





UNC Workgroup Report	At what stage is this document in the process?
<h1>UNC 0674:</h1> <h2>Performance Assurance Techniques and Controls</h2>	<div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; gap: 5px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid green; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px; display: flex; align-items: center; gap: 5px;"> 01 Modification </div> <div style="border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px; display: flex; align-items: center; gap: 5px;"> 02 Workgroup Report </div> <div style="border: 1px solid purple; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px; display: flex; align-items: center; gap: 5px;"> 03 Draft Modification Report </div> <div style="border: 1px solid orange; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px; display: flex; align-items: center; gap: 5px;"> 04 Final Modification Report </div> </div>
<p>Purpose of Modification:</p> <p>To provide an effective framework for the governance of industry performance that gives industry participants mutual assurance in the accuracy of settlement volume allocation</p>	
	<p>The Workgroup recommends that this modification should [not] be subject to self-governance</p> <p>The Panel will consider this Workgroup Report on 15 October 2020. The Panel will consider the recommendations and determine the appropriate next steps.</p>
	<p>High Impact:</p>
	<p>Medium Impact:</p> <p>Shippers</p>
	<p>Low Impact:</p> <p>Transporters</p>

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Timetable		
The Proposer recommends the following timetable:		
Initial consideration by Workgroup	08 April 2019	
Workgroup Report presented to Panel	17 September, 2020	
Draft Modification Report issued for consultation	18 September, 2020	
Consultation Close-out for representations	09 October, 2020	
Final Modification Report available for Panel	05 November, 2020	
Modification Panel decision	19 November, 2020	

Any questions?

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1 Summary

This Modification is proposed by ScottishPower on behalf of the Performance Assurance Committee.

What

In operating the PAF (Performance Assurance Framework) the PAC (Performance Assurance Committee) have identified some weaknesses and limitations in the performance assurance regime which are impacting the effectiveness of the performance assurance model.

Why

The PAC have a number of examples where performance issues have been identified and have not been remedied over a prolonged period. This has resulted in settlement inaccuracy over extended periods.

PAC are keen to prevent such situations occurring (through new performance assurance principles, proportionate incentive mechanisms and a progressive series of escalating controls) and when performance issues occur, they are curtailed speedily.

How

The Proposer on behalf of PAC proposes to modify the UNC to define the following outcomes:

- I. Require UNC Parties to adhere to a basic principle that their negligence, poor performance or bad behaviours must not distort settlement even when such behaviours have not specifically proscribed within the UNC.
- II. Determine additional tools and processes available to the PAC in its work in the provision of performance assurance within the code.
- III. Allow the Performance Assurance regime to be more agile and responsive to the information it is receiving by empowering the PAC to determine and action an appropriate response at any time.
- IV. Provide PAC and PAFA (PAF Administrator) access to any standard reports already being provided to individual UNC Parties within performance packs e.g. shipper performance packs.
- V. Allow PAFA access to such data as reasonably approved by PAC to allow PAFA and PAC to carry out performance assurance activities (e.g. risk assessment and performance monitoring).
- VI. Require UNC Parties to take action to improve their performance and remedy issues if it is identified and requested by the PAC.
- VII. Require UNC Parties to provide and adhere to any plans of action they provide.
- VIII. Ensure that where it is proposed adding to or changing UNC performance standards within the UNC and performance monitoring is required, the report requirement must be added to the modification.

The CDSP will be required to provide a ROM (rough order of magnitude) for the production of the monitoring reports needed for that proposal, for the modification workgroup to determine if the cost of a report is not deemed prohibitive.
- IX. Specify the tools available to the PAC to incentivise, drive and require performance behaviours and to document these in a new ancillary document under PAC (UNC sub-Committee) governance.
- X. Suitably empower the PAC, as an elected, independent body, to make decisions for and on behalf of the UNC Parties in respect of Performance Assurance matters.
- XI. Ensure that the PAC budget does not act to constrain the duties and requirements of the PAC.

- XII. Provide clarity that UNC parties (Gas Transporters (GTs), Independent GTs (IGTs), Shippers etc.) and CDSP fall under the remit of the PAC and performance assurance measures to be applied.

2 Governance

Justification for Authority Direction

The modification will impact the performance assurance regime, which ultimately seeks to have a positive material impact on parties and therefore competition between them. It also seeks to increase the authority of the PAC, to allow it more decision-making powers which is likely to materially impact specific parties.

The modification:

- i. is likely to have a material effect on:
 - a. competition in the shipping, transportation or supply of gas conveyed through pipes or any commercial activities connected with the shipping, transportation or supply of gas conveyed through pipes; and
 - b. the uniform network code governance procedures and the network code modification procedures;
- ii. is likely to discriminate between different classes of, or individual, parties to the Uniform Network Code where their individual performance fails to meet UNC requirements or otherwise adversely impacts on settlement accuracy .
- iii. Is likely to impact consumers through improved competition (e.g. in tariffs, services, etc), due to the anticipated improvements to settlement processes where they are otherwise not fair and equitable across parties.

