

Third Party Supplied NDM Sample Data

Guidance and File Format Document

1.0 Background

The NDM sample portfolio which is used to derive the Demand Estimation allocation formula has suffered with depleting numbers over recent years. UNC allows Transporters to acquire NDM sample data from third parties and the Demand Estimation Sub Committee (DESC) requested analysis to be undertaken to review the suitability of additional data and to determine whether it would be possible to use it as part of the sample data. Xoserve carried out the analysis which concluded that the additional data was not statistically different to the current sample data. At a meeting on 17th November 2015, DESC members approved the future use of third party supplied NDM sample data, starting with the Spring 2016 analysis (which required data covering meter read dates 26/03/2015 to 01/04/2016 inclusive).

This document provides guidance for any third party who may be able to provide additional NDM sample data for use in future Demand Estimation modelling processes.

2.0 Guidance Notes

2.1 Criteria

Xoserve requires continuous daily gas consumption data for individual supply points that meet the following criteria:

- The supply point must exist on the Sites and Meters system.
- The supply point status must be Non Daily Metered (NDM).
- The supply point must be Live (LI).
- They must be randomly selected, covering all consumption bands if possible (excluding Band 09 – sites with AQs greater than 58,600 MWh).
- As a guide, a maximum of 100 meter points per EUC (End User Category), per LDZ (Local Distribution Zone), per shipper is suggested.

2.2 Considerations

The analysis process requires continuous daily data for a 12 or 13 month period. It is not possible to combine 2 meter point histories to create a single record. Therefore, once added to the sample files, a meter point should remain in the sample until either:

- it is lost from the shipper's portfolio.
- the meter is exchanged for a non-loggable model.
- the meter is removed and/or meter point isolated.

2.3 Assumptions

- Where consumption is zero we shall assume these are genuine zero consumptions.
- Where records are not provided for a gas day in the defined period, we shall assume these days should be treated as 'missing data' (validation does accept a

small number of missing records within the defined period as we appreciate it is not always possible to generate a consumption record for every gas day).

2.4 File Submission Method & Frequency

- Our preference is to receive the data file from shippers periodically (e.g. monthly) via email. NOTE: We are investigating feasibility of introducing an Ad hoc file transfer mechanism which may be utilised in future.
- Emails should be titled “SM01: Sample Data” and should be emailed to the following box account:
 - xoserve.demand.estimation@xoserve.com
- It would also be useful to include contact details in case of queries (e.g. relating to file format and content, or on individual site set-ups or consumptions).
- Autumn Modelling – By the 2nd working day in October each year, we require 12 months consumption data ending with the read date of 1st October.
- Spring Modelling – By the 2nd working day in April each year, we require 12 or 13 months consumption data ending with the read date of 1st April.

For example, by 4th October 2016 we need to be in possession of data covering meter read dates 25/09/2015 to 01/10/2016 inclusive (although it is preferable to have received this data on a frequent basis).

or

By 4th April 2017 we need to be in possession of data covering meter read dates 24/02/2016 to 01/04/2017 inclusive (although it is preferable to have received this data on a frequent basis).

3.0 File Format

3.1 File Name Construction

The file name must be constructed as follows:

- SM01_SSC_yyyymmddvv.CSV

Where:

VALUE	DESCRIPTION	DOM	LNG	VARIABLE(S)
SM01	Unique file identifier	T	4	‘SM01’
SSC	The three letter shipper identifier	T	3	Shipper specific
yyyy	Year (relevant to the file date)	N	4	-
mm	Month (relevant to the file date)	N	2	‘01’ to ‘12’
dd	Day of the month (relevant to the file date)	N	2	‘01’ to ‘31’
vv	The in-day file version	N	2	Start at ‘01’
.CSV	File extension	T	4	‘.CSV’

File name example:

- SM01_ABC_2015032901.CSV

3.2 File Content

The file must be made up of:

- Field Headings
and
- Detail record(s)

3.3 Detail Record(s)

The detail record(s) must be in the following specified format.

<u>RECORD/FIELD NAME</u>	<u>OPT</u>	<u>DOM</u>	<u>LNG</u>	<u>DEC</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
METER_POINT_REFERENCE_NUMBER	M	N	10	0	A unique numeric reference associated to the meter point
LDZ_INDICATOR	M	T	2	0	Identifies the local distribution zone to which the supply point is associated
METER_READ_DATE	M	D	8	0	The date that the meter and corrector/convertor (where fitted) read relates to (i.e. the date of the read relevant to the end of the gas day or Gas Flow Day +1) FORMAT: DDMMYYYY
METER_SERIAL_NUMBER	M	T	14	0	The manufacturers meter serial number from which the meter read/consumption was taken
UNCORRECTED_VOLUME	M	N	12	0	The uncorrected metered volume calculated for the relevant gas day (in Cubic Metres or Cubic Feet)
CORRECTED_VOLUME	O	N	12	0	The corrector (converter) volume calculated for the relevant gas day (in Cubic Metres or Cubic Feet)
VOLUME_UNITS	M	T	2	0	Indicator identifying the unit of measurement of the stated uncorrected / corrected volume. Allowable values: CM = Cubic Metres CF = Cubic Feet
			60		

Note 1:

- OPT - Optional, Mandatory
- DOM - Domain i.e. Text, Numeric, Date
- LNG – Number of characters
- DEC - Number of decimal places

Note 2:

All text fields **should not** be enclosed in “double quotes”

Example file:

```
METER_POINT_REFERENCE_NUMBER,LDZ_INDICATOR,METER_READ_DATE,METER_SERIAL_NUMBER,UNCORRECTED_VOLUME,CORRECTED_VOLUME,VOLUME_UNITS
12345678,SO,19072014,G67354,55,56,CM
567891234,WM,19072014,H12345,25,,CF
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