

UNC Transmission Workgroup Minutes
Thursday 03 March 2022
via Microsoft Teams

Attendees

Eric Fowler (Chair)	(EF)	Joint Office
Helen Bennett (Secretary)	(HB)	Joint Office
Adam Bates	(AB)	South Hook Gas
Alex Neild	(AN)	BBLC
Anna Shrigley	(ASh)	Eni
Anna Stankiewicz	(ASt)	National Grid
Ashley Adams	(AA)	National Grid
Bethan Winter	(BW)	Wales & West Utilities
Carlos Aguirre	(CG)	Pavilion Energy
Chris Wright	(CW)	Exxon Mobil
Dave Turpin	(DT)	Xoserve (0801 only)
Ellie Rogers	(ER)	Xoserve (0801 only)
Emma Buckton	(EB)	Northern Gas Networks
Henk Kreuze	(HK)	Vermillion
Hannah Reddy	(HR)	Corella
Hursley Moss	(HM)	Cornwall Insight
Jeff Chandler	(JCh)	SSE
James Doyle	(JD)	Fox Entity
Julie Cox	(JCx)	Energy UK
Kamla Rhodes	(KR)	ConocoPhillips
Lauren Jauss	(LJa)	RWE
Leyon Joseph	(LJo)	SGN
Malcolm Montgomery	(MM)	National Grid
Mark Barnes	(MB)	National Grid (0801 only)
Marion Joste	(MJ)	ENI
Max Lambert	(ML)	Ofgem
Nick Wye	(NW)	Waters Wye Associates
Pavanjit Dhesi	(PD)	Interconnector
Phil Hobbins	(PH)	National Grid
Richard Fairholme	(RF)	Uniper
Ritchard Hewitt	(RHe)	BBL
Shiv Singh	(SS)	Cadent
Terry Burke	(TB)	Equinor

Copies of all papers are available at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/tx/030322

1. Introduction and Status Review

Eric Fowler (EF) welcomed all parties to the meeting.

1.1. Approval of minutes (03 March 2022)

The minutes from the previous meeting was approved.

1.2. Approval of Late Papers

EF noted 4 late papers had been provided for information after the publication deadline, reminding the Workgroup of the need to provide meeting papers in good time.

1.3. Review of Outstanding Actions

0101: Ofgem to provide update on what information can be made available regarding the 2021 Exit Capacity Allocation Process.

Update: Max Lambert (ML) was invited to provide his update to this outstanding action. The presentation covered the following main topics. Where there was specific interaction regarding particular slides with the Committee members, this has been captured within the minutes for each section of the presentation, and full details can be found on the published presentation here: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/tx/030322.

ML explained the Exit Capacity Planning Guidance (ECPG) report provides feedback from the first year of implementation. Ofgem have been in discussion with the GDN representatives, and the report contains some points for wider discussion.

ECPG – Summary – Slide 2of11

ML explained the ECPG was devised for RIIO-2 to replace the RIIO-1 Exit Capacity booking incentive with the objective to ensure there is no loss of efficiency in the capacity booking process and all aspects of the booking process are managed in a way that is to the benefit of the gas system as a whole.

The new ECPG is made up of three elements:

- **Methodology**—publication of a methodology statement, details of network structure and how bookings are informed by the 1 in 20 forecasts
- **Engagement**—covering how and when the GDNs and NGG engage with each other to maximise booking efficiency across the gas system
- **Reporting**—annual reporting requirements on the outcomes of applying the booking methodologies

ECPG – First Round of Reporting – Slide 3of11

ML summarised the general conclusions from the first round of reporting and areas for consideration.

Please refer the presentation for the full details.

ECPG – Areas to consider (1/2) - Slide 4of11

Better descriptions (e.g. consequences of accepting/reasons for rejecting certain decisions)

- Generally recognise the need to better explain consequences down to customer level/showing approximate tangible costs/benefits in decision-making
- Audience should be considered (i.e. to shippers, not necessarily another gas network analyst)

ECPG – Areas to consider (1/2) - Slide 5of11

Conclusion

- Justifications should ideally be articulated in terms that relate back to tangible effects, for example:
 - Specific or general load growth (but not necessarily overusing ‘1 in 20 growth’)
 - Costs
 - Security of supply
 - Impacts on reliability

ECPG – Assessment against guidance - Slide 6 of 11

Please refer the presentation for the details.

