
Transmission Workstream Minutes
Thursday 5th January 2006
held at 350 Euston Road, London

Attendees

John Bradley (Chair)	(JB)	Joint Office
Dennis Rachwal (Secretary)	(DR)	Joint Office
Alan Raper	(AR)	National Grid UKD
Andy Morris	(AM)	ILEX
Charles Ruffell	(CR)	RWE npower
Christiane Sykes	(CS)	EON UK
Eddie Proffitt	(EP)	MEUC
Helen Bray	(HB)	Chemical Industries Association
Joy Chadwick	(JCh)	Exxonmobil
Lisa Waters	(LW)	Waters Wye Associates
Liz Spierling	(LS)	Wales and West Utilities
Mark Freeman	(MFr)	National Grid UKD
Mick Curtis	(MC)	E=mc ²
Mike Young	(MY)	British Gas Trading
Ndidi Njoku	(NN)	Ofgem
Nigel Sisman	(NS)	National Grid NTS
Paul Roberts	(PR)	National Grid NTS
Peter Parsons	(PP)	National Grid NTS
Phil Broom	(PB)	Gaz de France
Rachel Turner	(RT)	Centrica
Rekha Patel	(RP)	ConocoPhillips
Ritchard Hewitt	(RH)	National Grid NTS
Sharif Islam	(SI)	Total Gas and Power
Shelley Jones	(SJ)	Statoil
Simon Bradbury	(SB)	Ofgem
Steve Pownall	(SP)	National Grid NTS
Stuart Waudby	(SW)	Centrica Storage Ltd
Tim Davis	(TD)	Joint Office

1. Status Review

1.1. Minutes from December 05 Workstream Meetings

The minutes from 1st and 14th December 05 were accepted.

1.2. Review of Outstanding Actions

Further to the Action Log circulated on 6th December 05, an update is attached, incorporating actions raised at this meeting.

1.3. Review of Workstream's Modification Proposals and Topics

The Modification Status Report was updated

The changes since 20th December 2005 may be summarised as follows: Panel recommended implementation of Proposal 0072. Proposals 071a and 049 were implemented and Proposals 071 and 067 were rejected.

The Topic Status Report was updated

- 003TR NTS Exit Capacity
 - c) PR stated that the report on IExCR reconsultation that closed out on 23 December 2005 would be available imminently. *Issued 6-Jan-06*
 - d) JB confirmed the intention to update this workstream on key developments discussed at Ofgem's Enduring Offtake Workgroup that may lead to Modification Proposals. The next meeting was due to be held 18-Jan-06.
- 004TR Emergency Arrangements – Following on from Ofgem's presentation to the workstream on 1-Dec-05 the workstream was asked to note Ofgem's scheduled meeting on 'Gas safety reserve requirements' scheduled for the morning of 16-Jan-06.
- 009TR Provision of Information to Market. HB relayed difficulties experienced by CIA members who found that National Grid's Daily Summary Report web page was not updated at the expected times.

Action TR1038 National Grid NTS (RH) to investigate concern about timely update of Daily Summary Report web page.
- Topic 010TR Gas Quality at Entry Points was put on hold because Proposal 049 was implemented and Proposal 069 was proceeding.

1.4. Gas Transmission Operational Forum - potential UNC Modification Proposals

JB explained that this agenda item was added as a consequence of correspondence between the Gas Forum and the Joint Office.

JB reported that the Operational Forum held on 13-Dec-05 did not identify any new potential UNC Modification Proposals.

CR requested that this remain as a standing agenda item.

1.5. Communications on NEC Safety Case Change

Further to the letter circulated 23-Dec-05, workstream attendees were invited to provide "advice and thoughts" on "communicating any future changes" of the NEC Safety Case. Thoughts included sight of proposed changes before they are submitted to the HSE, ideally with a timetable, implications for market participants, and progress reporting on NEC Safety Case change.

Action TR1039 Joint Office (JB) to respond to the NEC with Transmission workstream advice and thoughts on communicating any proposed changes to the NEC Safety Case.

2. Modifications for Workstream Development

Modification Proposal 068

‘Extending established Uniform Network Code governance arrangements to include the Safety Monitor Referred to in Section Q of the Code.’

Further to the discussion of this proposal at the Governance Workstream on 15-Dec-05 the Proposer, SW provided Version 3 (circulated 3-Jan-06), and further views were invited from the Workstream.

