

Report from Offtake Workgroup

On 15 March, the Offtake Workgroup was convened to discuss a meter error notification at Alrewas (EM) MTD¹ submitted by Cadent.

A provisional estimate of the magnitude of the error suggests it will be greater than 50GWh.

As this was the first meeting at which the error was shared with the industry, the Measurement Error Notification Guidelines², (the Guidelines), require the Workgroup to complete certain steps in the resolution process, specifically, the selection of an Independent Technical Expert³, (ITE), and the approval of the Terms of Reference for the ITE's appointment.

Issue

Although the ITE selection voting was consistent between the two constituencies present, the result could only be recorded as provisional for two reasons.

First the voting mechanism set out in the Guidelines requires contributions from three constituencies: DNs, NTS and shippers, and secondly, under the generic Terms of Reference for UNC Workgroups the meeting was not quorate.

The provisional result was to appoint **Dr M Reader-Harris of TUV NEL Ltd** as the ITE.

Given the low likelihood this matter can be resolved at a further meeting of the Workgroup or at a meeting of the Offtake Committee, it was proposed that the provisional result should be referred to UNCC for ratification, (given that a quorate sitting of UNCC should have sufficient shipper members in attendance to endorse, or otherwise, the Workgroup's selection.)

UNCC Vote Requested

To uphold the provisional decisions made at the Offtake Workgroup.

That is:

- to support the proposed appointment of Dr Reader-Harris as the ITE and,
- adopt the Draft Terms of Reference circulated at the meeting which it should be noted are largely in accordance with those documented in the Guidelines.

As background we have provided some information on Dr Reader-Harris in Appendix 1

17 March 2021

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Joint Office of Gas Transporters

¹ [Alrewas \(EM\) Significant Meter Error Summary](#)

² [Measurement Error Notification Guidelines](#)

³ [Register of Independent Technical Experts](#)

Appendix 1

Dr M Reader-Harris, Senior Consultant, TUV NEL Ltd

Qualifications:

MBCs, CEng, FIMA, CMath

Chair of ISO TC30 (General Flow Measurement) Committee, Chairman of BSI

CPI 30/2 (differential-pressure meters), sits on several British Standard committees and Chairs the Flomeko International Programme Committee.

Orifice Plates:

Excellent experience in orifice plates, classed as World Expert.

Has published 30 papers on orifice plates (more than 60 papers on flow measurement in total).

Dr Reader-Harris is an internationally recognised authority on flow measurement including fluid properties and installation effects on flow meters for dry and wet gas conditions.

He has over 25 years' experience on flow measurement including multiphase flow, differential pressure, orifice plate and venturi metering techniques.

Amongst his other specialisms, Michael can include CFD, Measurement Uncertainty, and international flow measurement inter-comparison.

He is a regular presenter at international conferences and is the author of a significant number of flow measurement technical papers.

Michael is co-author of the Reader-Harris Gallagher Revised Orifice Discharge Coefficient Equation.

Operational Experience:

Recently audited two large (orifice plate) fiscal metering stations in Italy.