ECPG – Assessment against guidance - Slide 7 of 11

Please refer the presentation for the details.

ECPG – Transparency

In conclusion ML provided some general reflections on transparency of reports:

- Received feedback on level of redaction in public ECPG reports and have discussed issue with GDNs around the required level of redaction
- Certain elements are already public (e.g. relative magnitude of offtakes in licence, geographic arrangement of pipeline systems etc.)
- ECPG does allow for GDNs' discretion on redacting to not prejudice CNI etc. and BEIS are providing similar messaging expressing caution when publishing reports in the public domain
- Considering with GDNs and BEIS what can be done in the future to strike balance between sufficient redaction and accessibility of public reports

Questions:

Julie Cox (JCx)

JCx passed on her appreciation for the time and effort that has gone into the creation of this report. She noted ultimately the reader may not need lots and lots of numbers in order to understand if the change has been successful or not, maybe the changes could be articulated in percentage terms. She said it is good that Ofgem have taken an in-depth look at how the new regime is progressing and hopes to see how things have improved with the next iteration.

ML clarified Ofgem are generally quite happy how the first year has gone and with consistency across GDNs.

Action Closed.

1.4. Industry Update from Ofgem

Max Lambert (ML) provided the Ofgem update for the below listed items. For full details, please refer to the Industry Update from Ofgem published at: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/tx/030222>.

- Article 28(2) TAR NC consultation with the non-UK regulatory authorities of all directly connected countries or territories, the Utility Regulator of Northern Ireland, and the relevant stakeholders
- UNC791: Contingency Gas Procurement Arrangements when a Supplier acts under a Deed of Undertaking – Authority Decision
- UNC785: Application of UNC processes to an aggregated Bacton (exit) Interconnection Point – Authority Decision
- Statutory Consultation on licence changes for the Switching SCR: Standard conditions of Gas Shipper, Gas Transporter and Electricity Distribution licences
- 4 February 2022 Price Cap Decisions
- Republication of RIIO-GT2 Price Control Financial Model following the Annual Iteration Process 2021
- Decision on the proposed modifications to the RIIO-2 Transmission, Gas Distribution and Electricity System Operator licence conditions – 1 April 2022
- RIIO2 Re-opener Guidance and Application Requirements (Version 2)
- Funding Direction for National Grid Gas (Transmission)

Please see the February 2022 update of the Code Modification/Modification proposals with Ofgem for decision – Expected publication dates timetable at:

<https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/publications/code-modificationmodification-proposals-ofgemdecision-expected-publication-dates-timetable>

1.5. Pre-Modification discussions

No pre-Modification discussion.

2. European Code Updates

Phil Hobbins (PH) confirmed there is no further update to be provided for this month.

JCx asked if this is still a relevant item for the Workgroup agenda? She noted the Codes are incorporated in retained law and new ones do not need following, she suggested that if something happens that might need consideration, it can be added when needed.

New Action 0103: Joint Office to remove European Code Updates from the agenda going forward.

Chris Wright (CWr) commented that there is a huge amount of discussion across Europe, not directly applicable to UK, that could have specific implications, particularly in the current climate and noted there is no other forum where such matters can be discussed.

PH noted there is lots going on but agreed that a standing agenda item is not necessary. He advised that as and when matters develop that could be of interest, they can be brought to this meeting, this is a forum to be able to share info and National Grid will do that as and when appropriate.

EF noted that this agenda is controlled by the Workgroup and managed by the joint Office, the invitation is always there for agenda items to be added.

3. Gas Safety (Management) Regulations - GS(M)R Review

PH provided an update to the GS(M)R review and advised that, so far, input to date has been factual in terms of what the proposals are for change, implementation matters were touched on at the last Workgroup held in February.

