

UNC Transmission Workgroup Minutes
Thursday 05 August 2021
via Microsoft Teams

Attendees

Eric Fowler (Chair)	(EF)	Joint Office
Mike Berrisford (Secretary)	(MB)	Joint Office
Adam Bates	(ABa)	South Hook Gas Ltd
Alex Nield	(AN)	Storengy
Andrew Blair	(ABI)	Interconnector UK
Anna Shrigley	(ASh)	ENI
Anna Stankiewicz	(ASt)	National Grid
Ashley Adams	(AA)	National Grid
Bethan Winter	(BW)	Wales & West Utilities
Carlos Aguirre	(CA)	Pavilion Energy
Chris Wright	(CW)	ExxonMobil
Christiane Sykes	(CS)	Shell
Daniel Hisgett	(DHl)	National Grid
Davide Rubini	(DR)	Vitol
Debra Hawkin	(DHa)	TPA Solutions
Emma Buckton	(EB)	Northern Gas Networks
Hannah Reddy	(HR)	Correla on behalf of Xoserve
Helen Seaton	(HS)	Ofgem
Henk Kreuze	(HK)	Vermilion
Jeff Chandler	(JCh)	SSE
Jennifer Randall	(JR)	National Grid
Julie Cox	(JCx)	Energy UK
Kamla Rhodes	(KR)	ConocoPhillips
Lauren Jauss	(LJ)	RWE
Nick Wye	(NW)	Waters Wye Associates
Phil Hobbins	(PH)	National Grid
Phil Lucas	(PL)	National Grid
Rachel Hinsley	(RHl)	National Grid (0771S only)
Rebecca Hailes	(RHa)	Joint Office
Richard Fairholme	(RF)	Uniper
Ritchard Hewitt	(RHe)	Hewitt Home and Energy Solutions
Sarah Cooper	(SC)	IUK
Shiv Singh	(SS)	Cadent
Sinead Obeng	(SO)	Gazprom
Steven Britton	(SB)	Cornwall Insight

Copies of all papers are available at: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/tx/050821>

1. Introduction and Status Review

Eric Fowler (EF) welcomed all parties to the meeting.

1.1. Approval of minutes (01 July 2021)

The minutes from the last meeting were approved.

1.2. Approval of Late Papers

EF advised that there were a couple of late papers for consideration during the main Transmission Workgroup (under items 1.5 and 6.) meeting along with a couple more for the various associated Workgroup meetings.

1.3. Review of Outstanding Actions

EF noted that there were no outstanding Transmission Workgroup actions to consider at the meeting.

1.4. Ofgem Industry Update

Helen Seaton (HS) provided an overview of the Ofgem Industry update published on the meeting page: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/tx/050821>

1.5. Pre-Modification discussions

1.5.1. Removal of Obstacles to Market Withdrawal

Nick Wye (NW) introduced a pre-modification presentation relating to '*Removal of Obstacles to Market Withdrawal*' during which he highlighted that discussions with National Grid NTS remain ongoing.

In explaining that so far no clear view has been provided by National Grid NTS on its interpretation of the Uniform Network Code capacity related obligations, NW advised that he would be looking to formally raise the Modification on Friday 06 August 2021 with a view to presenting it at the 19 August 2021 Panel meeting.

NW then went on to explain that should the ongoing discussions with National Grid NTS reach an amicable point, then the Modification could always be withdrawn in due course.

When asked, NW provided a brief explanation around the potential differences in the (capacity) rights and obligations of both the assignee and assignor and how under the current Code these work – in short, the Modification is seeking to change these current provisions.

2. European Codes Update

Phil Hobbins (PH) advised there were no specific updates for the European Codes to consider.

3. Workgroups

3.1 0705R – NTS Capacity Access Review

(Report to Panel by 21 October 2021)

<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0705>

3.2 0761 - Arrangements for Interconnectors with additional Storage capability

(Report to Panel 16 September 2021)

<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0761>

3.3 0771S – Removal of the absolute requirement to include a Remotely Operable Valve (ROV) Installation for all new NTS Entry connections

(Report to Panel 21 October 2021)

<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0771>

3.4 0772S – Transparency Improvements to the Process for Changing Gas Quality Limits in NTS Connection Agreements

(Report to Panel 16 September 2021)

<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0772>

3.5 0775S – Amendment to the Requirement to Conduct the Transporting Britain's Energy Consultation

(Report to Panel 16 September 2021)

<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0775>

EF pointed out that due to the length of discussions undertaken for Workgroups 0705R and 0761 there was insufficient time remaining in the meeting for discussion of agenda items 3.3, 3.4 and 3.5, and therefore advised that the Joint Office would seek a one month extension to the reporting dates for these (three) Modification Proposals at the 19 August 2021 Panel meeting.

4. GS(M)R Review

No updates for this month.

5. Issues

5.1. Limiting the Shipper’s unlimited risk related to short-term capacity reservation

Nick Wye (NW) provided an overview of the ‘Limiting the Shipper’s unlimited risk related to short-term capacity reservation’ presentation on behalf of engie, during which the main focus of the discussions centred on the ‘How?’ slide.

In considering the matter, Rebecca Hailes (RHa) enquired how these proposals / findings differ from the previous UNC Modification 0341 ‘Manifest Errors in Entry Capacity Overruns’ proposals as raised by GasTerra on 13 October 2010 and whether engie (and NW) had considered this Modification, which was ultimately rejected by Ofgem on 24 March 2011.¹ Responding, NW accepted the point being made and went on to reiterate that various parties are paying significantly large amounts of money for what are erroneous errors, and as a consequence he believes that there is merit in considering the matter.

When asked whether there are any retrospective aspects to the proposals, NW confirmed that this would not be the case and it is forward looking only, at which point several parties in attendance appeared to support investigating the matter in more detail.

Concluding discussions, NW advised that he would consider the points raised and look to prepare a draft Modification for consideration in due course.

6. Any Other Business

6.1. Legal Text Provision for UNC Modifications 0772S and 0775S

Ashley Adams (AA) advised that he was now in receipt of the (draft) legal text in support of UNC Modifications 0772S and 0775S which he would now review and thereafter provide, in time for consideration at the forthcoming Workgroup meetings.²

7. Diary Planning

In closing the meeting, EF advised parties in attendance that the September 2021 NTSCMF and Transmission Workgroup meetings had swapped dates and would now take place on Thursday 02 September and Tuesday 07 September 2021 respectively.

Parties are also asked to note that the finish time for these meetings would be 16:00.

Further details of planned meetings are available at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/events-calendar/month

Time / Date	Venue	Workgroup Programme
10:00 and ending at 12:30 Thursday 31 August 2021	Microsoft Teams	Extraordinary Transmission Workgroup Agenda
10:00 Tuesday 07 September 2021	Microsoft Teams	Standard Transmission Workgroup Agenda

¹ Copies of the 0341 Modification related documentation are available to view and/or download from the Joint Office web site at: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0341>

² Please note: an Extraordinary Transmission Workgroup meeting to solely consider UNC Modifications 0771S, 0772S and 0775S has been arranged for Tuesday 31 August 2021 commencing at 10:00 and ending at 12:30.

10:00 Thursday 07 October 2021	Microsoft Teams	Standard Transmission Workgroup Agenda
10:00 Thursday 04 November 2021	Microsoft Teams	Standard Transmission Workgroup Agenda
10:00 Thursday 02 December 2021	Microsoft Teams	Standard Transmission Workgroup Agenda