Requested Next Steps

This modification should be considered a material change and not subject to self-governance

~~The detailed business rules in this modification should be reviewed by a workgroup to ensure there are no unintended consequences or loop holes in the governance requirements that would thwart the performance assurance intent of this modification. Additionally, the modification should act as an incentive to meet the required UNC performance levels and a disincentive to make commercial decisions that detrimentally impact competing parties.~~

This is a complex Modification Proposal and will require stakeholder engagement. The contractual requirements of the PAFA (Performance Assurance Framework Administrator) may also be impacted. The ancillary documents must also be drafted for initial adoption.

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3 Why Change?

The electricity performance assurance regime in the Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC) costs approximately £3m to provide the regime.¹ This modification does not advocate this level of expenditure nor the more prescriptive style of this regime, but it does advocate that the Code supports some additional investment to deliver a 'harder-hitting' assurance that parties anecdotally indicate they require and which are expected will deliver better returns and competitive efficiencies from improved performance, less settlement uncertainty and likely attendant improvements in customer service.

The existing Performance Assurance Reports do not provide context and the potential impact of performance behaviours on settlement accuracy. The PAC has an annual budget of £50k for reports from the CDSP (Central Data Services Provider). To put this in context – the PAC explored amending one of the existing PARR reports and the CDSP indicated that one option for doing so would use £45k of the annual budget (Ref: [PAC minutes 20 November 2018 ROM](#)). Such a budget limitation can constrain the PAC's ability to identify, assess and bring to account poor behaviour.

Since the implementation of Project Nexus on 01 June 2017, a number of issues have impacted settlement allocations. These and the length of time issues have been endured have had a direct effect on the financial and commercial health of market participants and ultimately customers. The absence of a stronger PAF, is likely to have prolonged settlement distortion and therefore, in part, high and volatile UIG.

To date performance remedies are limited to PAC instructing the CDSP or PAFA to engage with the failing participant proactively and asking the PAFA to write a formal letter requesting the issue be resolved.

This is having limited effect in some instances but is simply ignored in others.

To cite 3 examples:

- There have been significant issues with the reconciliation of mandatory DM (daily metered) sites since the implementation of Nexus in June 2017. As at November 2018, there were still 32 sites that have not had a retrospective consumption adjustment since June 2017. Actions taken to remedy this situation have included direct engagement by the CDSP (Xoserve) and a letter from Ofgem to involved parties. It took nearly a year to resolve the root causes for 177 DM meters.
- Product Class 3 read performance, despite Xoserve's engagement with the involved Shippers, is still well below the performance target.
- All shippers have access to shipper information packs and dashboards that highlight performance in many other areas. Where processes are failing and the shipper has the management information indicating that, there are no consequences of Shippers failing to act on these reports and no controls that PAC can employ to support Shippers in improving their performance.

Ofgem, the PAC and the industry have discussed the benefits of incentives to improve settlement accuracy and reduce risk. For example, in the level of reads accepted into settlement.

Ofgem has on a number of occasions advised that they want to see improvements to the performance assurance scheme developed in the gas market – including in their determination on Modifications 0473/A and 0506V.

¹Page 42 [Annual BSC Report 2017/18](#)

Additionally, Ofgem, in their decision letters on Modifications 0619/A/B, requested that industry parties increase “the frequency and quality of meter read data being submitted to the Central Data Services Provider” and in their decision letter on Urgent Modifications 0642/0642A/0643 they requested that “To the extent that Xoserve depends on data provided by third parties, including the provision of frequent and accurate meter readings, it is expect to work with those parties and the PAC to ensure that these requirements are identified and being met.” Improved read performance was also a recommendation of CMA. There is currently no effective mechanism for meeting these challenges, aside from relying on Shippers best intentions, which is not currently delivering adequate read performance or settlement certainty.

Despite introducing a risk-based PAF, the PAF is currently limited to monitoring performance reports and writing letters to the Market Participants displaying poor performance.

The UNC obligations provide no consequences for failing to meet obligations or target measures where they exist and no incentives to meet them. There is no mechanism to hold to account the performance of failing parties; and target measures provide no indication of how they might impact settlement quality nor is there evidence that impact on settlement is considered in making decisions to modify UNC obligations.

4 Code Specific Matters

Reference Documents

Performance Assurance Framework

[UNC TPD Section V](#)

[UNC General Terms Section B](#)

[UNC - Modification Rules \(Section 6.1.1\)](#)

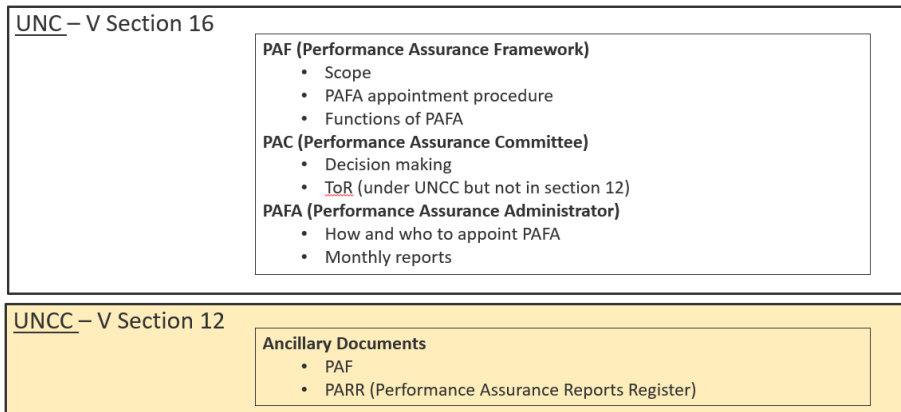
Knowledge/Skills

Knowledge of settlement risk or other performance regimes would be an advantage.

5 Solution

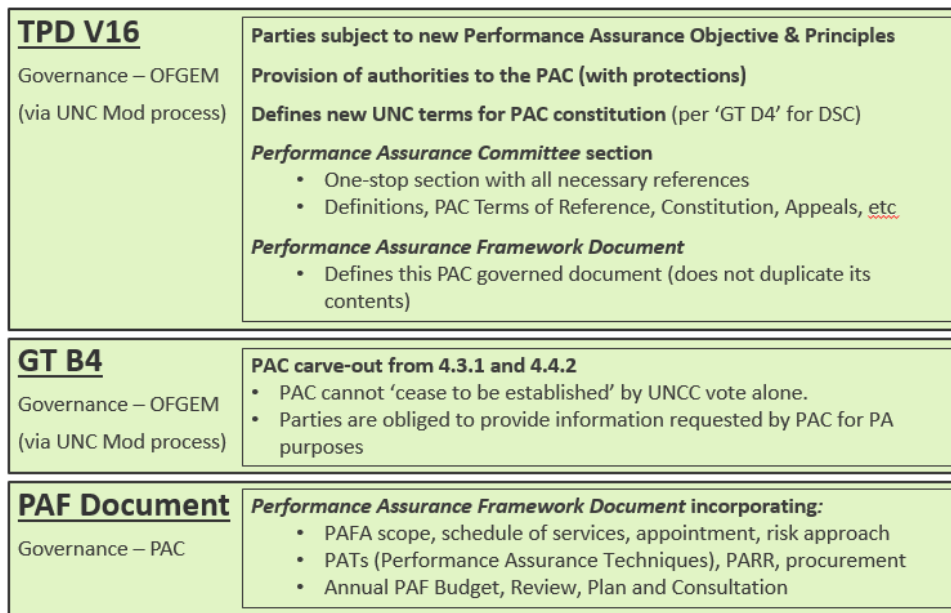
The current Performance Assurance regime is represented diagrammatically below:

As Is



The modification will move Performance Assurance to a new regime represented diagrammatically here:

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In summary the solution is to oblige UNC Parties (transporters, shippers) and CDSP (via DSC 3.5) to comply with an objective of equitable settlement and to cooperate with other Parties to further this objective.

10 It will also give PAC some additional authority to identify those areas of performance (whether in Code or not) which impact the objective, to require UNC Parties to improve in those areas and to impose sanctions where performance is below the required level. It will also require Proposer of a modification which adds or changes UNC performance standards or might impact a Party's performance against such standards to specify an appropriate monitoring report. The CDSP will be required to provide a ROM (rough order of magnitude) for workgroup consideration

15 The requirements below will be incorporated into the UNC.

(Associated changes will be made to the Performance Assurance Framework documents).

- 1) Introduce a new objective to the UNC, the Performance Assurance Objective (PAO)

The Performance Assurance Objective is :

- 20 a. To ensure that Settlement is a timely, accurate and equitable share of energy for each shipper.

- 2) Introduce a new overarching principle to the UNC

- 25 a. The Modification Panel, UNCC, sub-committees and Parties must always ensure that acts (or omissions) contribute to, and do not prejudice, the achievement of the Performance Assurance Objective even when such acts or omissions are not explicitly proscribed under UNC
- b. The acts or omissions of any other Party (such as another shipper, supplier or their agent) do not absolve any other Party of their obligations under the UNC.
- 30 c. Parties acknowledge that reports provided by PAFA or PAC shall constitute evidence of a Party's performance with regard to UNC compliance, and shall be accepted as such unless evidenced to the contrary.
- d. Parties will use these reports to self-monitor performance.
- e. Parties will also respond to PAFA/PAC enquiries with the requested information, timeously and in accordance with such process as may be specified in PAF Document from time to time.