PH provided a presentation which captured Initial Thoughts on Implementation. The presentation covered the following main topics. Where there was specific interaction regarding particular slides with the Committee members, this has been captured within the minutes for each section of the presentation, and full details can be found on the published presentation here: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/tx/030322.

Recap of HSE's Proposals - Slide 2of10

Please refer the presentation for the details.

Implementation Issues - Slide 3of10

Please refer the presentation for the details.

Wobbe Index: Amendments at NTS Entry Points - Slide 4of10

PH highlighted the HSE Proposal which is to reduce the legal lower limit from 47.2 MJ/m³ 'Do nothing' would maintain compliance to 46.5 MJ/m³.

This led to a discussion around a number of options such as:

- 'Do nothing' would maintain compliance
- Which NTS entry/storage/interconnection points wish to reduce their limit?
- An 'enabling' UNC Modification(s) would be required to facilitate contractual changes at individual points
 - NGG could make a 'window' available during which parties that have an NEA in place, storage and interconnectors could request a change

- National Grid suggest that a single Modification enabling NGG to agree to a lower down to 46.5 MJ/m³ Wobbe limit at any NTS entry point would be more pragmatic than individual modifications for individual sites
- What level of transparency is appropriate in this case and how could that be delivered?

Discussion

Julie Cox

JCx noted generation asset challenges when it comes to changes in gas quality which can be quite costly and lengthy with original manufacturers of equipment.

JCx noted, in terms of whether this is done in a blanket way or specific points at a time, an assessment will need to be carried out as to whether the entry point can accept the change, and a post implementation change process as to how the change will be managed.

PH noted that an idea of which entry points wish to make the change may be able to contribute to what is the best way forward.

PH clarified that GS(M)R has not not changed since 1996 so this is all very new.

Lauren Jauss

LJa advised that 47.2 is not seen very often, operationally it is not very common, therefore, the system is potentially already in a place where there is a bit of a problem, she suggested a penetration analysis is provided which could show who this will affect.

LJa also mentioned that timing could be an issue, upgrading equipment cannot be done very quickly.

PH thanked Workgroup for their views and said that if a proposal does come to fruition, 46.5 would be the legally allowed limit, if entry parties approach National Grid saying they would request that, it would be incumbent on National Grid to accommodate that.

Jeff Chandler

JCh with regards to Ofgem who are very stretched and under resourced and suggested this is looked at, but not until 2023. He said that each plant would need an assessment which is a process that could take years, therefore, it would be helpful for an indication from the entry points which facilities are seriously considering this.

PH noted the idea of National Grid asking entry parties whether they would want to take advantage of this or not and formulate an implementation plan.

Bethan Winter

BW recognised that she is conscious from a biomethane entry perspective, there is less visibility, these changes are not made via the UNC so have to make sure gas that comes into the Network has to be GS(M)R compliant.

JCx agreed this is potentially a problem, she noted there are lots of biomethane plants which are mostly embedded in the Network, as time goes by, some of the issues comes down to the absence of information on gas quality in the Network.

PH advised that National Grid are launching a project to look at gas quality with the expectation of what can National Grid, as GSO, do to provide more information to better manage the decarbonisation agenda.

Wobbe Index: Amendments at NTS Entry Points - Slide 5of10

PH advised he will share the results of any analysis as and when he has it.

Wobbe Index: Interconnector Considerations - Slide 6of10

It was mentioned that there are some constraints, in the Interconnection Agreements the UK lower limit acted as a baseline independent of what the national specifications are, therefore,

there is a knock-on impact into new EU law, to explore the extent of which the Interconnection Agreements need to change.

