Stage 01: Modification

0530:

Use of Supply Point Register data for Project Nexus 'Market Trials' Testing Phase

This modification seeks to allow the release of relevant Supply Point data for the purposes of User testing to Shipper Users who are not the registered or proposing User of a Supply Point.



The Proposer recommends that this modification should:

- not be subject to self-governance
- · be assessed by a Workgroup



High Impact:

None



Medium Impact:

Shippers; Transporters



Low Impact:

None

At what stage is this document in the process?



Modification



Workgroup Report



Draft Modification Report



Final Modification Report

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Any questions?

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About this document:

This modification will be presented by the proposer to the panel on 19 February 2015.

The panel will consider the proposer's recommendation and agree whether this modification should be:

- not subject to self-governance
- referred to a workgroup for assessment

The Proposer recommends the following timetable:

Initial consideration by Workgroup	26 February 2015
Workgroup Report presented to Panel	11 March 2015
Draft Modification Report issued for consultation	19 March 2015
Consultation Close-out for representations	03 April 2015
Final Modification Report published for Panel	07 April 2015
UNC Modification Panel decision	10 April 2015

1 Summary

Is this a Self-Governance Modification?

It is not proposed that this modification be considered as a self-governance modification on the basis that it is likely to have a material effect on consumers.

Is this a Fast Track Self-Governance Modification

This modification is not a housekeeping modification required as a result of an error or factual change and therefore is not suitable for Fast Track Self-Governance.

Why Change?

The UNC does not currently permit the release of Supply Point Register data to Shipper Users who are not the Registered User of a Supply Point. This modification seeks to include this permission within transitional terms to support the 'Market Trials' external systems testing phase of Project Nexus implementation.

Solution

This modification proposes that predetermined Supply Point Register data may be released to certain Shipper Users in the 'Market Trials' phase of Project Nexus implementation. It proposes that an amendment be made to TPD Section V and that an Annex be inserted specifying the data items to be provided to Shipper Users.

Relevant Objectives

This modification would facilitate relevant objective (f) by promoting efficiency for both Users and Transporters by reducing data preparation requirements and the risk of unexpected test results as a result of data errors.

Implementation

No implementation timescales are proposed, however this modification is required to be implemented prior to the Project Nexus Implementation Date.

Does this modification impact a Significant Code Review (SCR) or other significant industry change projects, if so, how?

This modification impacts the industry programme for replacement of UK-Link systems. This is because the requirements would facilitate efficient and reliable implementation of the supporting UK-Link systems; (see Section 6 of this Proposal).

It is essential to the success of the UK Link Replacement Programme.

2 Why Change?

Change Requirement

As part of development of the UK Link Programme a phase of external testing, 'Market Trials' is planned. For the purposes of setting out the scope and approach of this phase, a group has been convened comprising Shipper User and Transporter Agency representatives.

The above group concluded that the use of actual data from the Supply Point Register would improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Market Trials phase of Project Nexus Implementation. Use of 'manufactured' data can lead to unexpected test results due to errors in the data relationship construction creating erroneous results that could mask errors in the source system code or lead to unnecessary investigations and re-test. Whilst some data manufacture will be necessary for the creation of new data items, this is expected to be limited.

Use of data from the Supply Point Register would benefit the Transporter Agency in reducing relevant data preparation activities, it would also benefit Shipper Users as they would be able to utilise existing actual data rather than creating any data items required by their processes, not sourced from the Transporters.

The UNC does not presently permit the release of Supply Point Register data in these circumstances.

It is proposed that only a proportion of the Supply Point Register be used for Market Trials. Of the data extracted, a subset would be provided to each Shipper User with a live Supply Point registration at the extract date to enable the Shipper User to test relevant processes within the portfolio – such as Metering, Meter Reading, etc.

Part of the data provided in support of Market Trials would be provided to Shipper Users who did not have a live registration at the Supply Meter Points included on the extract date. This 'portfolio to non live User' would have a limited initial data provision, which is proposed to be: Supply Meter Point Reference; Annual Quantity (AQ)¹ and Shipper User registered on the extract date. Provision of these data items would enable Shipper Users to identify 'candidate' Supply Meter Points for testing specific Change of Shipper User processes, and the relevant Shipper User with whom to interact with respect to notifying the testing schedule for that Supply Meter Point. As part of these Change of Shipper User processes, further data would be provided to Shipper Users as part of the registration processes as defined within the relevant UK Link Communications.