- 35 3) Introduce a new overarching principle to the UNC of collective co-operation towards the specified objective.

- a. All UNC Parties acknowledge that each is dependent on the others for the achievement of the PAO and will cooperate wherever is necessary (whether explicitly required in UNC or not) to achieve the PAO

- 40 4) Move responsibility for the PAF Document preparation and maintenance from DNO to PAC (and submitted to UNCC for information).

- 5) Define the PAC in V16, as an autonomous UNC sub-Committee following the principle used in General Terms D4 for DSC sub-Committees. PAC and PAFD will no longer be governed under Section V12 of UNC.

45 ~~On advice from Joint Office I have included below proposed drafting as it would apply to PAC, and shown under each main heading of General Terms Section D 4.1 – 4.5. This drafting contains the rules proposed by the modification and intended as a 'construction guide' for Legal Text Provider, it does fetter their discretion to draft legal text as it see fit.~~

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50 **PAC COMMITTEE**

4.1 Establishment and functions of the Performance Assurance Committee

4.1.1 *In connection with the requirement to operate the UNC Performance Assurance Regime the following Network Code Sub-committee is established:*

(a) *The Performance Assurance Committee (PAC)*

55 4.1.2 *The Performance Assurance Committee shall perform the functions and have the powers and duties provided in this section UNC V16, and the Performance Assurance Framework Document*

4.1.3 *The Performance Assurance Committee shall have control of the following documents:*

- *Document 1: Performance Assurance Reports Register (PARR)*
- *Document 2: The Risk Register*
- *Document 3: PAC letters of confirmation and company agreement*
- *Document 4: PAFA scope*
- *Document 5: PAF Document*

60 4.1.4 *A PAC Committee may establish a sub-committee for such purposes (within the scope of its functions, powers and duties) and comprising such members and on such terms as it decides; and references to a PAC Committee include any such sub-committee.*

65 4.1.5 *The PAC Committee is autonomous, and the UNC Committee has no power to overrule a decision of the PAC or its sub-committees or reduce or qualify the scope of its functions, powers, and duties.*

4.1.6 *No decision of the PAC shall be made or (if made) shall be effective if the decision would cause a party to be or act in breach of the UNC.*

70 **4.2 Constitution of the PAC**

4.2.1 *The PAC shall comprise representatives ("Committee Representatives") of each Customer Class as follows:*

(a) *9 individuals appointed as representatives of Shipper Users ("Shipper User Representatives"); and*

(b) *3 individuals appointed as representatives of Transporters and IGTs, of which:*

- (i) *2 shall be appointed by DN Operators ("DNO Representatives"); and*
- (ii) *1 shall be appointed by IGTs ("IGT Representatives").*

For the avoidance of doubt NTS shall not have membership rights

4.2.2 *For PAC to fulfil its role under the PAF, its Shipper members shall be appointed using the guidelines as defined in the UNC governed document:*

80 [Uniform Network Code Panel, Uniform Network code committee \(UNCC\), Sub-Committees and Data Services Contract \(DSC\) Committees - Guidelines for the User Representative Appointment Process](#)

4.2.3 *For PAC to fulfil its role under the PAF, its membership must behave in a manner that is consistent with the principles of the PAF and the duties of the PAC.*

PAC Members are representatives in their own right and do not represent the company by which they are employed.

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All PAC Members and their alternates will be required to sign the following documents to assure that the Member will be attending and voting at the PAC in the interests of the GB gas industry and not representing any commercial interest or commercial body or interest group:

- Letter of Confirmation, which includes
 - Member impartiality
 - Non –Disclosure Agreement
 - Declaration of interest.
- Letter of agreement from Company Employing a committee member
- And if applicable, Letter of Agreement from company nominating a committee member

The documents listed above are controlled by the PAC and can be found in the PAC Framework Document.

4.2.4 **Committee members and alternates**

A list of all PAC Members and standing alternates is published on the Joint Office website.

Alternates need not necessarily come from the same company as the PAC Member. It will be for the PAC Member to consider the suitability of their alternate, in respect of experience and understanding of the issues that the PAC will deal with. For the avoidance of doubt a PAC Member can act as Alternate for another PAC Member

A single alternate may not represent more than one (1) other PAC Member, unless a quorum cannot be achieved without this happening.

4.3 **Voting arrangements**

4.3.1 Each Committee Representative shall hold one (1) vote;.

4.3.2 A decision of the PAC Committee shall be made in accordance with UNC TPD V16.2.1:

4.4 **Proceedings of PAC Committee meetings**

4.4.1 The meeting will be quorate where there are at least four Shipper User PAC Members and two Transporters (DNO and/or IGT) PAC Members present with a minimum of six PAC Members in attendance.

