

DEMAND ESTIMATION SUB COMMITTEE

Minutes

Tuesday 15 January 2008

31 Homer Road, Solihull B91 3LT

Attendees

Julian Majdanski (Chair)	JM	Joint Office
Helen Cuin (Secretary)	HC	Joint Office
Craig Shaw	CS	Centrica
Dean Johnson	DJ	xoserve
Dennis Aitchison	DA	Scotia Gas Networks
Ed Rains	ER	Elf Business Energy
Fiona Cottam	FC	xoserve
Hannah McKinney	HM	EDF Energy (Member)
Jonathan Aitken	JA	RWE Npower (Member)
Mark Linke	ML	Centrica
Mark Perry	MP	xoserve
Sallyann Blackett	SB	E.ON UK
Simon Durk	SD	National Grid
Stephen Marland	SM	National Grid
Steve Taylor	ST	Centrica (Member)

Apologies

Euan Chisholm	EC	Scottish Power
Louise Child	LC	E.ON UK
Mo Rezvani	MR	Scottish & Southern Energy (Member)
Sarah Maddams	SM	E.ON UK
Stuart Cameron	SC	Scottish Power (Member)

1. Introduction and Status Review

JM welcomed all attendees.

2. Confirmation of membership and apologies for absence

Apologies were received and noted.

3. Review of Minutes and Actions from the Previous Meeting

2.1 Minutes

The minutes from the Demand Estimation Sub Committee meeting held on 08 November 2007 were accepted.

2.2 Actions

The outstanding actions were reviewed.

DE1034(TF): xoserve to perform analysis to identify the impacts of reducing the 0 to 73.2MWh band threshold from 73.2MWh.

Update: DJ provided a presentation explaining the analysis undertaken to date. There was a consensus to amend the workplan to include further analysis for Autumn 2008. **Action Closed.**

DA questioned the benefits of splitting the EUC bands into smaller sub bands. SB explained the impact that this would have on the domestic EUC band. ST suggested a re-classification of bands, however FC explained that this would require a UNC Modification.

Action DE1044: DESC to consider if different types of analysis methods could be applied to the analysis of splitting EUC Band 1 in future.

Update: DJ provided a presentation explaining the current methods employed. No additional methods were requested to those provided. **Action Closed.**

Action DE DE1045: xoserve to consider carrying out analysis on the levels of volatility in the profile of customer usage.

Update: DJ provided a presentation, he confirmed that xoserve continue to work on this analysis and do not have anything to present today. DJ confirmed the details will be published in advance of the June Meeting. **Action Carried Forward.**

Action DE1046: xoserve to consider what effects/benefit there might be if the algorithm analysis and revisions were not carried out on an annual basis and the parameters were carried forward to the following gas year.

Update: DJ provided a presentation explaining why the workload would not necessarily reduce. A debate occurred about the annual cycles and risks of less accuracy with limited benefit to resource reductions. There was a consensus to continue with the existing practice. **Action Closed.**

4. Progress of Work Plan

DJ explained the intention to provide an update on datalogger and date recorder samples and provided a presentation on NDM Sample Numbers. DJ explained that inactive sites are being terminated but new installation programmes are taking place. SB highlighted that National Grid appear to have the worst performance, DJ explained the problems encountered and that National Grid are addressing these. He also explained that xoserve are continually monitoring the situation and are working closely with the Networks.

JA questioned how the sample numbers would be impacted in the modelling being undertaken to reduce the EUC band 1 threshold. DJ explained that reductions in sample numbers would impact any form of modelling but, as sample numbers in bands 1 and 2 are high (band 1 uses datarecorder data only, band 2 uses both datarecorder and datalogger data) xoserve does not envisage any sample count issues with this modelling.

Action DE1047: Joint Office to add regular agenda item for the provision of NDM sample updates

4.1 Re-evaluation of EUC definitions and demand model performance: RV and NDM Sample Strands

MP provided a presentation on NDM Algorithm Performance 2006/07 – Strand 2.

HM questioned the inclusion of suppressed items. FC explained the Shipper obligations for USRVs/filter failures and that approximately 3% of reconciliation is suppressed and clarified that all items used in the analysis had been included on an invoice, and that some had been invoiced after an initial suppression. CS questioned why January reconciliation levels were lower than all other months. SB suggested that meter reading activities may be reduced in January.