Wobbe Index: Interconnector Considerations - Slide 7of10

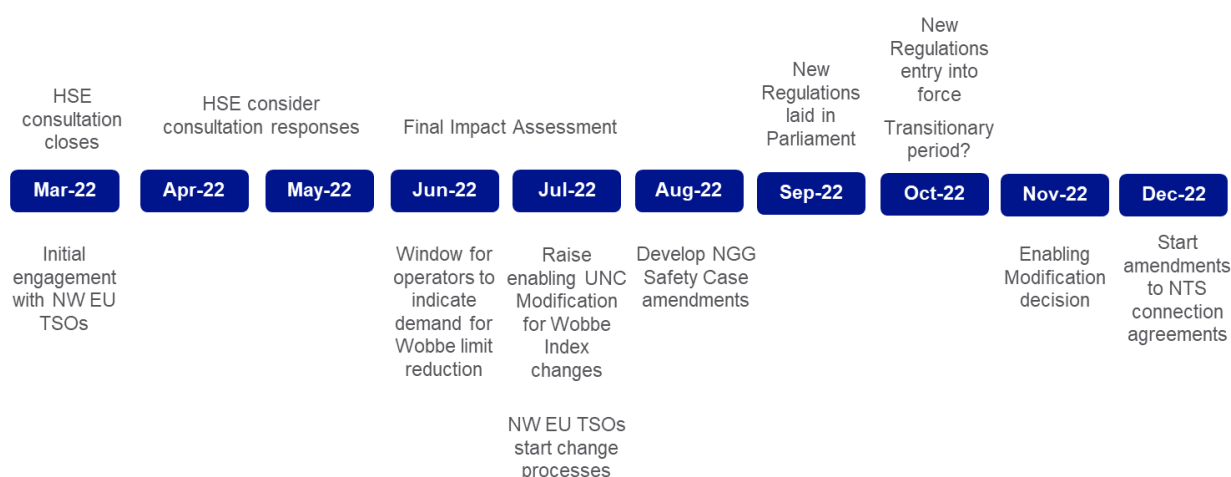
Please refer the presentation for the full details.

Potential Timetable -Slide 8of10

PH explained the top part of the timetable represents the HSE process.

Lauren Jauss (LJa) asked when the decision is due, PH advised that a Modification will be raised after the final impact assessment, although this may be a little early, there is the opportunity to withdraw the Modification if Parliament do not accept it.

Potential Timetable



Relative Density / ICF / Soot Index slide 9of10

Please refer the presentation for the full details.

Relative Density / ICF / Soot Index slide 10of10

Please refer the presentation for the full details.

End of presentation

4. Transmission Change Horizon Plan

JCx highlighted her concern that some mis-communication had been noticed with the implementation of *Modification 0785 - - Application of UNC processes to an aggregated Bacton (exit) Interconnection Point*. She advised that, although she initially missed the notice issued on 23 February 2022 from Joint Office advising of the implementation date, the published implementation notice remained as a date to be confirmed which clashed with a communication issued from National Grid Business Change which advised of the implementation date.

JCx noted her concern that the Business Change distribution list might not be a full list as some of her members were not in receipt of the communication.

JCx clarified that she is raising this point so that there is common understanding and a request for thoughts on how the communication of implementation dates might be able to work better and to try not to use TBC for implementation dates.

Hanna Reddy (HR) confirmed that Xoserve send out any in-flight project communications via he Xoserve Project team which has a large distribution list, this communication would also be provided to the DSC Change Management Committee.

Anna Stankiewicz (ASt) provided a view of the national Grid Change Horizon plan which shows the following Modifications currently have a target implementation date of 24 April 2022:

- Modification 0752S - Introduction of Weekly Entry Capacity Auction
- Modification 0755S - Enhancement of Exit Capacity Assignments
- Modification 0759S - Enhancements to NTS Within-Day Firm Entry and Exit Capacity Allocations

The plan for the implementation timeline is to first have Webinar that Xoserve will hold on 29 March for which invitations are due to be issued this week. The communication of the implementation date for these three Modifications has been via the Gas Ops Forum and confirmed the implementation date has not change and delivery is on track.

It was noted the imp notice on the Joint Office website was out of date, Helen Bennett (HB) confirmed this has now been updated.

New Action 0203: Joint Office to investigate how the process works and how to be able to move away from TBC implementation dates.

