**Disclosure Request Report**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Prepared by:** | Richard Johnson |
| **Submitted for:** | Approval |
| **Decision details:** | CoMC is requested to approve the addition of certain data items to Xoserve’s API services, within the DPM, for eventual Gas Supplier and Shipper benefit |
| **Date:** | 15th July 2020 |

1. **Introduction and background**

Numerous major Shippers have approached Xoserve’s Data Strategy team with requests to increase the range of data items available via Xoserve’s Application Programme Interface (API) services.

This request includes the addition of certain data items to the output of the Supply Point Enquiry API, which both Shippers and Suppliers can access

This DRR requests CoMC to approve the addition of data items, as described in section 2, to the to be described columns within the DPM. Section 2 contains a list of data items to be made available, subject to approval, and associated justifications.

With these data permissions in place, Xoserve can work with the industry to deliver the following set of beneficial API enhancements: -

* Creation of bespoke API services with individual Shipper organisations, resulting in more efficient and reliable access to data to help improve business operations
* Addition of data items to the Supply Point Enquiry API would make the Supply Point Quantities API redundant; thus, the latter could be decommissioned resulting in reduced operational costs for Xoserve (and therefore the industry). Secondly, both Shippers and Suppliers would have one central API for data extraction.

1. **Data Items**

Appendix one contains a table which shows the changes to the DPM.

A request to make the following data items available to both Shippers and Suppliers via Portfolio and Community view: -

* Exit Zone
* Prospective Formula Year SMP SOQ
* Prospective Formula Year SMP AQ
* Prospective Formula Year Effective Date

Although, Exit Zone has already been made available for Shipper Community access via API, as a result of a DRR that was approved at CoMC in May.

Shippers and Suppliers have informed Xoserve Data Strategy that it is inefficient to call on two different APIs to acquire data: Supply Point Enquiry and Supply Point Quantities. Considering the former already contains a greater range of data items in it’s output than the latter, it would make sense to add the above data items, currently available in Supply Point Quantities, to the Supply Point Enquiry API. Therefore, Supply Point Quantities wouldn’t contain any data items that are not already available via other APIs; it would be redundant.

The decommissioning of Supply Point Quantities would then result in there being one central API service for both Suppliers and Shippers, and thus increasing ease of use. Secondly, Shippers would no longer need to subscribe to two separate APIs, reducing operation costs.

Secondly, the above prospective consumption data items would be of benefit to Suppliers to support them with the Switching Processes to allow them to more accurately determine transportation rates/charges as the Formula Year AQ values sets the rates for the forthcoming year.  More accurate quotations upfront could reduce the amount of erroneous confirmations of Supply Meter Points and reduce the cost of ongoing investigations across multiple market participants.

It is true that a Supplier can already obtain these data items via their contract with their Shipper, and this is undoubtedly appropriate for scenarios where the Supplier only has one Shipper or a few to contract with or if the Supplier is also a Shipper.

However, for Suppliers that are not also Shippers and/or have numerous Shippers to contract with to receive such data, the time-consuming process of securing the contracts with all the relevant Shippers could be prevented by having the data items they need available centrally via one of Xoserve’s API services, subject to permission approval from Contract Management Committee.

1. **Privacy Impact Assessment**

Where the disclosure of information includes the processing of personal data a Privacy Impact Assessment may be required.

Xoserve has considered the various tests that may be applied and considers that none of these are met and so a Privacy Impact Assessment is not required.

The tests (and answers) applied in determining whether a Privacy Impact Assessment was required were:

a) Will the project involve the collection of new information about individuals? **No, at this stage, it’s a permission request and the technical deliverables would not involve the collection of new data about individuals.**

b) Will the project compel individuals to provide information about themselves?

**No**

c) Will information about individuals be disclosed to organisations or people who have not previously had routine access to the information?

**No, Suppliers and Shippers access to API is long-established.**

d) Are you using information about individuals for a purpose it is not currently used for, or in a way it is not currently used?

**No**

e) Does the project involve you using new technology that might be perceived as being privacy intrusive? For example, the use of biometrics or facial recognition.

**No. APIs provide a user with a very simple data output and is therefore intrusive**

f) Will the project result in you making decisions or taking action against individuals in ways that can have a significant impact on them?

**No. No action would be taken against individuals as the only objective is to increase the range of data items available via API; the data items are not collected from individuals.**

g) Is the information about individuals of a kind particularly likely to raise privacy concerns or expectations? For example, health records, criminal records or other information that people would consider to be private.

**No. No personal records are disclosed via APIs.**

h) Will the project require you to contact individuals in ways that they may find intrusive?

**No. No collection of information from individuals would be involved.**

1. Will the disclosure of information utilise new technology for Xoserve?

**No. APIs are existing technology utilised by Xoserve.**

j) Will the disclosure include information that identifies a vulnerable customer?

**No**. **None of the said data items can be used to identify a vulnerable customer.**

k) Will the disclosure release mass data to a party?

**No. APIs are not used for the disclosure of mass data.**

l) Will the disclosure include information that identifies an occurrence of theft of gas.

**No. None of the said data items can be used for this purpose.**

m) Will the disclosure require a fundamental change to Xoserve business

**No. Only an eventual moderate enhancement on Xoserve’s existing API services.**

1. **Commercial model**

This section is not applicable. This permission request poses no change to the Supplier and Shipper API contract terms applied by Xoserve.

1. **Method of access to the dataset**

Via API only.

1. **CoMC determinations** CoMC is requested to approve this Disclosure Request Report.

**Appendix One: Data Permissions Matrix Submitted for Approval**

**Green = V11 of DPM (existing DPM)**

**Blue = changes as part of this request**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Data Item | Supplier Community | Supplier Portfolio | Shipper Community | Shipper Portfolio |
| Exit Zone | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Prospective Formula Year SMP SOQ | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Prospective Formula Year SMP AQ | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Prospective Formula Year Effective Date | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |