

NDM Demand Estimation Methodology

Document Control

Version	Date	Reason for Change
Draft version 1	19 April 2013	Initial draft to support UNC Modification discussion
Draft version 2	14 May 2013	Further draft to support initial Legal Text discussions
Draft version 3	31 July 2013	Updated draft to align with draft Legal Text for Modification 0453.
Draft version 4	25 September 2013	Updated draft to align with revised Legal Text for Modification 0453, following Workgroup walkthrough on 16 September 2013
Draft version 5	09 May 2014	Incorporate standard clauses relating to UNC Section V; align with final Legal Text for Modification 0432 – this version agreed at 30 July 2014 Demand Estimation Sub-Committee
Draft version 6	18 August 2014	Correct minor errors – this version presented at Project Nexus UNC Workgroup September 2014.
Version 1.0	26 October 2015	For consideration at UNCC
Version 1.0	08 January 2016	Approved at 19 November 2015 UNCC
Version 1.1	08 June 2018	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For consideration at Workgroup 0644; 2. Approved by DESC Members.
Version 1.2	30 July 2018	For consideration by DESC Members Amendment to one of the values (for LDZ SW) in table in 3.4.4
Version 1.2	09 August 2018	Approved on 09 August 2018 by DESC Members
Version 1.3	10 October 2018	For consideration by DESC Members Amendment to para 3.2.1 to allow additional weather variables to be used in the derivation of Demand Models and CWV
Version 1.3	08 November 2018	Approved on 08 November 2018 by DESC Members
Version 1.4	01 April 2019	DAF Uplift Factors to be used in Gas Year 2019/20 approved by DESC Members on 01 April 2019

Development of Rules

- (a) The requirement to publish the NDM Demand Estimation Methodology is specified in Section H1.13.1 of the Transportation Principal Document (TPD) of the Uniform Network Code (UNC).

Section H1.13.1 states “The NDM Demand Estimation Methodology is the methodology published by the Transporters following approval of the Committee setting out the matters in 1.13.3”

Section H1.13.3 states “The NDM Demand Estimation Methodology shall set out:

- the basis on which the values (for an End User Category, LDZ and Day) of Annual Load Profile and Daily Adjustment Factor are to be determined by reference to the applicable Demand Model;
- the basis on which the value (for a LDZ and Day) of the Weather Correction Factor is to be determined;
- the basis on which the peak load factor (for an End User Category, LDZ and Gas Year) is to be determined by reference to the applicable Demand Model;
- the types of weather data to be obtained (as provided in paragraph H1.4.9) by the Transporters; and
- the basis on which weather data estimated or recorded at different times of the Day is to be used in determining the value of the Composite Weather Variable.”

- (b) It will be noted that TPD Section H1.13.2 states “The NDM Demand Estimation Methodology is a UNC Related Document and a reference to the NDM Demand Estimation Methodology is to such document as from time to time in force.”

- (c) The Rules set out below meet the Transporters’ obligation to publish a Methodology, while the Document Control Section records changes which have been made to the Methodology. The document is published on the Joint Office of Gas Transporters’ website, www.gasgovernance.co.uk.

- (d) This Methodology can only be modified in accordance with the requirements set out in paragraph 12.3 and 12.4 of Section V of the TPD. However it will be noted that the UNC states “1.13.4 For the purposes of Section V12.3 and V12.4, in relation to the NDM Demand Estimation Methodology, references to the Uniform Network Code Committee shall be construed as references to the Demand Estimation Sub-Committee”. This means that all decisions which would otherwise be made by the Uniform Network Code Committee (UNCC) will be performed by Demand Estimation Sub-Committee (DESC).

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1. Document Purpose

- 1.1. This document describes the methodology which supports the estimation of NDM Daily Demand for use in the following UNC processes:
 - NDM Output Nominations - before the gas day
 - NDM Daily Quantities - after the gas day
 - Determination of NDM Supply Meter Point Peak Load (SOQ)
- 1.2. The Methodology reproduces and explains certain terms used in the Uniform Network Code (UNC). For the avoidance of doubt, in the event of any conflict between this Methodology and the UNC, for example as a result of modification of the UNC, the UNC takes precedence over this Methodology.
- 1.3. This methodology is intended to take effect in conjunction with the implementation of the UNC Modifications which support the Replacement of the UKLink Suite of systems, specifically UNC Modification 0432 – “Project Nexus – Gas Demand Estimation, Allocation, Settlement and Reconciliation reform”.