4.4.2 The Code Administration Code of Practice shall apply to the conduct of the meetings.

4.4.3 Information to be used within meetings will be provided to PAC Members, the Joint Office and the Ofgem representative via a secure web portal. Such information shall not be downloaded.

4.4.4 PAC members, the Joint Office and Ofgem shall treat all information as confidential unless it is clearly marked otherwise.

4.4.5 The default is PAC meetings are 'closed' to non-Members. PAC Members can agree to hold 'open' meetings.

4.4.6 With agreement of the Chairperson, and for the purposes of developing the PAC arrangements, PAC Members can invite 3rd parties and non-members to the meeting

4.4.4 The CDSP may be required to attend (by one or more representatives) meetings of the PAC.

4.5 **Appeal**

4.5.1 To enable it to deliver upon its purpose of identifying and mitigating gas Settlement inaccuracy, the gas PAFD gives PAC the power to apply Performance Assurance Techniques (PATs) to various industry roles.

4.5.2 The parties to whom the PATs are applied (the subject of a PAT) can be materially affected, financially, operationally or reputationally, by their application.

125 4.5.3 *The party subject to a PAT may believe that the accuracy of the information underpinning PAC's use of a PAT is materially and demonstrably incorrect. It may also believe that the procedure surrounding use of the PAT, as set out in the PAT technical document, has demonstrably not been followed, resulting in a material impact on them.*

130 4.5.4 *In these circumstances, the subject of the PAT is entitled to appeal the PAC's decision to the PAC. The decision of the PAC, having considered any new information arising from any UNCC appeal, is final.*

4.5.6 *The criteria for a valid appeal, is as follows:*

- *The inaccuracy of fact or irregularity of procedure can be demonstrated, such that there is specific alternative information on which PAC should instead rely or a specific alternative way in which a procedure should have been enacted*
- *A material inaccuracy of fact or irregularity of procedure has occurred, such that the outcome would be different if the correct information or procedure were used instead*
- *The appeal must be raised with the PAC within [1 month] of the relevant PAC decision*
- *Where the appellant is appealing a PAC decision to refer the appellant to Ofgem, the appellant will have a second appeal opportunity that will be heard by the UNCC in such circumstances.*

140 4.5.7 *Procedure*

- a) *The gas PAFA will assess any appeal in respect of whether the criteria for the appeal has been met and regarding the PAC's use of a PAT in the light of the new information provided, before presenting the appeal to PAC at the next practicable opportunity.*
- b) *The PAFA's initial views on the validity of the appeal and the appropriate rectification will be presented to the PAC alongside the appellant's representations.*
- c) *PAC's original reasons for applying the PAT will form part of the material PAFA reviews and provides to PAC to aid its decision on the appeal.*
- d) *During the period between an appeal being raised and the PAC hearing the appeal, any obligations on the appellant, PAC and PAFA pursuant to a PAT which is wholly or partly the subject of the appeal will be suspended. The PAC's decision on the appeal will include guidance for resumption or termination of timescales for action under any of the PATs at issue.*
- e) *The PAC will treat the matter as confidential. All meetings to hear the appeal will be closed and the meeting and the material presented for consideration during an appeal will not be published.*
- f) *The appellant may be invited to present their case and their supporting evidence. Notice of the meeting will be not less than [two weeks].*
- g) *The PAC will determine the extent to which it accepts the appeal. This could be wholly, partially or not accepted. The PAC may recommend or provide guidance on how or whether the application of the original PAC decision resumes or continues.*

160 4.5.8 *Appeal Decision*

- a) *The PAC will respond in writing to the appellant within [two weeks] of making their decision with the reasons for its decision.*
- b) *Where the appellant remains of the view that their reason for appeal is valid and that the PAC have not taken fair and balanced view of their evidence, the appellant may appeal to Ofgem.*

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Any PAT's may resume or be continued until Ofgem provides its decision. The decision of Ofgem will be final.

6) Section V16 will include amongst other things the following:

- i. The UNC Performance Assurance Objective and other terms pertaining to PAC
- 170 ii. the composition of the Performance Assurance Committee membership;
- iii. the basis on which Performance Assurance Committee members are to be appointed and from time to time removed and/or replaced
- iv. the basis on which a person (not being a committee member) will be appointed to chair each meeting of the Performance Assurance Committee;
- 175 v. the basis on which a person (not being a committee member) will be appointed as secretary to the Performance Assurance Committee;
- vi. the voting arrangements and the basis on which decisions of the Performance Assurance Committee will be made; and
- 180 vii. the basis on which decisions of the Performance Assurance Committee may be appealed to the Authority;
- viii. Definition of the Performance Assurance Framework Document and its purpose and governance (removing it from V12 and moving it to a PAC-governed document)
- ix. UNCC will have no power to overrule a decision of the PAC or its sub-committees, or to reduce or to qualify the scope of PAC's functions, powers and duties (per GTD4 treatment for 185 DSC)
- x. No decision of PAC shall be made if the decision would cause a party to breach UNC
- xi. Specify PAC controlled documents as being Performance Assurance Reports Register (PARR), The Risk Register, PAC letters of confirmation and company agreement, PAFA scope, PAFD
- 190 xii. Definition of the Performance Assurance Party being a party who will be subject to Performance Assurance Objective (either a Party to UNC, CDSP or any other party whose performance or non-performance of activities governed directly or indirectly under UNC) and whose acts or omissions could impact another PAP's contribution to the Performance Assurance Objective