Nick Wye (NW) noted it would be helpful if everyone refers to the Joint Office website and possibly use an 'anticipated implementation date', then when it is a confirmed date, it can be changed to actual.

MM confirmed that National Grid are making capacity available at the new aggregate point on PRISMA, but it will only be unbundled capacity. There is currently an issue with bundling capacity on PRISMA which National Grid are investigating. MM confirmed that an ANS messages was issued advising that only unbundled capacity is available until further notice.

5. Overrun Update

EF confirmed the intention will be to consider the report in more detail including the breakdown of customer types, the days over-runs have occurred and if these can be related to any balancing actions undertaken.

Anna Stankiewicz (ASt) provided the Workgroup with the monthly Overrun Report, noting it had been agreed to conduct a more thorough review in April.

For full details please refer to the published report here: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/tx/030322

6. Workgroups

6.1. 0771S - Removal of the absolute requirement to include a Remotely Operable Valve (ROV) Installation for all new NTS Entry connections

(Report to Panel 21 April 2022)

<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0771>

6.2. 0801 - Removal of capacity and balancing services from the role of CDSP

(Report to Panel 18 August 2022)

<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0798>

7. New Issues

7.1. 2021 Exit Capacity Allocation Process (Report Transparency)

Please see agenda item 1.3.

7.2. Gas Goes Green – Hydrogen UNC Impacts

PH advised there is a follow up session being arranged for 07 March 2022, an email was circulated from Joint Office three weeks ago.

8. Any Other Business

8.1. Extended SMPS Consultation (PH)

PH advised, as a consequence of the direction from Ofgem to implement *Modification (Urgent) - Contingency Gas Procurement Arrangements when a Supplier acts under a Deed of Undertaking* there are changes needed to the guidelines to recognise the implementation of the Modification. National Grid have extended the current consultation to close on 14 March 2022.

8.2. Modification 0785 Implementation (JCx)

This was covered in agenda item 4.

8.3. Gas Quality GMaP Project (PH)

PH advised National Grid are launching this project which will look at where transparency could be improved where gas quality is concerned, and that National Grid are interested to get a cross section of industry as a core working group both upstream and downstream. The National Grid Lead is Jonathan.Cranmer@nationalgrid.com or get in touch through Box.FOGForum@nationalgrid.com for more information.

2. Diary Planning

Further details of planned meetings are available at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/events-calendar/month

Time / Date	Paper Publication Deadline	Venue	Programme
10:00 Thursday 07 April 2022	5pm Wednesday 30 March 2022	Microsoft Teams	Standard Transmission Workgroup Agenda Overruns Review/Debate
10:00 Thursday 05 May 2022	5pm Wednesday 27 April 2022	Microsoft Teams	Standard Transmission Workgroup Agenda
10:00 Thursday 09 June 2022 (BH 2 nd June)	5pm Monday 30 May 2022	Microsoft Teams	Standard Transmission Workgroup Agenda
10:00 Thursday 07 July 2022	5pm Wednesday 29 June 2022	Microsoft Teams	Standard Transmission Workgroup Agenda
10:00 Thursday 04 August 2022	5pm Wednesday 27 July 2022	Microsoft Teams	Standard Transmission Workgroup Agenda
10:00 Thursday 01 September 2022	5pm Wednesday 24 August 2022	Microsoft Teams	Standard Transmission Workgroup Agenda
10:00 Thursday 06 October 2022	5pm Wednesday 28 September 2022	Microsoft Teams	Standard Transmission Workgroup Agenda
10:00 Thursday 03 November 2022	5pm Wednesday 26 October 2022	Microsoft Teams	Standard Transmission Workgroup Agenda
10:00 Thursday 01 December 2022	5pm Wednesday 23 November 2022	Microsoft Teams	Standard Transmission Workgroup Agenda