2. Supply Meter Point Demand Formula

- 2.1. The formula for determining NDM Supply Meter Point Demand ('SPD') for a Day (Day 't') is set out in UNC H2.2.1 and is reproduced here for ease of reference only:

$$SPD_t = ((AQ/365) \times ALP_t \times (1 + (DAF_t \times WCF_t)))$$

2.2. Weather Correction factor formula:

$$WCF_t = CWV_t - SNCWV_t$$

where

CWV_t is Composite Weather Variable for the LDZ for the day (as described in 3.3 below); and

SNCWV_t is the Seasonal Normal value of the Composite Weather Variable the LDZ for the day

3. Determination of Demand Estimation Parameters

3.1. Development of a Demand Model

- 3.1.1. A Demand Model will be developed for each End User Category (EUC) based on a statistical relationship between:
 - a) aggregate Demand for a sample of NDM Meter points for one or more years; and

- b) actual weather data for the LDZ, as expressed in the form of the Composite Weather Variable for the period to which the demand relates; and
 - c) other relevant factors, including day of the week
- 3.1.2. DESC will determine (and from time to time may review) the key elements of the business rules around the development of the Demand Model, including:
- a) The number of years of data to be used in developing the Demand Model
 - b) The target size of the NDM Sample, by LDZ and End User Category

3.2. Relevant Weather Data

- 3.2.1. The weather data items which are available for use in the development of the Demand Models are:
- a) Temperature, at intervals throughout the day and night
 - b) Wind speed, at intervals throughout the day and night
 - c) Precipitation, at intervals throughout the day and night
 - d) Solar Radiation, at intervals throughout the day and night
- 3.2.2. DESC will determine (and from time to time may review) the list of weather data items used in the development of the Demand Model and the frequency at which they are required.

3.3. Definition of the Composite Weather Variable

- 3.3.1. The Composite Weather Variable is a single measure of weather in an LDZ for a day, which uses the weather data items defined in 3.2 above.
- 3.3.2. The objective of the CWV definition is to describe a straight line (linear) relationship between daily NDM Demand in the LDZ and the CWV.
- 3.3.3. This is achieved by the application of a number of constants and of variable parameters, such as summer cut-offs and cold weather up-turns.
- 3.3.4. DESC will determine (and from time to time may review) the process for developing the definitions of the parameter values of the Composite Weather Variable.

3.4. Annual Load Profile

- 3.4.1. The Annual Load Profile (“ALP”) for an End User Category for a Day is a factor representing the Seasonal Normal Demand of the End User Category for that Day as a proportion of the average Seasonal Normal Demand (for all Days of the Gas Year) of the End User Category.
- 3.4.2. The Annual Load Profile ('ALP_t') for an End User Category for Day t shall be determined as:

$$ALP_t = \frac{SNDE_t}{\left(\frac{\sum_{t=1}^N SNDE_t}{N} \right)}$$

where:

SNDE_t is seasonal normal demand for the End User Category for Day t

N is the number of Days in the Gas Year.

- 3.4.3. Seasonal Normal demand for a day will be determined by applying the averaged results of the regression analysis (constant and slope) from the Demand Model for the EUC to the seasonal normal values of the Composite Weather Variable applicable to the day of the Gas Year and LDZ in question, combined with any other relevant adjustments (e.g. day of week, holiday factors, summer reductions).
- 3.4.4. For Gas Year 2018/19 only, the daily values of the ALPs for EUC01 only (AQ range 0 – 73,200 kWh, including any new EUCs for Domestic, I&C and Prepayment meters) as calculated by the Demand Estimation process, and as approved by DESC, will be multiplied by the following factors for use in the formula for daily Gas Nominations and Allocations (UNC H2.2.1). For the purpose of these factors, “winter” refers to the months of October to March inclusive and “summer” refers to the months of April to September inclusive.

LDZ	Winter	Summer
EA	1.07	1.08
EM	1.05	1.03
NE	1.08	1.05
NO	1.05	1.05

NT	1.02	1.01
NW	1.08	1.06
SC	1.04	1.04
SE	1.01	1.00
SO	1.05	1.04
SW	1.03	1.02
WM	1.04	1.04
WN	1.09	1.07
WS	1.04	1.03

These factors will **not** be applied to the ALPs as used in the formula for the derivation of Annual Quantities (UNC H3.2.1).