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¹ It is proposed that this AQ value is amended slightly, e.g. transposition of a number of characters in the AQ value so as to retain the magnitude of the AQ but not provide the exact value.

3 Solution

Proposed Solution

Modification of the UNC is required to insert transitional terms to permit the provision of the 'portfolio to non live User' for the sole purposes of conducting the Market Trials phase of Project Nexus.

Prior to provision of this data, Shipper Users would be required to warrant that the data provided is only used for the purposes of Market Trials and that they would delete such data once the Shipper User is satisfied that the testing has concluded to their satisfaction. Shipper Users would be required to confirm that they have done so.

An Annex setting out the relevant data items included on the proposed report is required to be inserted into the relevant transitional text for TPD Section V.

It is further proposed that following receipt of the relevant test UK Link Communications that the Transporter (via its Agency) is required to respond with the corresponding UK Link Communications as defined in the UK Link Manual that would include relevant data items contained in the Supply Point Register.

User Pays	
Classification of the modification as User Pays, or not, and the justification for such classification.	Costs arising from the UK Link replacement and including enhancements to the existing UNC regime have been considered when price controls were set and funding provided. On this basis, no User Pays service would be created or amended by implementation of this modification and it is not, therefore, classified as a User Pays modification.
Identification of Users of the service, the proposed split of the recovery between Gas Transporters and Users for User Pays costs and the justification for such view.	Not applicable
Proposed charge(s) for application of User Pays charges to Shippers.	Not applicable
Proposed charge for inclusion in the Agency Charging Statement (ACS) – to be completed upon receipt of a cost estimate from Xoserve.	Not applicable

4 Relevant Objectives

Impact of the modification on the Relevant Objectives:		
Relevant Objective	Identified impact	
a) Efficient and economic operation of the pipe-line system.	None	
b) Coordinated, efficient and economic operation of(i) the combined pipe-line system, and/ or(ii) the pipe-line system of one or more other relevant gas transporters.	None	
c) Efficient discharge of the licensee's obligations.	None	
 d) Securing of effective competition: (i) between relevant shippers; (ii) between relevant suppliers; and/or (iii) between DN operators (who have entered into transportation arrangements with other relevant gas transporters) and relevant shippers. 	None	
e) Provision of reasonable economic incentives for relevant suppliers to secure that the domestic customer supply security standards are satisfied as respects the availability of gas to their domestic customers.	None	
f) Promotion of efficiency in the implementation and administration of the Code.	Positive	
g) Compliance with the Regulation and any relevant legally binding decisions of the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators.	None	

This modification is expected to further relevant objective (f) as use of actual Supply Point Register data rather than manufactured data has the following efficiency benefits:

- improves the efficiency of the proposed 'Market Trials'
- improves the likelihood of greater test penetration by using live, rather than manufactured, data relationships
- reduces risk of erroneous test results due to incorrect data relationships, thereby reducing inefficiencies associated with unwarranted investigation, correction and retesting
- · reduces data preparation for both Users and the Transporter Agency
- The consequences of the above are that implementation of the Project Nexus arrangements under UNC Modifications 0432, 0434 and 0440 is efficiently facilitated

5 Implementation

No implementation timescales are proposed, however this modification is required to be implemented prior to the Project Nexus Implementation Date.

6 Impacts

Does this modification impact a Significant Code Review (SCR) or other significant industry change projects, if so, how?

This modification is necessary to facilitate implementation of Project Nexus and the UK-Link Replacement Programme.

Pre Project Nexus Implementation

This change is required to be implemented prior to the Project Nexus Implementation Date as it facilitates industry systems testing in anticipation of UK-Link replacement.

Project Nexus Implementation

As above.

Post Project Nexus Implementation

This modification contains transitional terms and obligations which would expire at the time of Project Nexus implementation.

7 Legal Text

Legal Text is to be provided.

8 Recommendation

The Proposer invites the Panel to:

- · Determine that this modification should be subject to self-governance; and
- Progress to Workgroup assessment.