195 7) Give PAC authority in the UNC, with relevant protections noted below, to include:

- To determine the performance and applicable assurance monitoring and incentive tools to be applied to a Party, consistent with those defined in the PAFD, as amended by PAC from time to time
- PAC will be added to "UNC – Modification Rules 6.1.1" as a Proposer to raise performance-related modifications. This has the benefit that the proposal is bi-partisan, and in the interests of the industry not a single UNC Party. Controls over this power will be that the proposal is
 - subject to agreement by a simple majority of all PAC members, (this might require ex-Committee voting if not all members have attended the meeting), and

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- restricted to changes reasonably considered to impact on the achievement of the Performance Assurance Objective (for example where rules on process or performance are proven to be unnecessary / ineffective).
 - Subject to the same process as for any other modification through UNC Mod Panel

210 [Just for context, such mods could be drafted by (but not limited to) CDSP (include this as a Direct Function) or PAFA (include as a Document 4 service). *(This will make industry change more agile ... for example UNC Modifications 721 & 722 could have been raised by PAC and drafted by Xoserve or PAFA immediately following the 24 March 2020 PAC meeting when the prospect of overstated allocation was first raised)*]

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- PAC will define those areas of a Party's or of Parties' performance which impact the PA Objective. PAC will set the tolerance threshold and determine those levels at which Performance Assurance Techniques will apply. PAC will require UNC Parties to improve in those areas and will have powers to impose sanctions where performance is below the required level, provided the thresholds, areas and sanctions/techniques are consistent with what is defined from time to time in the PAFD

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- Require parties to respond to and meet PAC requests reasonably made in the context of performance matters and in pursuit of the Performance Assurance Objective. This requires a carve-out under GT Section B4.4.2

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- Deploy Performance Assurance Techniques (PATs) described in the PAFD as they deem appropriate, including applying derogations where reasonable and appropriate (for example where performance is impacted by pandemic, events of force majeure or industry developments).

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- Parties acknowledge that such techniques could include publishing on the Joint Office website the company names and performance (only) of Parties to allow peer comparison. Such information will be limited to the performance measures outlined in PAFD from time to time. In so doing, PAC will not divulge any information on the Parties' specific commercial or operational arrangements, the reasons for the level of performance or any details of the improvement plans.

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- The Proposer of a modification will be required to seek a ROM from Xoserve for workgroup consideration of the impact of their modification proposal where such proposal

- adds or changes UNC performance standards or
- impacts a Party's performance against such standards to specify an appropriate monitoring report.

- 240
- Definition of the Performance Assurance Framework Document and its purpose and governance (including PAC authority to change and the voting arrangements for such amendments to PAFD)

- Remove the UNC requirements for UNC approval of changes to PARR. PARR becomes an Annex to PAFD subject to PAC Governance. The principle here is to remove unnecessary barriers to data access which reduce the effectiveness of performance assurance

- 245
- Request reports or data that it deems required to understand performance issues, causes and materiality of impact on the Performance Assurance Objective.

PAC will advise UNCC of any changes to data access rights.

- PAC may establish a sub-committee for such purposes (within the scope of its functions, powers and duties) and comprising such members and on such terms as it decides
- PAC may submit DSC Change Proposals which may include internal and/or external costs. Such requests are:
 - limited to investigations and analysis of settlement, performance of PAPs and related matters reasonably considered to impact on the achievement of the Performance Assurance Objective (for example where rules on process or performance are proven to be unnecessary / ineffective), and
 - subject to agreement by a simple majority of all PAC members, (this might require ex-Committee voting if not all members have attended the meeting), and
 - Subject to the same process as for any other proposals through DSC Change Management
- Requesting the remedy of performance issues, even where there is no explicit prescriptive performance standard specified in the code, where that performance issue is limiting or preventing the achievement of the Performance Assurance Objective (PAO)

