ScottishPower Comments in relation to the ITE Draft Reports published and presented on SC006 Aberdeen LDZ Offtake Measurement Error

13/09/2013

With reference to the SMER compiled by Keith Vugler on the Aberdeen LDZ Offtake Measurement Error, ScottishPower have the following comments:.

In the initial findings presentation provided by KV at the 16th July 2012 Offtake Arrangements meeting, it was highlighted that during site testing High, Medium and Low Pressure measurements were taken at High, Medium and Low Flow rates with the orifice plate in a variety of particular positions.

These measurements were taken for 'Wind-In' positions and 'Wind-Out' positions, however it appears that only the measurements taken at the 'Wind-In' positions were included in the final analysis of the SMER presented on 20th August 2013.

We note that the reason given for the inclusion of only the 'Wind-In' data is provided in section 7.4 of the SMER:

> ***From discussions with the personnel involved, it would appear that the Maintenance Personnel (following orifice plate inspection/change-out) "wind-in" the orifice plate to the counter position.***
>
> ***Practically, this makes sense in that it would illogical (but not inconceivable) that the Maintenance Personnel would not "wind-in" the orifice plate to the stop and then "wind-out" again to the counter position.***
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> ***With this in mind, it is the view and assumption of the Appointed Independent Expert that the "winding-in" error values should be used as the basis for both SMER period error evaluations.***

Whilst, we agree that it would be illogical to 'Wind-In' the orifice plate fully, only to then 'Wind-Out' the plate into position, it is clear that the possibility exists and however inconceivable that might be, ***we would suggest that the data obtained for the 'Wind-Out' positions should be taken into consideration alongside the 'Wind-In' measurements when calculating daily correction factors for this error.*** Indeed, is it possible the maintenance personnel 'overshot' their intended counter position and had to wind-out slightly to correct this? Without this additional consideration we believe there may exist uncertainty within the calculations.

Other aspects of this Measurement Error might well be considered to be inconceivable, for example the Orifice Plate being positioned at a counter read other than 00000 or the counter viewing window only allowing visibility of 4 of its 5 digits, and we feel it would be imprudent to disregard the possibility of the plate being in the 'Wind-Out' position.