

Uniform Network Code Committee
Minutes of the 97th Meeting held on Thursday 18 October 2012
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 P Broom (PB), GDF Suez C Wright (CW _r), British Gas R Fairholme (RF), EON UK	C Warner (CW _a), National Grid Distribution D Mitchell (DM), Scotia Gas Networks R Cameron-Higgs (RCH), Wales & West Utilities R Hewitt (RH), National Grid NTS	

Non-Voting Members:

Chairman	Ofgem Representative
T Davis (TD), Joint Office	

Also in Attendance:

A Chamberlain (AC), National Grid Distribution; A Miller (AM), Xoserve; A Miller (AM_i), Centrica; A Raper (AR), National Grid Distribution; C Whitehand (CWh), GL Noble Denton; D Ianora (ID), Ofgem; H Cuin (HC), Joint Office and R Fletcher (RF), Secretary

97.1 Note of any alternates attending meeting

A Green for P Broom (GDF Suez)
D Mitchell for A Musgrave (Scotia Gas Networks)
R Cameron-Higgs for S Edwards (Wales & West Utilities)

97.2 Apologies for Absence

A Musgrave, C Hill, P Broom and S Edwards

97.3 Minutes and Actions from the previous meeting

The Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

97.4 Matters for the UNCC

- a) Proposed changes to the Operational Rules Governing the Supply of Invoice Charges

Members unanimously approved the proposed amendments to the Operational Rules Governing the Supply of Invoice Charges.

97.5 Matters of Implementation

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

An implementation date is awaited.

- b) Modification 0378 - Greater Transparency over AQ Appeal Performance

It was anticipated that an implementation date would be confirmed shortly.

97.6 Any Other Business

- a) Weather Station Substitution methodology

RH advised that he was aware that the estimated costs proposed in Modification 0330 - Delivery of additional analysis and derivation of Seasonal normal weather - have increased from the estimated £20k to £80k for phase 1. He was concerned that that Phase 2 estimated in the modification to be £200k may have a similar increase in costs and he wanted to know if Ofgem were content to have implemented the modification with such increases in forecast implementation costs.

AM advised that the initial estimate had been provided by the Proposer and not by Xoserve, a procurement exercise was being undertaken and estimates from service providers ranged from £40k to £80k depending on a number of weather stations and data items required. RH was concerned that this was a significant increase in the estimate, which had been raised as a possibility in representations. He felt the UNCC should review this.

BF advised that DESC were reviewing the options for weather stations and data items at a meeting later that day and an update could be provided at the next UNCC meeting.

Members agreed that the item should be included at the next UNCC meeting and requested an update be provided from DESC.

b) AUGS Updates

CWh provided a brief update on progress to date against actions from previous meetings:

Action AUGE 0901: Report number of meter failing the AQ check and how to deal with AQs of 1.

Update: Details were provided in letter to industry dated 21st September. Further information was provided in the responses to the consultation queries published this week.

Action AUGE 0902: Look at the sampling rates providing a split of LSP/SSP

Update: Details were provided in letter to industry dated 21st September.

Action AUGE 0903: Produce Consumption table for each LDZ

This action is ongoing as a refreshed set of EA LDZ data with more recent meter reads and an amalgamation of previous data issues was unsatisfactory and required resolution and an amended version is expected soon. WS LDZ has been received and NW LDZ is expected at the end of this week.

There is a risk that not all 13 LDZs may be provided in time to complete the analysis and publish the final AUGS by 01 February 2013. A meeting is scheduled with Xoserve with the aim of resolving ongoing data issues and agreeing way forward in terms of this years methodology.

Action AUGE 0904: Provide Xoserve information of the 13 sites contributing to theft for investigation

Update: Details were provided to Xoserve on 18 September. The main issue was the typo in the report rather than the source data - further examination of each site clearly shows the theft was in the >73,200 kWh segment yet the sites was previously classed as SSP.

Action AUGE 0905: Look at splitting theft into meter read Frequency

Update: Data has been requested from Xoserve to complete this action. Further data may be required from Shippers as the read frequency provided to Xoserve is not necessarily as detailed as that used by Shippers.

Action AUGE 0906: Consider the management of DME sites.

Update: CWh advised that it is their understanding that these are treated as DMs and would need to account for this accordingly in:

2) Responses to most recent consultation due to be published this week.

3) Consumption data

During the analysis of EA LDZ, the data various anomalies were identified and the data set updated to resolve them. Additional fields/information were also identified and provided. The aim concentrating on one LDZ was to avoid lots of re-work if data quality issues arose so that once one LDZ was OK the remaining ones should only require one drop each.

An updated combined data set for EA LDZ was received in September. Whilst this resolved many of the incremental issues from the initial provision of data, some aspects of the data were incorrect (duplicate reads, missing data vs previous set, meter point ids not uniquely handled correctly for example,). This has further impacted progress as this data needed to be provided again.

It had previously been advised that all data would be available by the end October/mid November allowing for some contingency. However, the latest data issues means this is not going to be achieved and it is expected that data may not be available until end November/mid-December.

This means an AUGS based on consumption for all LDZs would not be published until December/early January leaving insufficient time to consult/publish final figures by 01 February 2013.

The way forward

A meeting is scheduled with Xoserve to discuss resolution of ongoing data issues and way forward. It may be possible to assess the consumption method on a subset of LDZs (~5-7 of them for example) if a full set cannot be obtained in time - provided the results for each are acceptable and assuming that all remaining consumption data can be provided in time for preparation of final figures.

As a contingency, work continues with the consumption analysis/method but an AUGS based on last years methodology is being prepared with the aim of updating the figures for the coming year.

AG asked what happens if the final table cant be published by February. CWh advised that the previous years table is rolled forward. AM advised that the UNCC may agree shorter consultation periods to help with the timescales.

AG asked if there is an option to apply last years methodology to this years data. CWh advised it would be possible but the timescales may be against them.

AG asked if the data from Xoserve on each LDZ is available. CWh

advised that it is being provided by LDZ on a weekly basis.

97.7 Next Meeting

Thursday 15 November 2012, at the ENA London, immediately after the UNC Modification Panel meeting.