Addressing the perception of ‘opaque methods’, National Grid NTS (PP) referred to the publication [‘Safety & Firm Gas Monitor Methodology’](#)¹, stating that no specific feedback had been received to date since it was first available. PP then ran through a simplified presentation of the methodology and its application for winter 05/06. PP also referred to extensive liaison with DTI and HSE in setting the Safety Monitors. PP drew attention to the Safety Monitor requirement arising from the Isolation Process that used data from operational exercises. MC requested information on the recent “Moscow” exercise. *Post meeting note: Some information was disseminated at the Transmission Operational Forum on 9th November [“Exercise Moscow Update”](#)*²

SW enquired why Irish Firm load was monitor protected when there was potential for some isolation protection. PP responded that National Grid NTS (NG NTS) would not be able to demonstrate to the HSE that isolation had been effected.

SW expressed concern that NG NTS was using monitors to influence the market by placing the requirement for supply risk on the Long Range Storage monitor. PP responded that this had been accepted as most prudent for this winter, and following the approval of UNC Modification 050, for future years supply risk may not need to be initially included in the monitor requirement.

MC expressed the concern that HSE would take a conservative view on Safety Monitors. JB pointed out that National Grid’s Winter Outlook Report consultation process gave opportunities for market participants to provide views to National Grid.

In discussion of the Modification Proposal some of the potential disadvantages identified in the Governance Workstream recurred: -

- It might produce two sets of monitors
- Appropriateness of Ofgem, the commercial regulator, making a final decision on a safety matter. Differing views centred on Ofgem always taking safety into consideration in its decisions, to NG NTS needing to protect itself from criminal prosecution under HSE regulation. SI expressed a wish for development of market expectations and protection of the market from shocks. Some parties indicated that whilst Ofgem would not be the appropriate authority to approve (via a UNC Modification Proposal) the levels of monitors set, an argument might be put forward that Ofgem could approve changes to the methodology.

¹ <http://www.nationalgrid.com/NR/rdonlyres/3EEBD2E6-76BE-41E1-B693-5112F044B279/4524/20056SafetyFirmGasMonitorMethodology.pdf>

² <http://www.nationalgrid.com/NR/rdonlyres/A47354F0-FEBF-4AED-B0E3-154D117D8B4E/4666/07EmergencyUpdate091105.pdf>

SW accepted that it was now unlikely that the proposal would be implemented for winter 05/06, and hence he was relaxed about the timescale for development.

Action TR1040 Proposer (SW) to consider whether to further revise modification proposal 068.

3. Discussion of Topics

There was no further discussion of topics.

4. Diary Planning

Transmission Workstream

Date: Thursday 2nd February 2006

Start Time: 10:00 am

Venue: Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London

Action Log – UNC Transmission 6th January 2006

Action Ref	Meeting Date(s)	Minute Ref	Action	Owner*	Status Update
TR 1031	3/11/05	3.3.1 Mod006	On publication of near real time data at UK sub-terminals – update workstream on availability of more detailed IS implementation costs	National Grid NTS / Ofgem	Commercially confidential information shared with Ofgem. Closed
TR 1033	11/11/05	3 Mod044	consider request for detailed briefing on revised emergency arrangements to enable companies to develop their internal procedures.	National Grid NTS (CL)	NB – Ops Forum scheduled for 13-Dec-05 Closed
TR 1034	1/12/05	1.3 Mod068	On governance of Safety Monitor – seek NEC view	Wales& West (LS)	Safety Monitor was Primary Transporter responsibility – NG NTS Closed
TR 1035	1/12/05	3.1.4 Topic 004TR	identify an appropriate DN operational forum to examine management of EUC 9 NDM loads	National Grid UKD (MFr)	SPA Operational Forum – next meeting 17 th Jan Closed
TR 1036	1/12/05	3.3.2 Topic 010TR	raise NEP at IUK modification proposal, taking account of workstream discussion, and circulate information on the likely impact on emissions limits of the increase in the Total Sulphur limit	National Grid NTS (NK)	Mod Proposal 069 raised and reps close out 9 th Jan Closed
TR 1037	1/12/05	3.2.3 Mod006	On legal text for Mod006 – response to representations on legal text	National Grid NTS (RH)	
TR 1038	5/1/06	1.3 Topic 009TR	Investigate concern about timely update of National Grid NTS's Daily Summary Report web page.	National Grid NTS (RH)	
TR 1039	5/1/06	1.5	Provide advice and thoughts to the NEC on communicating any future changes of the NEC Safety Case	Joint Office (JB)	
TR 1040	5/1/06	2 Mod068	On governance of the Safety Monitor - Consider whether to further revise mod proposal 068.	Centrica Storage Ltd (SW)	

* key to initials of action owners

RH – Ritchard Hewitt, JB – John Bradley, CL – Chris Logue, LS – Liz Spierling, MFr - Mark Freeman, NK - Nick King, SW - Stewart Waudby