8) PAC Protections

- All shippers shall be required to nominate a person in their organisation to act in capacity as First Point of Contact in relation to all PAC correspondence (the "PAP Authoriser"), such person to have appropriate knowledge and authority so as to understand and instruct action to be taken in regard to such communication
- PAC, PAFA, JO and CDSP personnel and any other party attending closed PAC meetings may not reveal the workings or the decision making process in reaching any decisions, save when required by law or due to an appeal from any affected party.
- PAC, PAFA, JO and CDSP personnel and any other party attending closed PAC meeting are required to sign and adhere to undying non disclosure agreements and any confidential material downloaded must be deleted when no longer required and when ceasing to attend the PAC (for whatever reason), whichever is sooner.
- Using an approach similar to Section X for EBCC (which **avoids the need for each and every Party to provide separate indemnities**), Members (being persons) of PAC, PAFA and CDSP connected with a performance assurance decision should be protected from any litigation connected with the operation of the performance assurance regime

9) PAC will be an elected and impartial committee with appropriate expertise to make assessments and judgements using the tools and evidence provided to inform actions in pursuit of the Performance Assurance Objective.

Individuals with an interest in any matter being discussed will declare it; PAFA will advise PAC if it becomes aware of potential conflict of interest. PAC members will apply their expertise without discrimination.

10) Where PAC requests an interview with a party, the party is required to attend and send an individual(s) with the required expertise and authority.

11) PAC is a UNC sub-committee, established under TPD V16 and cannot be amended without Authority approval; and it cannot under GTB4.3.1. 'cease to be established' by UNCC.

6 Impacts & Other Considerations

Does this modification impact a Significant Code Review (SCR) or other significant industry change projects, if so, how?

None identified.

Consumer Impacts

No direct impacts identified.

Cross Code Impacts

The Proposer intends that the arrangements outlined herein should apply to IGT sites and for that reason will pursue the appropriate IGT UNC changes as IGT138 .

Note previous advice from early pre-mod discussions with the then IGT UNC Code Administrator noted that a reference in M5.9 and M5.10 to the required other provisions pursuant to this Modification could provide IGT UNC with the 'link' to the proposed performance assurance controls.

There may be an impact on the DSC and the contract between the PAFA and CDSP.

EU Code Impacts

None identified.

Central Systems Impacts

Some development to support new reporting and invoicing processes.

Commented [AR2]: Rationalise against "Is likely to impact consumers through improved competition (e.g. in tariffs, services, etc), due to the anticipated improvements to settlement processes where they are otherwise not fair and equitable across parties"

Commented [AR3]: Does this need a ROM?

Workgroup Impact Assessment

This modification represents a significant change to the authority, powers and governance of the PAC.

In order to assess and comment on this wide-ranging Modification, 5 thematic areas have been formed to the group the proposed changes into assessable sections. The 5 themes are described below:

1. The introduction of a Performance Assurance Objective, against which all Party actions, **and inactions** in relation to settlement would be assessed.
2. The Codification of the PAC Terms of Reference² and other constitutional matters
3. An overhaul of the authority invested in PAC and of the governance relationship with the UNCC in order to provide PAC with a greater degree of autonomy
4. The introduction of the ability to address performance failings of Parties using a number of techniques and remedies, which are set out in the Performance Assurance Framework Document
5. Supporting Provisions

Commented [AR4]: Check where this lands

In terms of the themes, further detail is included below to capture Workgroup views & comments:

1. Performance Assurance Objective, (PAO)

A POA would be established and relation to a Parties obligation and commitments to facilitating timely & accurate settlement.

The views of the Workgroup with respect to these arrangements were as follows:

2. Codification of the Terms of Reference

In conjunction with the changes to the governance and powers of the PAC, certain aspects of the PAC's constitutional arrangements would be drafted into the Code and accordingly, the existing Terms of Reference would be revoked. The Code would therefore contain the rules for the following aspect aspects of the establishment and functioning of the committee, such as:

- Committee composition: including the number of members from each industry sector, as well as rules for alternates.
- The **member appointment process**, with reference to the relevant guideline document³.
- Voting and quoracy arrangements.
- The Secretariat arrangements.
- Some cross-references the Modification Rules and the application certain provisions covering the arrangement of meetings, etc.
- A requirement for an attendee to sign certain document(s) before receiving PAC material
- Provisions to cover occasions where a member might have a conflict of interest, and
- An obligation on a member not to disclose confidential PAC information.

Commented [AR5]: Check one member per shipper rule

² [Performance Assurance Committee Terms of Reference v4.0 \(17 May 2018\)](#)

³ [Guidelines for the User Representatives Appointment Process](#)

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The views of the Workgroup with respect to these arrangements were as follows:

3. Governance and Powers

As part of the amendment to PACs constitutional arrangements, it is also proposed that the oversight and over-reach of the UNCC is revised, along with the governance other PAC related documentation. The changes include:

