

Uniform Network Code Committee

**Minutes of the 130th Meeting held on Thursday 18 December 2014
at ENA, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AF**

Attendees

Voting Members:

| Shipper Representatives | Transporter Representatives |
|---|---|
| A Green (AG), Total G Jack (GJ), British Gas C Hill (CH), Cooperative Energy P Broom (PM), GDF Suez R Fairholme (RF), E.ON UK | C Warner (CW), National Grid Distribution E Melen (EM), Scotia Gas Networks J Ferguson (JF), Northern Gas Networks R Pomroy (RP), Wales & West Utilities R Hewitt (RH), National Grid NTS |

Non-Voting Members:

| Chairman | Ofgem Representative | Consumer Representative |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| A Plant (AP), Chair | A Rooney (AR), Ofgem | |

Also in Attendance:

A Miller (AM), Xoserve; D Addison (DA), Xoserve; F Cottam (FC), Xoserve; F Healey (FH), National Grid NTS; K Elliott-Smith (KES), Cornwall Energy; L Jenkins (LJ), Joint Office; R Fletcher (BF), Secretary.

* by teleconference

130.1 Note of any alternates attending meeting

E Melen for A Musgrave (Scotia Gas Networks)
G Jack for A Margan (British Gas)
R Pomroy for S Edwards (Wales & West Utilities)

130.2 Apologies for Absence

A Margan, A Musgrave, C Alexander and S Edwards.

130.3 Minutes and Actions from the previous meeting

The Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

UNCC129/01: To provide a view on the approach to manage the transition from the current AUG process and whether a modification is required.

Update: FC provided an overview of the UNC and AUGE guidelines requirements and the options for managing the process from January 2015 see discussion under 130.4 a) below.
Completed

UNCC129/02: To request the UKLC to engage with the UKLIEF to consider how to manage industry readiness and go-live assurance for the implementation for Project Nexus.

Update: LJ advised that this action is in progress, predominantly at the Change Overview Board, who are considering the wider question of how should time-critical decisions relating to the UKLP be taken. An update is to be provided to the January UNCC meeting. **Carried Forward**

130.4 Matters for the Committee's Attention

a) 2015/16 Allocation of Unidentified Gas process

FC provided a presentation explaining the requirements for the AUGE to produce the AUGS. The legal view is that Code is too ambiguous to allow the UNCC to request that an AUGS is not prepared; therefore it is proposed that a transitional modification is raised to clarify the AUG process is to be adopted in year which contains the Project Nexus Implementation Date. The modification would place rules in the Transitional Code Text to allow the UNCC to defer AUGS and/or carry forward the previous years values. This would help prevent the commissioning work from the AUGE where the regime is going to change part way through the year.

RH asked if the proposed solution would be flexible enough to be used should the Project Nexus Implementation Date move. FC confirmed the modification would reference this defined term and so would move with it should the implementation date change.

Members unanimously supported the raising of a transitional modification to clarify the AUG process to be adopted for the year, which includes the Project Nexus Implementation Date.

- b) UNC Modifications with an effective date of 01 October 2015 or later – aligning to the new Gas Day effective time of 05:00hrs

LJ explained there were a number of modifications being implemented on 01 October 2015 which includes the modification that amends the start of the Gas Day from 06:00hrs to 05:00hrs. It is proposed to reissue the implementation notices for those modifications that were previously notified to be implemented at 06.00hrs, to confirm that they would be implemented at 05.00hrs

Members unanimously supported the reissuing of the implementations notices to reflect an 05.00hrs implementation time on 01 October 2015.

- c) Energy Balancing Credit Committee (EBCC) membership

BF explained that EBCC members were concerned that EBCC membership numbers remain low and that they were considering an option where each member should be able to nominate 2 standing alternatives. This was to try to ensure quoracy at meetings particularly if these were short notice emergency meetings. Members were asking UNCC if they had any concerns with this approach.

Members confirmed they were content to support the approach recommended by EBCC members.

- d) UK Link Programme File Format Approvals

DA explained that UK Link Committee (UKLC) has reviewed 220+ files and products associated with the implementation of Project Nexus. The approval process failed to achieve a consensus on a number of products and therefore these were being escalated/submitted to UNCC for approval.

To clarify, UNCC is being requested to approve 4 products as UKLC was not able to reach a consensus.

AG challenged if UNCC could make a decision on these file formats without sufficient time to seek guidance from industry parties as members may not have the required knowledge or understanding of the issue – the paper was notified the previous day.

DA clarified that the decision being sought should be to consider the high-level principles and not to consider the detail of each product. Not all the products had issues and it was in part a problem where an existing file format has been requested to change, however industry parties were not in a position to do so as the files were used in existing processes.

PB was concerned about the consequences of not being able to approve the products considering the short notice and the technical complexity of the issue.

AP asked for clarification of consequences. DA explained that the UNCC had been advised of the approach earlier in the year and that any delay adds uncertainty to the process for Users to develop and build their systems for Project Nexus – an additional delay at UNCC does not mean there will be a corresponding delay to the implementation date, the consequence extends the period of time parties are building/developing at risk.

RF advised that from their perspective they could support 3 of the 4 products, however the remaining product was a 'no go' for them and he support a decision on today. CH agreed with this view due to the short notice provided.

PB wanted to understand what the issue is with these products, is it because parties cant reconfigure existing functionality. JF considered this was likely to be the situation.

AM advised that this issue has been raised at a number of forums so that there should be industry awareness surrounding concerns raised.

Members agreed to review the papers provided with an aim to consider approving the 4 products listed in the report at the January UNCC meeting. AP clarified that a vote would be taken on the matter at the January meeting.

RF asked for votes to be held on each product rather than collectively.

New Action 130/01: LJ to circulate the paper to industry colleagues, inviting them to feed back via the Shipper Representatives.

130.5 Any Other Business

None raised.

130.6 Next Meeting

Thursday 15 January 2015, at the ENA, immediately after the UNC Modification Panel meeting.

Action Table – UNCC

| Action Ref | Meeting Date | Minute Ref | Action | Owner | Status Update |
|--------------------|--------------|------------|---|-------------------|--|
| UNCC 129/01 | 20/11/14 | 129.4 | To provide a view on the approach to manage the transition from the current AUG process and whether a modification is required. | Xoserve (FC) | Completed |
| UNCC 129/02 | 20/11/14 | | To request the UKLC to engage with the UKLIEF to consider how to manage industry readiness and go-live assurance for the implementation for Project Nexus Action transferred from Modification Panel 20 November | UKLC | Carried Forward (report to January UNCC) |
| UNCC 130/01 | 18/12/14 | 130.4 | LJ to circulate the paper to industry colleagues, inviting them to feed back via the Shipper Representatives | Joint Office (LJ) | Complete |

