

**UNC Demand Estimation Technical Workgroup Minutes**  
**Wednesday 27 April 2022**  
**via Microsoft Teams**

**Attendees**

Yvonne Reid-Healy (Chair)	(YRH)	Joint Office
Mike Berrisford (Secretary)	(MB)	Joint Office

**Shipper Members (Voting)**

Anupa Purewal	(AP)	E.ON
Dan Stenson	(DS)	Centrica
John Jones	(JJ)	ScottishPower

**Transporter Members (Voting)**

Andrew Hayes	(AH)	Wales & West Utilities Alternate
David Mitchell	(DM)	Scotia Gas Networks
Paul O'Toole	(POT)	Northern Gas Networks Alternate
Robert Longwe	(RL)	National Grid Alternate
Sanjeev Loi	(SL)	Cadent

**Observers (Non-Voting)**

Darrin Prescott	(DP)	Correla on behalf of Xoserve
Cosmin Popovici	(CP)	Total Energies
Jordan Bignell	(JB)	Correla on behalf of Xoserve
Joseph Lloyd	(JL)	Correla on behalf of Xoserve
Mark Perry	(MP)	Correla on behalf of Xoserve
Michael Maguire	(MM)	Correla on behalf of Xoserve
Penny Griffiths	(PG)	Correla on behalf of Xoserve
Simon Bissett	(SB)	Correla on behalf of Xoserve
Simon Geddes	(SG)	National Grid

Copies of papers are available at: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/DESC/270422>

DESC meetings will be quorate where there are at least four Voting Members or their alternates, of which at least two shall be Users and two Transporters are in attendance.

**1. Introduction and Status Review**

Yvonne Reid-Healy (YRH) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**1.1. Apologies for Absence**

Emma Buckton, Transporter Member,  
Katherine Uzzel, Shipper Member,  
Louise Hellyer, Shipper Member,  
Murugan Babumohanan, Transporter Member, and  
Smitha Coughlan, Transporter Member.

**1.2. Note of Alternates**

Andrew Hayes, Transporter Member (Wales & West Utilities)

Paul O'Toole, Transporter Member (Northern Gas Networks)

Robert Longwe, Transporter Member (National Grid)

### **1.3. Quoracy Status**

YRH advised that the meeting was quorate.

### **1.4. Approval of Minutes (02 March 2022)**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

### **1.5. Approval of Late Papers**

There were no late papers to consider.

### **1.6. Review of Outstanding Actions**

There were no outstanding actions to consider.

### **1.7. User Representative Appointment Process**

YRH provided a brief overview of the '*Joint Office User Representatives Appointment Process 2022/23*' presentation during which she focused attention on the '*Timescales 2022/23*' slide 3 content.

Parties were asked to note that there are no Panel or UNCC nominations required because those appointments took place in 2021 and are set to apply for a two (2) year minimum appointment term.

During a brief discussion it was suggested that the Committee Members should perhaps consider whether a separate Technical Workgroup is really needed going forward as attendees, unlike in previous years, now appear to be the same people for both the DESC and DESC Technical Workgroup meetings.

Mark Perry (MP) then provided an overview of the background behind why the Technical Workgroup was established in circa 2012, explaining that it was to enable industry technical experts to focus on the more detailed DESC (technical) aspects. This principle has not really been followed by the industry in more recent years due to the DESC Members and DESC TWG Representatives being the same people.

In noting that a formal DESC Committee vote would be required in order to terminate the DESC Technical Workgroup going forward, it was agreed to add an item to the 7<sup>th</sup> July DESC meeting agenda to consider the matter further.

## **2. Collection of Daily Gas Consumption Data for EUC Modelling**

### **2.1. Background and Summary**

Simon Bissett (SB) provided an overview of the background to the '*Collection of Daily Gas Consumption Data for EUC Modelling*' presentation, during which the key discussion points are noted (by exception), as follows:

#### Objective of Meeting – slide 6

The review of the number of sample points available for this year's analysis period of 01 March 2021 to 31 March 2022 (circa 13 months) takes into account Easter Bank Holiday timings.

#### Validation Rules Summary – slide 15

Represents a new slide introduced within this year's analysis presentation which highlights that the rules are now circa 10 years old, and have never been formally reviewed in that time, and will therefore be subjected to a 'still fit for purpose' review after the meeting and a suitable approach presented at a forthcoming DESC meeting.

Demand Estimation: Validation Audit Trail – slide 16

It was noted that any (particular) Meter Point can have more than one rejection reason, whilst the '*PASSED VALIDATION (Post Stratification)*' value of 24,993 is a good value from a modelling purposes perspective.

Demand Estimation: Summary of Validated Data – slide 17

The '*2021/22 data*' figures (largely) represent an improvement in sample numbers available for the modelling runs.

Feedback to the data providers will be provided around May time.

## 2.2. Proposed EUC Modelling Runs and WAR Band Thresholds

Proposed EUC Bands / Consumption Ranges for Small NDM (<2,196 MWh pa) – slide 20

The Band 1 and 2 breakdown criteria were expanded in circa 2019 and are being utilised for analysis purposes.

Small NDM Consumption Bands: Review of EUC Band 1 – slide 21

The information was presented and supported by a quick review of the Excel spreadsheet (ref: Table B.1 to B.4) which was issued on Monday 25 April 2022.

More analysis on the SO/SW LDZ's will be undertaken ahead of the May 2022 meeting

Pre-Payment EUC Demand Models – slide 22

Whilst the provision of Pre-Payment data from the Shippers eligible by UNC Modification 0654S remains low, SB confirmed that Class 3 data in UK Link has been sourced, which means upto date data models should be possible which is an improvement on previous years.

Small NDM Consumption Bands: Review of Bands 2 - 4 – slide 23

The information was presented and supported by a quick review of the Excel spreadsheet (ref: Table B.5 to B.10).

Small NDM WAR Bands: Review of Bands 3 - 4 – slide 27

The information was presented and supported by a quick review of the Excel spreadsheet (ref: Table B.11).

Large NDM Consumption Bands: Review of Bands 5 - 9 – slide 30

The information was presented and supported by a quick review of the Excel spreadsheet (ref: Table C.1 to C.4).

Large NDM WAR Bands: Review of Bands 5 - 8 – slide 32

The information was presented and supported by a quick review of the Excel spreadsheet (ref: Table C.5 to C.7).

When asked whether anyone had been able to try manipulating the data, or had any feedback on what might be better data splits, there were no adverse comments forthcoming. SB advised that a further update would be provided at the May 2022 meeting.

Meeting Summary – slide 34

In the absence of any adverse comments / concerns being raised during the presentation to any of the proposals, SB requested parties consider the proposals, especially the combining of LDZ's and provide feedback where appropriate.

Next Steps – slide 35

Summarising the discussion, YRH undertook a formal vote on the modelling run proposals (silence being deemed as approval), to which NO adverse comments were received and therefore the proposals were **unanimously approved** by DESC Committee Members in attendance at the meeting.

Please refer to item 2.1 above for more details (slide 17 and 20)

### 3. EUC Modelling Output – Impacts of Holiday Code Rule Changes

Penny Griffiths (PG) provided an overview of the ‘*Impacts of Holiday Code Rule Changes*’ presentation, including details of changes to an existing modelling output file and a new file, during which there were no adverse comments / concerns raised by those parties in attendance at the meeting.

### 4. Review of NDM Algorithm Update

Joseph Lloyd (JL) provided a brief verbal update, during which the following key items were noted:

- UNC Request 0754R ‘*Investigate Advanced Analytic Options to improve NDM Demand Modelling*’ last met on 22 March 2022 with a copy of the meeting minutes now available on the Joint Office web site at: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0754/220322>
- The consideration around calculating ILF’s will be considered further for non-linear model purposes;
- Area 2 investigations remain ‘in progress’ and the preparation for the next Request Workgroup meeting scheduled for 28 June 2022 (this deadline takes into account support to the team during DESC modelling).

In summarising the discussions, YRH noted that there were no adverse comments / concerns raised by those parties in attendance at the meeting.

### 5. Any Other Business

#### 5.1. DESC (DESC Technical Workgroup) Meeting Duration Changes

In referencing a pre-meeting discussion with Mark Perry (MP), YRH requested that DESC Committee Members in attendance consider reducing the remaining 2022 DESC meeting durations from 10:00 to 16:00 to a more realistic 10:00 to 13:00 in order to reflect actual meeting timings.

The consensus amongst DESC Committee Members in attendance was to opt for a **10:00 to 13:00** meeting duration going forward.

### 6. Communication of Key Messages

The DESC Summary of Key Messages document will be provided as a post meeting update and will be published at: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/desc/summarykeymessages>

### 7. Diary Planning

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

Time / Date	Paper Publication Deadline	Venue	Workgroup Programme
10:00 Tuesday 24 May 2022	5pm Monday 16 May 2022	Microsoft Teams	DESC Technical Workgroup
10:00 Thursday 07 July 2022	5pm Wednesday 29 June 2022	Microsoft Teams	DESC
10:00 Tuesday 19 July 2022	5pm Monday 11 July 2022	Microsoft Teams	DESC
10:00 Wednesday	5pm Tuesday	Microsoft Teams	DESC

05 October 2022	27 September 2022		
10:00 Tuesday 13 December 2022	5pm Tuesday 03 December 2022	Microsoft Teams	DESC