

UNC Distribution Workgroup Minutes

Thursday 26 February 2015

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

Attendees

Bob Fletcher (Chair)	(BF)	Joint Office
Mike Berrisford (Secretary)	(MB)	Joint Office
Alex Ross-Shaw*	(ARS)	Northern Gas Networks
Andy Clasper	(AC)	National Grid Distribution
Chris Warner	(CW)	National Grid Distribution
Colette Baldwin	(CB)	E.ON UK
Dave Addison	(DA)	Xoserve
David Mitchell	(DM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Gareth Evans	(GE)	WatersWye
Hilary Chapman	(HCh)	Xoserve
Kirandeep Samra*	(KS)	Npower
Kirsten Elliott-Smith	(KES)	Cornwall Energy
Lorna Lewin	(LL)	DONG Energy
Martin Connor	(MC)	National Grid NTS
Mark Jones	(MJ)	SSE
Richard Pomroy*	(RP)	Wales & West Utilities
Rob Johnson	(RJ)	Wingas UK
Steve Mulinganie*	(SM)	Gazprom
Tom Chevalier	(TC)	AMO (for 0526WG only)

* via teleconference

Copies of all papers are available at: <http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/dist/260215>

1. Introduction and Status Review

1.1. Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

1.2. Actions

None outstanding.

1.3. Modification(s) with Ofgem

Whilst no specific update was provided, BF pointed out that UNC Modifications 0445 and 0466/0466AV are currently with Ofgem awaiting a decision.

1.4. Pre-Modification discussions

There were no pre-modification discussions at today's meeting.

2. Workgroups

The following Workgroup meetings took place:

2.1. 0516 - Information provision by large Customers to aid understanding of site characteristics

(Report to Panel 19 March 2015)

www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0516

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- 2.2. 0518S - Enhancement to the Gas Safety (Installation & Use) Regulations process**
(Report to Panel 18 June 2015)
www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0518
- 2.3. 0522 (0479A) - Inclusion of email as a valid UNC communication**
(Report to Panel 16 July 2015)
www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0522
- 2.4. 0523S – Supply Point Registration – Facilitation of ‘faster switching’ for Shared Supply Meter Points**
(Report to Panel 21 May 2015)
www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0523
- 2.5. 0526 – Identification of Supply Meter Point pressure tier**
(Report to Panel 20 August 2015)
www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0526

3. Issues

3.1. New Issues

No new issues raised.

4. Any Other Business

4.1. 0468 - Unique Property Reference Number (UPRN) Population by Gas Transporters

CB reminded everyone of the update she provided at the 22 January meeting. She went on to advise that following correspondence with A Wallace at Ofgem relating to licence matters, some issues related to licence costs may now disappear as this is under review to ensure pricing isn't a barrier to adoption.

BF pointed out that one previous suggestion had focused on establishing a joint 'dual fuels' Workgroup as this is seen as being beneficial in enabling requests to DECC to be made. CB added that one of the reasons behind her holding fire on progressing the modification further, is the fact that A Wallace is currently in discussion with both DECC and Ordinance Survey regarding this matter¹. Once feedback is provided by Ofgem, she would consider her options – either continue progressing the modification, as written or alternatively withdraw the modification as UPRN adoption is being progressed through some other route.

In closing, it was agreed to remove this standing agenda item from future Workgroup meetings.

4.2. Issues related to disaggregated Meter Supply Points – 0428 – Single Meter Supply Points (pre panel discussion)

SM provided a brief background to the raising of this issue and explained that it was in response to a question posed to him by one of Gazprom's franchisees. In short, in consideration of disaggregated costs, the (0428) Final Modification Report User Pays table clearly states "As yet unknown (circa £xx.xx)" for the Proposed

¹ A verbal reference was made by CB to the latest online Ordinance Survey Statement in relation to Public Sector Mapping Agreements.

charge for inclusion in ACS – to be completed upon receipt of cost estimate from Xoserve.

It was suggested that any indication as to an Xoserve ballpark figure would be helpful. Responding, DA advised that he did not have any specific User Pays costs (comprising a fixed element for initial reporting and setting up) to hand but could look to provide a view on transitional and set up costs in due course.

Concerns were voiced about the impacts of the 0428 de-aggregation triggers, especially when baring in mind that some parties would still be obtaining aggregated sites close to the proposed 01 July window. This increases the potential for parties to pick up costs that they do not believe they should incur, once Xoserve steps in to take responsibility. DA pointed out that no system change is being implemented which would potentially block confirmations etc. In discussing the 3 month confirmation rule, DA explained that this is there to provide certainty around data provisions whilst recognising that Xoserve might need to undertake a 'sweep up' exercise at some point. It was also noted that NDM sites do not automatically refer.

In considering whether or not there would/could be any value in providing a regular de-aggregation report (especially for larger sites) for the Distribution Workgroup to consider, those present recognised that for some parties cost and resource constraints mean that they would prefer Xoserve to manage the process. DA indicated that Xoserve could look to get the confirmations in place early in the hope that this would assist parties through the process. GE suggested that if Xoserve could look to provide an indication of potential costs associated with providing this 'up front' service, parties could then consider whether they wished to take up the offer.

SM also pointed out that there could be some process back loading impacts that need considering alongside potential ratchet related risks etc. In pointing out that the maximum Nominations timescale is 6 months, DA explained that Xoserve have undertaken some preliminary work on the matter and do sympathise with Users.

It was agreed to include this item as AOB at the next meeting.