Action DE1048: xoserve to investigate and report why January reconciliation levels are lower than other months.

Post-meeting note: the Reconciliations have been categorised based on their calculation date, which will usually be 5 days after the actual meter read date. This means that the December/January holiday period is included in January's count, causing a significant reduction in read volumes. (The last 5 days of January calendar month are included in February's statistics). This treatment is consistent with prior years.

DJ explained that the After Scaling profile removes AQ impacts and simply looks at shapes, to identify if the ALPs or DAFs are under allocating. The shape of the profile is examined to understand if there is any seasonal bias in the algorithms.

SB questioned if xoserve has considered recalculating the Scaling values where additional reconciliation data has flowed.

DJ explained that xoserve updates the analysis in the Spring and in the past has seen considerable change in results.

SB requested that xoserve provide details of the amount of energy not yet reconciled as this would provide some indication of whether the analysis might still change significantly when further reconciliation was processed. SB suggested that xoserve include the percentage of months reconciled and FC agreed that this could be added to June's report but explained that xoserve will have no control over the percentage of energy reconciled, explaining the reliance on data provision by Shippers.

Action DE1049: xoserve to include an analysis of the monthly levels of unreconciled energy along with the updated RV Analysis at the June meeting.

4.2 Approach for Spring 2008 Analysis

MP gave a presentation on the Approach to Spring 2008 Modelling. No comments or questions were raised in regard to this presentation and the approach was accepted.

5. Revision of Work Plan

A revision to the workplan had been agreed see Action DE1034.

6. AOB

ST raised a potential error which related to a number of LDZs seeing a "Monday" effect, he expressed concern with the impacts this error would have particularly at Easter. DJ acknowledged that xoserve has identified unusual scaling factors and that xoserve is examining the SND. If the problem is restricted to the SND the ALPs will be fine, FC explained that xoserve would have to check the UNC to understand if there would be any issues regarding the loading of revised data, however it should

be possible to load a new set of values. FC also explained that there may be a very minor effect on the DAF, which it may not be possible to correct under UNC rules.

7. Date of next meetings

10:00hrs, Monday 02 June 2008, Pink Room, Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London NW1 3AW.

Further meetings of the Demand Estimation Sub Committee have been scheduled for the following dates in 2008:

Friday 25 July 2008

Solihull – venue/timings to be confirmed nearer the date.

Tuesday 11 November 2008

10:00hrs, Pink Room, Elexon, 350 Euston Road, London NW1 3AW.

Winter 2008 (Mid December)

Solihull – venue/timings to be confirmed nearer the date.

Action Log: UNC Demand Estimation Sub Committee 15 January 2008

Action Ref	Meeting Date(s)	Minute Ref	Action	Owner*	Status Update
DE1034 (TF)	04/06/07	TF2.3	xoserve to perform analysis to identify the impacts of reducing the 0 to 73.2 MWh band threshold from 73.2 MWh.	xoserve (FC/DJ)	Action: Closed.
DE1043	08/11/07	2.2	xoserve to confirm the methodology used in the RMSE analysis.	xoserve (FC/DJ)	Action: Closed.
DE1044	08/11/07	2.2	DESC to consider if different types of analysis methods could be applied to the analysis of splitting EUC Band 1.	xoserve (FC/DJ)	Action: Closed.
DE1045	08/11/07	3.1	xoserve to consider carrying out analysis on the levels of volatility in the profile of customer usage.	xoserve (FC/DJ)	Action: Carried Forward.
DE1046	08/11/07	3.2.3	xoserve to consider what effects/benefit there might be if the algorithm analysis and revisions were not carried out on an annual basis and the parameters were carried forward to the following gas year.	xoserve (FC/DJ)	Action: Closed.
DE1047	15/01/08	4.0	Joint Office to add regular agenda item for the provision of NDM sample updates	Joint Office	Action: Pending
DE1048	15/01/08	4.1	xoserve to investigate and report why January levels of validation fall out is lower than other months.	xoserve (FC/MP)	Action: Complete (see post meeting note)
DE1049	15/01/08	4.1	xoserve to include an analysis of the monthly levels of unreconciled energy along with the updated RV Analysis at the June meeting	xoserve (FC/MP)	Action: Pending

TF – Technical Forum

* Key to initials of action owner: FC: Fiona Cottam, DJ: Dean Johnson, MP: Mark Perry