

Uniform Network Code Committee

Minutes of the 104th Meeting held on Thursday 18 April 2013

at ENA, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AF

Attendees

Voting Members:

Shipper Representatives	Transporter Representatives	Consumer Representative
A Green (AG), Total and alternate for A Barnes C Wright (CWr), British Gas P Broom (PB), GDF Suez R Fairholme (RF), EON UK	C Warner (CW), National Grid Distribution E Melen (EM), Scotia Gas Networks Joanna Ferguson (JF), Northern Gas Networks D Lond (DL), National Grid NTS R Cameron-Higgs* (RCH), Wales & West Utilities	C Hill (CH), Consumer Focus

Non-Voting Members:

Chairman	Ofgem Representative
T Davis (TD), Joint Office	J Dixon (JD), Ofgem

Also in Attendance:

A Miller (AM), Xoserve; A Raper (AR), National Grid Distribution; A Sheikh* (AS), Ofgem; E Thorburn (ET), Ofgem; F Cottam (FC), Xoserve and R Fletcher (RF), Secretary

* by teleconference

104.1 Note of any alternates attending meeting

A Green for A Barnes (Gazprom)
D Lond for R Hewitt (National Grid NTS)
E Melen for A Musgrave (Scotia Gas Networks)
R Cameron-Higgs for S Edwards (Wales & West Utilities)

104.2 Apologies for Absence

A Barnes, A Musgrave, R Hewitt and S Edwards.

104.3 Minutes and Actions from the previous meeting

The Minutes from the 21 March meeting were approved.

104.4 Matters of Implementation

- a) Modification 0376S 0376SA - Increased Choice when Applying for NTS Exit Capacity

An implementation date is likely to be provided soon.

- b) Modification 0420 - New Connections Interruptible loads

An implementation date is awaited.

104.5 AUG Process – Lessons Learnt

- a) Ofgem Concerns (see Modification 0442(A) decision letter)

TD introduced the item and outlined the comments in the letter provided by Ofgem.

FC ran through the process for the annual review required by the Guidelines, currently being conducted by Xoserve. A letter was issued during the previous week detailing the review, with a 3 week window for comments. An initial report will be presented to UNCC shortly after the consultation closes.

FC advised that the AUGGE has highlighted a number of issues and potential changes to the guidelines. A meeting could be arranged if desired to review the responses received to the consultation and to seek consensus regarding potential changes and how they should be taken forward. A further report could then be presented at the June UNCC meeting. Members agreed it would be helpful if Xoserve could present potential changes to the Guidelines which any Transporter or Shipper could then raise if they so wish.

CWr asked if Ofgem could expand on their thinking behind the comments in the Modification 0442 (A) decision letter. JD confirmed that Ofgem did not expect an

additional review outside of the normal annual review as instigated by Xoserve. However, there were a number of higher level issues that may merit being investigated by the UNCC. These relate to transparency and whether parties are sufficiently involved to fully understand the implications and timing of the process. Also the question arises as to whether the process is reactive enough when new information or methodologies are proposed and the original timeline cannot be met. He asked if the UNCC should direct Xoserve to consider particular issues in the course of the present review - would this be appropriate?

AG asked if comments and issues could be grouped at a high level so that principles can be agreed, without the need to argue about the detailed aspects of each comment. JD agreed that it would be helpful if the UNCC were to establish a set of principles and criteria against which suggested development can be considered and assessed. TD felt it was likely that the Code Relevant Objectives would form such criteria.

TD clarified that changes to the guidelines are approved by the UNCC. However, nothing prevents parties raising a proposed change or pursuing a UNC modification if they did not want to accept a UNCC decision regarding a Guidelines change.

Members agreed to consider what they believe are the principle which should underpin assessment of any proposed changes to the Guidelines and bring these to the next meeting for further discussion.

104.6 Any Other Business

None.

104.7 Next Meetings

Thursday 16 May 2013, at the ENA, immediately after the Modification Panel meeting.