Action Table (as of 03 February 2022)						
Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Reporting Month	Owner	Status Update
0101	06/01/22	9.1	Ofgem to provide update on what information can be made available regarding the 2021 Exit Capacity Allocation Process.	March 2022	Ofgem (ML)	Closed
0103	03/03/22	2.0	Joint Office to remove European Code Updates from the agenda going forward.	April 2022	Joint Office (secretary)	Pending
0203	03/03/22	4.0	Joint Office to investigate how the process works and how to be able to move away from TBC implementation dates.	April 2022	Joint Office (secretary)	Pending

UNC Workgroup 0771S Minutes
Removal of the absolute requirement to include a Remotely
Operable Valve (ROV) Installation for all new NTS Entry connections
Thursday 03 March 2022
via Microsoft Teams

Attendees

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Terry Burke	(TB)	Equinor

Copies of all papers are available at: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0771/030322>

The Workgroup Report is due to be presented at the UNC Modification Panel meeting on 17 February 2022.

1. Introduction and Status Review

Eric Fowler (EF) welcomed all parties to the meeting.

1.1. Approval of minutes (03 February 2022)

The minutes from the previous meeting were considered approved.

2. Completion of Workgroup Report (HSE Safety Case)

EF clarified that there is no further work to be done on this Modification and that it was held back awaiting HSE to respond.

Phil Hobbins (PH) advised he is still hopeful to achieve the April UNC Modification Panel and that the Safety Case change has been sent to HSE. Engagement with HSE prior to National Grid sending the Safety Case change indicated they would agree to National Grid's assessment of the change.

3. Next Steps

Await notification from HSE and submit to April UNC Modification Panel.

4. Any Other Business

None.

5. Diary Planning

Further details of planned meetings are available at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/events-calendar/month

Time / Date	Venue	Workgroup Programme
10:00 Thursday 07 April 2022	Microsoft Teams	Completion of Workgroup Report (HSE safety case)

UNC Workgroup 0801 Minutes
Removal of capacity and balancing services from the role of CDSP
Thursday 03 March 2022
via Microsoft Teams

Attendees

Eric Fowler (Chair)	(EF)	Joint Office
Helen Bennett (Secretary)	(HB)	Joint Office
Adam Bates	(AB)	South Hook Gas
Alex Neild	(AN)	BBLC
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Copies of all papers are available at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0801/030322

The Workgroup Report is due to be presented at the UNC Modification Panel by 18 August 2022.

1.0 Outline of Modification

The Apollo Project Manager, Mark Barnes (MB) introduced himself and explained that National Grid have been exploring the replacement of Gemini and looking at a solution for capacity and

balancing services with the ability to adapt for industry change in the future at an appropriate rate. He advised that this Modification also covers the supporting services, e.g helpdesk, training service.

National Grid have looked to the market for potential solutions at the best affordable price and embarked on a market procurement process to which there have been a lot of interested parties which have been short-listed. Before Christmas National Grid asked the short-listed applicants for detailed proposals to which National Grid received responses in January and have since been assessing these against a balanced scorecard for service provision, quality etc.

MB explained, from this point onwards, the procurement process is now looking to evaluate a right solution to replace Gemini and a Business Case to do so. National Grid are looking at transition risks and impacts of the change and are looking to share with the industry now and are also looking to reduce down to two suppliers where detailed contract solutions may be sought.

MB advised that it will take a couple of months to get mobilised and testing environments set up, he anticipates the development work will take up to 2-years to implementation.

Jeff Chandler (JCh) asked, with the change 2-years away, is there an anticipation that Shippers will need to change their interfaces to accommodate the new system. MB advised that the new system would continue to maintain the APIs, the solutions appear to be much more up to date interfaces which he believes will be of more benefit to customers. At an appropriate point in the development cycle, National Grid will start to look at the new development of API and liaise with customers at that point.

JCh said, in terms of the engagement process relating to a change because it is deemed to be better, how will customers have their voice heard? MB advised he wants to have good involvement from the start, as we look to move into proper development, detailed requirements and screen design, MB wants to get the designers and architects onboard as soon as possible throughout the development cycle. When the cycle enters the testing phase, he will be looking for representation from the customer base to be involved in the testing cycle and looking at the detail of cutover. Communication of this will be via this group, the Ops Forum and the Business Change distribution list.

