UNC 0723U – Use of the Isolation Flag to identify sites with abnormal load reduction during COVID-19 period

Possible next steps in relation to sites still taking advantage but no longer eligible

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PAC Date: 10th November 2020

Background

- UNC 0723 implemented 12th May, with ability for flag to be dated from 23rd March 2020

- Qualification:
  - Consume below de minimus quantity
  - Be mandated by relevant COVID regulations to close

- Benefits
  - Site no longer attracts daily Gas Allocation
  - 0723 isolations are still capable of flowing gas (no site visit required)
  - Consequential impact: not being charged Commodity Charge

- Sites would need to be monitored by Users and have flags removed when no longer eligible

Current Issues

- Large number of sites isolated within criteria (dates as prior)
  - 5665 Meter points (1290 via 'non standard' process) in total
  - 449 (88 via 'non standard' process) of these are in Northern Gas Networks LDZs

- It is believed only a small number have since had flag removed, even though most businesses have had the 'mandated closure' restriction removed by government at some point since.

- No way to tell if the site is Isolated under Mod 0723 or under TPD G7 (where is not capable of being flowed at meter point)

Actions taken to rectify

- Repeated reminders at Panel and Distribution Workgroup to remind users that sites cease to be eligible if no longer mandated closed, **OR** consuming above de minimus

- Repeated reminders at Panel and Distribution Workgroup that it is Users responsibility to remove isolation flag (sites still not trading can then re isolate under the conditions of TPD G7 if they so wish)

- CDSP newsletters reminded users to remove 0723 flags where site no longer mandated closed

- CDSP to write to each User W/C 26/10/20 with a list of eligible sites to ask whether:
  - Mandated isolation or
  - Covid Isolation, still believed to be valid
  - Covid Isolation , no longer valid & User confirms rectification within 7 days

Recommended Steps

- PAC to action Xoserve to write to Users and report back to December PAC with update.

- PAC to action Xoserve to report back to December PAC with plan as to how they are going to ensure that they monitor Users with reference to these sites (and new ones)

- PAC to monitor User response to removal of flag for ineligible sites *(actions available?)*

- Possible modifications (dependant on above outcomes):
  - Additional clarity to 0723 relevant text to ensure Users understand it is their responsibility to monitor and take appropriate action
  - Authority for CDSP to remove Isolation flags where Users have not confirmed it is still an eligible COVID isolation