

Governance Workgroup Minutes
Thursday 19 April 2012
ENA, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AF

Attendees

Tim Davis (Chair)	(TD)	Joint Office
Bob Fletcher (Secretary)	(BF)	Joint Office
Andrew Green	(AG)	Total
Alan Raper	(AR)	National Grid Distribution
Chris Hill	(CH)	First Utility
Chris Wright	(CW)	British Gas
David Mitchell	(DM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Dora Ianora	(DI)	Ofgem
Erika Melen	(EM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Joanna Ferguson	(JF)	Northern Gas Networks
Joel Martin	(JM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Richard Fairholme	(RF)	E.ON UK
Ritchard Hewitt	(RH)	National Grid NTS
Robert Cameron-Higgs	(RCH)	Wales & West Utilities

1.0 Introduction and Status Review

- 1.1 Minutes from the previous meetings were approved.
- 1.2 There were no actions to review.

2.0 Workgroup Meetings

- 2.1 0384 - UNC Modification Rules; housekeeping, clarity and minor drafting changes
Minutes for the meeting are at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0384/190412
- 2.2 0394 - Legal Text for UNC Modification Proposals
Minutes for the meeting are at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0394/190412

3.0 Issues

- 3.1 ISS 0030 - Review Group 0334 – Action Plan

No issues to consider.

- 3.2 New Issues

Dormant Modifications

AR asked if there should be rules concerning modifications which become dormant due to various reasons, such as lack of input by the proposer. Should the modification, in effect, be adopted by the Panel which then decides what should be the next steps for the modification e.g. should it be adopted and moved forward by another proposer,

closed or be issued to consultation?

CW was concerned as to how the modification could be adopted without the original proposer's consent and questioned the existing rules that drive the modification process. TD suggested that the Workgroup should deliver a report when requested to do so by the Panel. A decision could then be made in light of the Workgroup Report on whether the modification should be issued to consultation or if further assessment is merited. Alternatively, the Panel has the option of requesting a View from Ofgem on whether a modification should continue or cease development.

TD was concerned that a process is being considered to take the modification away from the proposer, which appears to go against what is considered to be best practice - that modifications are owned by the proposer. It is also important to ensure a proportionate approach is adopted as there are very few modifications that might fall into this category - probably less than one a year.

CW felt that the 12 month backstop for assessment naturally creates a question to Ofgem and perhaps at this stage Ofgem could be asked for a view on whether a modification should continue. TD clarified that Ofgem can prevent further development after 6 months. TD felt any rules that are developed should provide that the Panel consult with the industry on whether a modification should continue or be withdrawn if it is dormant for a particular period of time.

New Action: GWG 0401 - AR is to clarify how other codes manage dormant modifications and report back to the Governance Workgroup.

4.0 Any Other Business

None.

5.0 Diary Planning for Workgroup

The next meeting is planned for:

Thursday 17 May 2012, ENA, following the UNC Committee meeting.

Action Table 19 April 2012

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
GWG 0401	19/04/12	4.0	Clarify how other codes manage dormant modifications and report back to the Workgroup.	National Grid Distribution (AR)	Pending