

UNC Offtake Arrangements Workgroup Minutes
Tuesday 26 March 2013
31 Homer Road, Solihull B91 3LT

Attendees

Bob Fletcher (Chair)	(BF)	Joint Office
Helen Cuin (Secretary)	(HCu)	Joint Office
Andrew Finch	(AF)	National Grid Distribution
Andy Hine	(AH)	National Grid NTS
Alice Etheridge	(AE)	National Grid NTS
Alison Drumond*	(AD)	EDF Energy
Bethan Winter	(BW)	Wales & West Utilities
Chris Shanley	(CS)	National Grid NTS
Colette Baldwin*	(CB)	E.ON UK
David Corby	(DC)	National Grid NTS
David Mitchell	(DM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Emma Buckton*	(EBu)	Northern Gas Networks
Fergus Healy	(FH)	National Grid NTS
Harvey Beck*	(HB)	Ofgem
Helga Clarke	(HC)	National Grid NTS
John Bolland*	(JB)	Scottish Power
Julie Cox*	(FC)	Energy UK
Keith Vuglar*	(KV)	Kelton Engineering
Lewis Hodgart*	(LH)	Ofgem
Mark Jones*	(MJ)	SSE
Mark Freeman	(MF)	National Grid Distribution
Rob Cameron-Higgs	(RCH)	Wales & West Utilities
Steve Skipp	(SK)	Scotia Gas Networks

*via teleconference

Copies of all papers are available at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/OA/260313

1. Introduction and Status Review**1.1 Review of minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

1.2 Review of actions

OF0101: SC012 - SGN to investigate and obtain evidence to test accuracy of meter and the potential duration of the error.

Update: SK confirmed that further investigations had been undertaken in an attempt to determine the duration of the error. However, no records could be traced to previous calibrations. SK believed that the meter was purchased in 1975 and the supplier of the meter had no records of calibrations beyond the purchase date, as they would not undertake this task. SK explained that SGN have a programme of works to remove these types of meters and on each replacement the meter is calibrated. On this particular site there are two meters, one primary flow and one standby. SGN have now identified which is the primary flow meter.

However, SGN are not able to ascertain the date the error started. In these circumstances it is accepted practice to work out 50% of the error. SK explained in reality SGN could go back to the installation date and calculate 50%, however the known point of calibration would have been between 8 and 12 years ago which would reduce the error deeming it to be less than 20 GWhs. He confirmed that the turbine once tested was deemed to be operating freely with a spin down test. Having looked at high pressure calibration certificates and annual spin down test programmes, SGN cannot find calibration evidence prior to 2005. CB was concerned about the charges Shippers would incur when SGN cannot be certain when error has started. She challenged if the interval of calibrations was suitable. SK explained that external experts have provided guidance for an 8 year spin down test and in this error SGN have only gone back to last known calibration date. CB was concerned that the error in reality may have only occurred in the last year and there was no certainty when the error started. SK explained that normally with an error like this the DN would normally go back to the last good calibration read. The last calibration is assumed to be 8 or 12 years ago. As SGN can't identify the last calibration date they have made a decision to go back to the reconciliation point of 5 years and halved that calculation. AF confirmed from experience turbine meters tend to record accurately until they fail completely. SK explained the nature of these errors and that current calculation practice. CB still remained concerned with the confidence of the data and with something so critical there ought to be more confidence with the accuracy of the meters. **Complete.**

New Action OF0301: DNs to consider the recommended testing frequency for turbine meters, to ensure they are reasonable and followed. Update to be provided in May.

2. Significant Measurement Error Update

2.1 SC006 Aberdeen MTA

KV provided an update on progress to complete the analysis of the error, with an emphasis on concluding the SFD analysis work with the industry expert to complete the final report. He confirmed that the industry expert had provided a report; this has been reviewed with some further analysis and recommendations being considered. However the final report has been hindered by the availability of the industry expert as he wont be available after the 09 April. KV explained that a CFD outcome is awaited. It was anticipated that a further update could be provided May or June and will be confirmed in April.

2.2 WM014 – Atherstone MRA

AF provided a presentation on the measurement error. He explained that this is an inter LDZ error and not an NTS to LDZ. AF explained that this is a pressure-controlled site not a volume-controlled site.

AF explained the nature and extent of error and what steps have been taken to ensure the problem does not arise again.

The workgroup agreed in the circumstances not to appoint an ITE and for National Grid Distribution in conjunction with National Grid NTS to provide a Measurement Error Report.

3. Measurement Error Update

3.1 SC012 - Kinknockie MRA MRB

No further update. See actions OF0101 and OF0301.

4. Workgroups

The following individual Workgroup meetings took place:

4.1 0407 - Standardisation of notice periods for offtake rate changes for all National Grid NTS Exit Users

(Report to Panel 16 May 2013) – papers are available at:
www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0407

4.2 0433 - Inclusion of the Transmission to Distribution “System Operator Agreement Guidelines” within the Offtake Arrangements Document

(Report to Panel on 18 April 2013) – papers are available at:
www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0433

4.3 0443 - Arranging Flow Swaps between NTS/LDZ Offtakes with increased lead times or for prolonged periods

(Report to Panel 15 August 2013) – papers available at:
www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0443

5. Issues

5.1 ISS 0040 - Review of Measurement Error Register and Notification Guidelines

On hold until April 2103.

5.2 ISS 0047 - Assured Offtake Pressures

On hold until April 2013. National Grid NTS to review the progress of the issue and advise if the issue should be closed.

5.3 ISS 0051 - Annual Validations

On hold until April 2013. AC confirmed that alternative wording was under review with a view of maintaining an annual validation date.

5.4 New Issues

None raised.

6 Any Other Business

None raised.

7 Diary Planning for Workgroup

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

Offtake Arrangements Workgroup meeting will take on:

Monday 22 April 2013, at 10:30, Consort House, 6 Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3QQ

Tuesday 21 May 2013, at 10:30, Consort House, 6 Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3QQ

Tuesday 18 June 2013, at 10:30, Consort House, 6 Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3QQ

Tuesday 30 July 2013, at 10:30, Consort House, 6 Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3QQ

Action Table

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
OF0101	29/01/13	3.1	SC012 - Investigate and obtain evidence to test accuracy of meter and the potential duration of the error.	Scotia Gas Networks (DM)	Complete
OF0301	26/03/13	1.2	DNs to consider the recommended testing frequency for turbine meters, to ensure they are reasonable and followed. Update to be provided in May.	DNs	Pending