Ellie Rogers (ER) clarified the Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM) will give a high-level magnitude of cost from a system perspective, but the ROM will not advise how it will be funded. She added that Gemini is funded by National Grid, but the ROM will not confirm the funding arrangement.

Malcolm Montgomery (MM) introduced a presentation which covered the following main topics. Where there was specific interaction regarding particular slides with the Workgroup, this has been captured within the minutes for each section of the presentation, and full details can be found on the published presentation here: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0801/030322.

Purpose of the Modification

This Modification proposes to remove certain services, relating to capacity and balancing, from the role of the Central Data Service Provider (CDSP) within UNC. This will allow National Grid to deliver their UNC obligations through other means.

What are we doing (and why we need a code mod to do it)

Driver for replacing Gemini

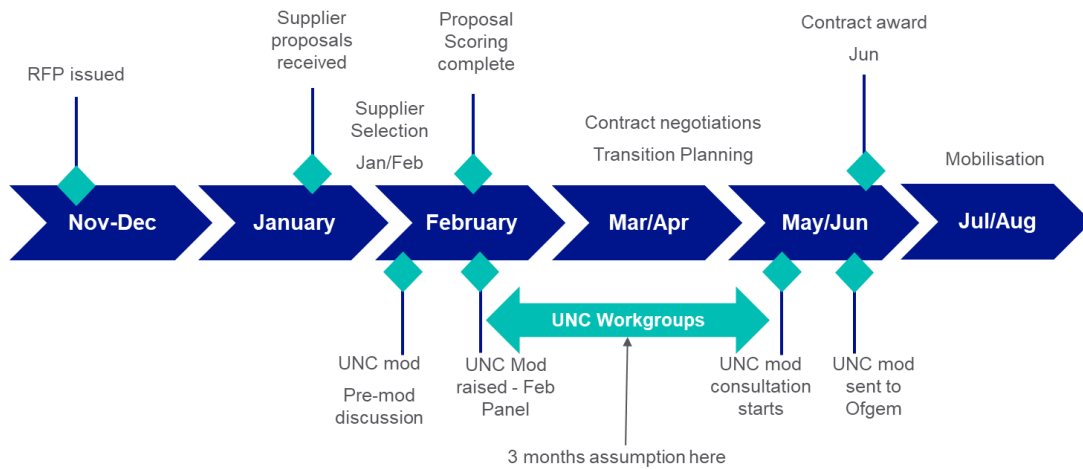
How (2 phase approach)

How (UNC and DSC)

Functions in scope of proposed project

Proposed Apollo project timeline and milestones

Proposed Apollo project timeline and milestones



2.0

3.0 Initial Discussion

3.1. Issues and Questions from Panel

3.1.1. This Modification will take the service outside the remit of DSC Governance - consider potential consequences if this happens

Due to the suggested Governance, Authority Direction, the UNC Modification Panel sent the development of the Modification to Workgroup for 6-months, MM advised that as this is part of the two-phased approach and this Modification is dealing only with the withdrawal of the CDSP service from UNC he is aiming for 3-months.

Richard Fairholme (RF) said he would like to see more of how the stakeholders can get involved and the principles that need to be included to go alongside this Modification. MM advised he will consider a statement about committing to future arrangements.

3.1.2. Consider how this change will be funded

3.2. Initial Representations

None received.

3.3. Terms of Reference

As matters have been referred from Panel a specific Terms of Reference has been published alongside the Modification at www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0801.

4.0 Next Steps

EF confirmed that Workgroup will meet on 07 April 2022 and that material should be submitted by 5pm Wednesday 30 March 2022.

5.0 Any Other Business

None.

6.0 Diary Planning

Further details of planned meetings are available at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/events-calendar/month

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10:00 Thursday 07 July 2022	5pm Wednesday 29 June 2022	Microsoft Teams	Standard Transmission Workgroup Agenda
10:00 Thursday 04 August 2022	5pm Wednesday 27 July 2022	Microsoft Teams	Standard Transmission Workgroup Agenda