3.5. Daily Adjustment Factor

- 3.5.1. The "Daily Adjustment Factor" for an End User Category for a Day is a factor representing the weather sensitivity of demand in that End User Category on that Day.
- 3.5.2. The Daily Adjustment Factor ('DAF_t') for an End User Category for a Day shall be determined as:

$$DAF = WVCE_t / SNDE_t$$

where for Day t:

WVCE_t is the value of the Weather Variable Coefficient in the Demand Model for the End User Category (i.e. the sensitivity to weather);

SNDE_t is the value of seasonal normal demand for the End User Category.

- 3.5.3 For Gas Year 2018/19 and 2019/20 only, the daily values of the DAFs for all EUCs (all AQ ranges, including any new EUCs for Domestic, I&C and Prepayment meters) as calculated by the Demand Estimation process, and as approved by DESC, will be multiplied by the following factors for use in the formula for daily Gas Nominations and Allocations (UNC H2.2.1).

LDZ	Factor
EA	1.04
EM	1.06
NE	1.09
NO	1.09
NT	1.04
NW	1.00
SC	1.09
SE	1.07
SO	1.07
SW	1.08
WM	1.02
WN	1.00
WS	1.05

These factors will **not** be applied to the DAFs as used in the formula for the derivation of Annual Quantities (UNC H3.2.1).

3.6. EUC Peak Load Factor

3.6.1. The Peak Load Factor (PLF) for an EUC is used to determine the Peak Load (i.e. the SOQ) of a Supply Point, using the formula

$$\text{Peak Load} = \text{AQ}/(\text{PLF} * 365)$$

3.6.2. The Peak Load Factor is calculated as:

$$\text{PLF} = \text{average demand}/1\text{-in-20 peak day demand}$$

3.6.3. Peak Day Demand is an estimate of the 95% confidence level of highest demand that might be expected to be experienced for an End User category.

3.6.4. Peak Day Demand will be determined by simulation using a long period of actual historic CWV data for the relevant LDZ.

3.6.5. DESC will determine (and from time to time may review) the number of years of historic data used in the simulation of Peak Day Demand and the method of simulation.

3.7. Weather Correction Constraint

- 3.7.1. Without the application of a “constraint” i.e. a minimum value for the outcome of the clause $(1 + (DAF_t \times WCF_t))$ it would be possible for the overall formula for Supply Point Demand to return a negative value, where weather is significantly warmer than seasonal normal.
- 3.7.2. DESC will agree (and may from time to time review) a minimum value for the weather correction clause, to prevent the calculation of negative demand estimates.

4. Overview of the Annual Process for Determining the NDM Algorithms

- 4.1. Each gas year the approach to the development of the following year’s NDM Algorithms (ALPs, DAFs, Load Factors) is agreed with DESC and documented in the **Spring Approach** document. This agreement normally takes place in around February each year for the following Gas Year. The Spring Approach is usually presented at the February meeting of DESC and will typically cover matters such as:
 - a) Which years and months of sample data will be used in the regression analysis
 - b) Detailed rules to be applied to the regression analysis and the treatment of exceptions
 - c) Agreed days to which holiday codes will apply (i.e. which days in the sample datasets will be treated as holidays for the purposes of determining typical holiday effects and to which days in the coming year will those holiday effects be applied)
 - d) How smoothing will be applied to the models for the coming gas year
 - e) Key checkpoints in the process and how and when DESC and/or any sub-group of DESC members will be involved in the decision-making process
- 4.2. The outcomes of the annual process are summarised each year in the **NDM Algorithms booklet**, which is usually published at the same time as the proposed algorithm values. The booklet includes a number of appendices and typically summarises key decisions and outcomes, such as:
 - a) Numbers of validated data points used in the demand modelling
 - b) EUC definitions
 - c) Data aggregations used in the modelling (e.g. where data has been aggregated across multiple LDZs and/or consumption bands)
 - d) WAR Band boundaries to be applied for the coming year

- e) Outcomes of the modelling, including regressions parameters and load factors
- f) A review of the performance of the NDM algorithm during the previous full gas year.