- Establishing PAC autonomy from the UNCC with clarification that the UNCC would neither be able to overrule a committee decision, reduce the scope of the committee, nor dissolve the committee.
- Amending UNC GT Section B so where generally a Party would not be obliged to provide information to a committee should it not wish to do so, the rule would disapply with respect to PAC information requests.
- Amending the Modification rules so that PAC could, in specific circumstances, raise a Modification.
- With the exception of requesting a view on an Appeal relating to a decision to refer a Party to the Authority, PAC would not refer any decisions or matters of governance to the UNCC.)
- Setting out the requirements for the CDSP to procure and appoint a Performance Assurance Framework Administer (PAFA) by way of competitive tender.
- Amending the governance of documents pertinent to PAC activities:
 - The Performance Assurance Reports Register⁴ would become a PAC Controlled Document as opposed to being a UNC Related Document
 - The Performance Assurance Framework Document, (PAFD) would become a PAC Controlled Document as opposed to being a UNC Related Document
- A re-draft of PAFD. (appended to this Report in Section 11), to provide detailed operating procedures on matters such as:
 - The extent and the basis on which a party would be required to interact and participate in the PAC procedures
 - Certain aspects of the procedure for the procurement appointment of the PAFA, specifically, with respect to the appointment criteria, scope of works, and contact variations.
 - The control & management of the Risk Register
 - The Performance Assurance Techniques available to the PAC

The views of the Workgroup with respect to these arrangements were as follows:

Commented [AR6]: Check where this lands

Commented [AR7]: Check where this lands

Commented [AR8]: Resolve how Doc 4 and the PAF D are going to operate in parallel, is Doc 4 going to be withdrawn and incorporate Doc 4 into PAFD or will it still exist as a stand-alone doc?

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⁴ Performance Assurance Report Registers (PARR) v2.0 (18 June 2020)

4. Performance Assurance Techniques and Appeals

The Performance Assurance Techniques, (PATs), are set out in the PAFD and include:

- Monitoring
- Party Communication
- Training
- Request for a Resolution Plan
- Request for Attendance at PAC
- Publication
- Audit
- Referral to the Authority
- [Financial Techniques]

Where a Party is referred to the Authority, additional provisions would be drafted into the Code setting out the basis and procedure for that Party to appeal a PAC decision to refer.

Commented [AR9]: Check final legal drafting

The views of the Workgroup with respect to these arrangements were as follows:

5. Supporting Provisions

These include:

- The requirement for each Party to Appoint a Performance Assurance Representative, (PA Representative), to act as the principal point of contact between the PA Representative's organisation and PAC
- UNC provisions to ensure committee members are individually provided with an indemnity covering while operating as part of the PAC

The views of the Workgroup with respect to these arrangements were as follows:

Note:

This above breakdown is intended to be a summary of the key features of the Modification and grouped so to generate discussion and to assist with collation Workgroup comments.

Consultation respondents should refer to the Solution and Legal Drafting to establish the full extent and materiality of the changes being proposed.

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7 Relevant Objectives

Impact of the modification on the Relevant Objectives:

Relevant Objective	Identified impact
a) Efficient and economic operation of the pipe-line system.	None
b) Coordinated, efficient and economic operation of (i) the combined pipe-line system, and/ or (ii) the pipe-line system of one or more other relevant gas transporters.	None
c) Efficient discharge of the licensee's obligations.	None
d) Securing of effective competition: (i) between relevant shippers; (ii) between relevant suppliers; and/or (iii) between DN operators (who have entered into transportation arrangements with other relevant gas transporters) and relevant shippers.	Positive
e) Provision of reasonable economic incentives for relevant suppliers to secure that the domestic customer supply security standards... are satisfied as respects the availability of gas to their domestic customers.	None
f) Promotion of efficiency in the implementation and administration of the Code.	Positive
g) Compliance with the Regulation and any relevant legally binding decisions of the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Co-operation of Energy Regulators.	None

d) It is believed that these proposals will reduce settlement costs by reducing volume uncertainty at nomination and allocation, thereby reducing the likelihood of Shippers building in risk premiums into budgets and customer contracts. It should also level the playing field between shippers in the costs of meeting UNC obligations and ensure that one party's commercial decisions do not adversely impact other parties. Together these will improve competition between Shippers (and potentially Suppliers) and reduce a potential barrier to entry for new Shippers.

f) The current PAF is having limited effect and therefore the value from associated expenditure is sub-optimal. It is believed that these proposals will improve the effectiveness of PAF and therefore promote more efficient implementation and administration of the Code.

Commented [AR10]: Confirm Workgroups view on statements

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8 Implementation

No implementation timescales are proposed. This Proposal could be implemented as soon as an authority direction is received and subject to DSC Change Management Procedures for any consequential system changes.

9 Legal Text

Text Commentary

To be provided by Transporters.

Text Commentary

To be provided by Transporters.

10 Recommendations

Workgroup's Recommendation to Panel

The Workgroup asks Panel to agree that:

- This [self-governance] modification should proceed to consultation.
- This proposal requires further assessment and should be returned to Workgroup.

11 Appendix 1 – Revised Performance Assurance Framework Document

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