New Action DX0201: Reference Modification 0428 User Pays costs - Xoserve (DA) to look to provide an indication of the User Pays costs (comprising a fixed element for initial reporting and setting up) and potential service take up numbers.

4.3. Further treatment of twin stream metering installations

SM explained that once again this matter has been raised in response to a question put to him relating to de-aggregation and MPRN related impacts. In essence it focuses on what happens where two or more live meters are assigned to an MPRN in a twin stream configuration, with one meter being used as a back up – a metered bypass. Responding, DA explained that in the old UK Link system, data to Meter Point is a one-to-one relationship, whereas in the new (post Project Nexus implementation) world, the data to Meter Point is a multiple (many) relationship (inc. bypass installations etc.).

DA advised that he would be happy to compose a one-page summary for consideration at both the Project Nexus Workgroup and UK Link Committee meetings.

4.4. Transfer of Meter Points between iGTs and GTs

Opening, DA advised that the presentation had been prepared, based in part, on discussions undertaken within the UK Link Committee around new world file formats and more specifically the STN record.

During an onscreen review of the presentation, the focus naturally fell onto the 'User Process Rules' slide, with CB suggesting that the proposals raise concerns around iGT to GT asset transfer issues such as meter ownership and the potential charging related impacts as different transportation charges may apply along with Gas Act ownership considerations. Some parties believed that retention of a transfer process would be beneficial, especially in relation to the different transportation charging considerations.

When asked, DA provided a brief explanation around how sites would be managed. He also suggested that the real issue relates to the feasibility of getting multiple reads (for the larger iGT sites) into the system in a timely manner (i.e. the need to obtain an actual reading on the asset transfer day/date).

It was suggested that as this is not a User instigated process, but Users are potentially (financially) impacted, some form of a credit mechanism which recognises that there is/are commercial values involved, would prove beneficial.

In response to a question as to whether or not an actual on the day reading would be needed where it is transferred, CB indicated that she believes that in the new Project Nexus world, a User would need to provide a reading. She pointed out that concerns around replacement reads had already been discussed within the Project Nexus and UKLC forums. Responding, DA agreed to investigate and provide a view at a later meeting but did take the opportunity to also point out that Xoserve had been asked to provide a process and sites would need to be managed on a specific basis.

New Action DX0202: Reference Transfer of Meter Points between iGTs and GTs - Xoserve (DA) to clarify discussions around how readings should be provided (i.e. estimated read provisions etc.), as undertaken within other forum (i.e. PN Workgroup & UKLC).

Moving on to consider the 'Transporter Process Rules' slide, attention fell on to the third bullet and the proposal whereby the Transporter Agency would step in (on behalf of the Transporter) and undertake the necessary actions. It was suggested that the crux of the matter related to instances where a property residing on the Sites & Meters database had more than one MPRN assigned to it – the key issue being timely communications that should not necessarily involve short notice notification periods. CB acknowledged that if planned correctly, the Xoserve process should provide Users with sufficient time to address matters appropriately.

In considering whether or not a UNC Modification would be required for 'forced confirmation' purposes, CW wondered whether or not these matters would be better served by adoption of a 'bespoke' Transfer of Asset Contract type of approach and/or agreement at the time, which would identify and address items such as any appropriate notification timescales etc. It was suggested that this proposal should be discussed in more detail with the iGTs in due course.

In looking at potential challenges, DM advised that as far as 'tagging of meter points to align with new MPRNs was concerned, Scotia Gas Networks would wish to undertake a site visit in order to re-tag the meter point. It was also suggested that the Change of Shipper process could have billing notification related impacts.

In considering how best to progress this matter, BF suggested that we could look to identify who would potentially be involved in the process and seek to engage in discussions sooner rather than later. CB pointed out that it might be prudent to ensure that Ofgem are invited to participate, as they need to be included due to the potentially large number of site transfers involved.

It was agreed by those present that a new action should be raised to ensure that the matter remains on everyone's radar for the time being.

New Action DX0203: Reference Transfer of Meter Points between iGTs and GTs – All parties to consider requirements and provide feedback.

4. Diary Planning

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

Workgroup meetings will take place as follows:

Time/Date	Venue	Workgroup Programme
10:30 Thursday 26 March 2015	31 Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3LT	Standard Workgroup considerations plus 0509, 0516, 0518S, 0522, 0523S and 0526 status updates.
10:30 Thursday 23 April 2015	ENA, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AF	Standard Workgroup considerations plus 0509, 0516, 0518S, 0522, 0523S and 0526 status updates.
10:30 Thursday 28 May 2015	31 Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3LT	<i>To be confirmed</i>
10:30 Thursday 25 June 2015	ENA, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AF	<i>To be confirmed</i>
10:30 Thursday 23 July 2015	31 Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3LT	<i>To be confirmed</i>

Action Table

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
DX0201	26/02/2015	4.2	<i>Reference Modification 0428 User Pays costs - Xoserve (DA) to look to provide an indication of the User Pays costs (comprising a fixed element for initial reporting and setting up) and potential service take up numbers.</i>	Xoserve (DA)	Pending
DX0202	26/02/2015	4.4	<i>Reference Transfer of Meter Points between iGTs and GTs - Xoserve (DA) to clarify discussions around how readings should be provided (i.e. estimated read provisions etc.), as undertaken within other forum</i>	Xoserve (DA)	Pending

Action Table

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			(i.e. PN Workgroup & UKLC).		
DX0201	26/02/2015	4.4	<i>Reference Transfer of Meter Points between iGTs and GTs – All parties to consider requirements and provide feedback.</i>	All	Pending