



NDM Data Recorders – Replacement Update

MOD258 Facilitating the Use of Remote Meter Reading
Equipment for the Purposes of Demand Estimation
Forecasting Techniques

24th July 2009

NDM Data Recorders - Background

- Topic regarding ongoing use of NDM Data recorders discussed at November 2008 DESC
 - 4,200 Battery powered units connected to meter pulse output
 - Record daily consumption for sites <293,000 kWh (majority <73,200)
 - Requires two visit per annum to manually download data
 - No remote communicate with recorder - no indication of loss or failure between visits
 - Ageing technology
- Most sites not suitable for datalogger due to constraints of space / power supply / telecoms
- Used for deriving Demand Estimation outputs for all 0 to 73.2 MWh sites and (with dataloggers) 73.2 to 293 MWh sites
- Options for replacement are being considered.....

NDM Data Recorders – Replacement Options

- xoserve discussing future of the sample with Transporters
- Phased replacement with AMR (Automated Meter Reading) technology appears to be optimum solution
- Benefits of AMR
 - More reliable - Quicker receipt of data - Indication of loss/failure
- Progress:
 - Currently defining Demand Estimation sample requirements
 - Discussions taking place with the market to fully understand options
 - Implementation planned for 2010
 - Early stages, DESC will be updated on an ongoing basis
 - UNC Mod will be required to permit use of Remote Meter Reading Equipment at NDM Sample sites...

UND Modification 258 – Reasons For

- “Facilitating the Use of Remote Meter Reading Equipment for the Purposes of Demand Estimation Forecasting Techniques” – Scotia Gas Networks
- UNC (Section H 1.6) specifies how Transporters will obtain data from sample Supply Points for the purposes of deriving EUCs and Demand Models for Demand Estimation
 - Sites <2,196 MWh: 2,700* sites – data recorders to be fitted
 - Sites <2,196 MWh: 1,200* sites – Daily Read Equipment to be fitted
- UNC Data recorder definition H 1.6.3(a): “a device which captures Meter Readings at the start of each Day, but is **capable of being read only at the Supply Point premises.**”
- Does not allow the use of Remote Meter Reading equipment
- * Note – Sample counts in UNC are absolute minimum numbers (they are not representative of actual installed counts and DESC agreed sample numbers)

UND Modification 258 – Proposal

- UNC MOD258 allows the use of Remote Meter Reading Equipment for all Demand Estimation sample sites with an AQ <2,196 MWh.
 - Change is necessary to facilitate change in the use of AMR in place of data recorders
- UNC MOD258 also replaces the definition of Daily Read Equipment for sites <2,196 MWh with Remote Meter Reading Equipment in UNC H 1.6.2 (b)
 - “Remote Meter Reading Equipment is equipment which enables Meter Readings to be obtained remotely at set intervals and which comprises a device for capturing from the Supply Meter and/or (where installed) a converter, data which constitutes or permits a derivation of a Meter Reading and suitable equipment as shall be required for transmitting such data.”
 - UNC M 1.4.3 Remote Meter Reading Equipment is deemed more appropriate for the purposes of section H 1.6
- MOD proposer welcomes DESC’s views