

**Workgroup 0376**  
**- Increased Choice when Applying for NTS Exit Capacity -**

**Minutes**  
**Thursday 05 May 2011**  
**Elxon, 350 Euston Road, London NW1 3AW**

**Attendees**

Tim Davis (Chair)	(TD)	Joint Office
Lorna Dupont (Secretary)	(LD)	Joint Office
Charles Ruffell	(CR)	RWE npower
Chris Wright	(CW)	Centrica
Colin Thomson	(CT)	Scotia Gas Networks
Fergus Healy	(FH)	National Grid NTS
Graham Jack	(GJ)	Centrica
Jacopo Vignola	(JV)	Centrica Storage Ltd
Jeff Chandler	(JC)	SSE
Jill Brown	(JB)	RWE npower
Julie Cox	(JCx)	AEP
Lesley Ramsay	(LR)	National Grid NTS
Lewis Hodgart	(LH)	Ofgem
Mike Wassell	(MW)	National Grid NTS
Nick Wye	(NW)	Waters Wye Associates
Phil Broom	(PB)	GDFSuez
Phil Hobbins	(PH)	National Grid NTS
Richard Fairholme	(RF)	E.ON UK
Richard Sarsfield-Hall	(RSH)	Poyry Management Consulting
Rob Cameron-Higgs	(RCH)	Wales & West Utilities
Simon Trivella	(ST)	Wales & West Utilities
Stefan Leedham	(SL)	EDF Energy
Steve Pownall	(SP)	National Grid NTS

**1. Introduction**

*Copies of all papers are available at [www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0376/050511](http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0376/050511).*

TD welcomed attendees to the meeting.

**2. Outline of Modification 0376 – Increased Choice when Applying for NTS Exit Capacity**

JC gave a presentation and briefly outlined the proposal; in essence this was looking to increase certainty for parties to enable well-founded investment decisions to be made and to offer more flexibility when it came to the point of commissioning, by enabling requests for the first of each month, rather than limiting to 01 October.

### 3. Consider Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference were accepted.

### 4. Discussion

Aspects of the modification were then discussed.

It was the intention that it would apply to existing and new requests. It would give more certainty to 'go live' commissioning dates and National Grid would also receive information at an earlier stage.

FH commented that such small volumes of capacity (100kWh) might be better acquired through another route, and pointed out that this automatically requires systems changes which may give some practical problems. JC noted the suggestion that increasing the minimum volume to 100k kWh could help avoid systems changes.

FH also indicated that he would like to understand the perceived differences between 'best endeavours' and 'reasonable endeavours' and would bring more thoughts on this to the next meeting. There were some concerns that the requested date might be assumed to be automatically granted and this was also being considered, along with the concern that this might be taking away a significant degree of flexibility of response that National Grid currently had. The implications of these proposed changes were being looked at and a view would be brought to the next meeting.

JC then explained his views on how the modification was likely to meet the relevant objectives. LH questioned if there might be a loss of co-ordinated investment. FH responded that, as requests would always be later than Y+ 4, it should not be a problem, signals would still be received and investment could be staggered; capacity would still be prepared by Y + 4.

Further comments on the modification would be welcome in advance of the next meeting.

**Action WG0501: Provide detailed timelines associated with the current and the ad hoc processes and an indication of any identified issues.**

**Action WG0502: Revise modification to reflect comments/suggestions.**

Asked if draft legal text could be provided for the meeting in the first week in June, FH noted TD's request. TD added that the intention would then be to produce the Workgroup Report in June.

FH indicated that, depending on further discussion and consideration, National Grid NTS might feel it appropriate to raise an alternative modification for consideration by the Workgroup.

### 5. Diary Planning for Workgroup

*Further details of planned meetings are available at: [www.gasgovernance.co.uk/Diary](http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/Diary)*

The next Workgroup 0376 meeting will take place on Wednesday 18 May 2011 at the Association of Electricity Producers, Charles House, 5-11 Regent Street, London SW1 3AW, following the meeting of Workgroup 0373 which will start at 13:30.

**Action Log - Workgroup 0376**

Action Ref	Meeting Date(s)	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
WG 0501	05/05/11	4.	Provide detailed timelines associated with the current and the ad hoc processes and an indication of any identified issues.	National Grid NTS (FH)	
WG 0502	05/05/11	4.	Revise modification to reflect comments/suggestions.	SSE (JC)	