirming party to the incumbent shipper and highlighted that within the electricity market the identity is provided and that if a confirmation attempt involves dual fuel transfer the identity would not be preserved. Xoserve was unable to provide a cost estimate of providing the identity of the confirming shipper. However, Xoserve offered an alternative solution whereby a report could be provided on the number of objections processed and the identity of the confirming shipper could either be disclosed via an enquiry service or following a request by Ofgem. Please see item 2.0. **Closed.**

0402: Xoserve to provide current objection rate statistics and the period associated with repeated attempts.

Update: HCh provided some objection statistics. She confirmed within a six month period there were 1.62m successful confirmations and 147K objections raised which were not resolved. Of the 147k objections, 86k were objected to more than once i.e. there was a cycle of objections. HCh provided a breakdown on the 86k cycled objections, there were 942 occasions where 5 objections had occurred within the 6 month window, 335 occasions where 6 objections occurred, 231 occasions where 7 objections, and at the far extreme 3 occasions where 17 objections had occurred. HCh explained of the 86K the rate of objections of 5 or more equated to around 2% of the total objections. CW requested further clarification on the breakdown for the range and average in which the objection cycles occurred, as the table appeared to suggest more than once confirmation existed at a point in time. **Complete.**

2.0 Discussion

The Workgroup discussed the possibility of disclosing the identity of the confirming shipper. SM challenged the disclosure of information and how this may affect behaviours. It was recognised that if the industry wished to identify the confirming party this would require a change to the reporting process and would need to be included within the scope of the modification.

The Workgroup considered the need for a UNC modification if the scope of the change simply required Xoserve to provide a report. CW believed if the solution was confined to the provision of an anonymous report, a modification was not required. If however, the industry wished for a report to be produced to identify the confirming shipper this would require a modification.

The Workgroup considered the production of a report to provide information to Shippers, which may wish to be used to report behaviours to Ofgem. CW suggested Xoserve could consider providing such a report without the need for a modification and this service may or may not be a User pays service.

SM was still to be convinced that the issue was material enough to warrant the cost of developing this modification, he believed the statistics do not demonstrate a significant issue.

CB requested if the objections statistics could be broken down further between domestic and I&C customers. EL also enquired from the 1.62m successful confirmations if Xoserve could confirm if any objections occurred for these before the transfer was completed.

Action 0501: Xoserve to consider if the objection statistics could be broken down further between domestic and I&C customers.

Action 0502: Xoserve to confirm if any objections were processed for the 1.62m successful confirmations.

The Workgroup agreed an extension should be sought from the UNC Panel to allow further consideration of the solution.

3.0 Workgroup Report

Consideration of the Workgroup Report was deferred.

4.0 Any Other Business

None.

5.0 Diary Planning

Further details of planned meetings are available at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/Diary

The next meeting will take place within the Distribution Workgroup on:
Friday 06 June 2014 at 10:30, 31 Homer Road, Solihull B91 3LT

Action Table

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
0401	09/04/14	3.0	Xoserve to provide a high level cost estimate of creating a report to provide to Shippers upon request the identity of the incumbent Shipper – where a confirmation attempt has been objected to more than 5 times.	Xoserve (DA)	Closed
0401	09/04/14	3.0	Xoserve to provide current objection rate statistics and the period associated with repeated attempts.	Xoserve (DA)	Complete
0501	07/05/14	2.0	Xoserve to consider if the objection statistics could be broken down further between domestic and I&C customers.	Xoserve (HCh)	Pending
0502	07/05/14	2.0	Xoserve to confirm if any objections were processed for the 1.62m successful confirmations.	Xoserve (HCh)	Pending