

## UNC Demand Estimation Sub-Committee (DESC) Minutes

Wednesday 31 January 2024

Radcliffe House, Blenheim Court, Warwick Road Solihull B91 2AA and  
via Microsoft Teams

### Attendees

Helen Cuin (Chair)*	(HC)	Joint Office
Niamh Holden (Secretary)*	(HK)	Joint Office

### Shipper Members (Voting)

Bhavesh Tailor	(BT)	E.ON
Cosmin Popovici	(CP)	Total Energies Gas & Power Ltd
Mark Linke	(ML)	Centrica
Tom Parker	(TP)	Brook Green Energy
Prashant Verma	(PV)	SSE (Alternate)

### Transporter Members (Voting)

Murugan Babumohanan	(MB)	National Gas Transmission (NGT)
Gregory Hill	(GH)	Wales & West Utilities (WWU Alternate)
Paul O'Toole	(POT)	Northern Gas Networks (NGN)
Rosie Cox	(RC)	Cadent Gas (Alternate)

### Observers (Non-Voting)

Aidan Lo*	(AL)	Joint Office
Catarina Casteleiro	(CC)	Shell Energy
Jamie Fleming	(JFI)	Scottish Power
Mark Perry	(MP)	Representative of Xoserve
Michael Maguire	(MM)	Representative of Xoserve
Pascal Tchen	(PT)	AMP Clean Energy
Penny Griffiths	(PG)	Representative of Xoserve
Sarah Palmer	(SP)	E.ON
Vasileiou Topouzoglou	(VT)	EDF Energy

\*at Radcliffe House, Solihull

DESC meetings will be quorate where there are at least four Voting Members or their alternates, of which at least two shall be Users and two Transporters are in attendance.

Please note these minutes do not replicate/include detailed content provided within the presentation slides, therefore it is recommended that the published presentation material is reviewed in conjunction with these minutes. Copies of papers are available at: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/desc/310124>

## 1. Introduction and Status Review

Helen Cuin (HC) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 1.1. Apologies for Absence

Katherine Uzzell, Shipper Representative  
Neil Stovold, Transporter Representative  
Sanjeev Loi, Transporter Representative

### 1.2. Note of Alternates

Prashant Verma for Katherine Uzzell  
Gregory Hill for Neil Stovold

Rosie Cox for Sanjeev Loi

### 1.3. Quoracy Status

The meeting was confirmed as being quorate.

### 1.4. Approval of Minutes (19 December 2023)

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

### 1.5. Approval of Late Papers

The Committee reviewed and approved the late papers concerning Seasonal Normal Review.

### 1.6. Review of Outstanding Actions

None.

## 2. Seasonal Normal Review Update

Mark Perry (MP) provided the Committee with an update on the Seasonal Normal Review, in which he discussed the background of DESC's obligations within the UNC, highlighting the Committee's obligation to review the formula for both the Composite Weather Variable (CWV) and the Seasonal Normal Equivalent (SNCWV). MP explained that every 5 years, these two key parameters are reviewed, and a discussion is had on whether change is needed, MP noted that the current variables are due to expire this year.

MP then took the Committee through the Seasonal Normal Review cycle, a high-level timeline, and their objectives for the meeting.

Michael Maguire (MM) reminded the Committee of the current CWV values, shared the published draft '[Approach to review of CWV formula](#)' document and took the Committee through the following subsections:

- Background
- Definition of CWV
- Scope of Review
- Outline of Approach
- Source Data
- Demand History
- Approach

MM provided an overview of the Indicative Timeline and noted that they were not looking for approval today as this would be the final step but would appreciate any feedback from the Committee.

The Committee concluded that should a Committee Member have feedback; this should be provided to Xoserve by 09 February. If no feedback is received, the document will be considered as approved.

**New Action 0101:** DESC Members to provide Xoserve with any feedback regarding the Approach to Review of CWV by 09 February. If no feedback is received, the Approach is to be considered approved.

Sarah Palmer (SP) queried whether there had been an update on the methodology surrounding Mondays and their effect. MM advised that this work was ongoing.

Penny Griffiths (PG) advised that a detailed update would be provided within the next DESC meeting, but the effect does not seem to be significant.

MM provided an update on Climate Change Methodology (CCM), noting that the Met Office is currently on track to deliver a refreshed CCM by the end of quarter Q2 2024.

MM provided the Committee with the next steps on the Seasonal Normal update timeline.

Please see the [published slides](#), for more information.

### 3. Any Other Business

MP provided a brief update on the changes relating to the transition to a weather data API required to support the calculation of the Composite Weather Variable. MP confirmed these changes were successfully implemented over the weekend of 19-22 January. MP confirmed full details will be provided in March, within the Adhoc Workplan update.

MP also advised that the Xoserve Customer Engagement Annual Survey will be launched shortly with questions aligned with the ICS customer satisfaction index. MP informed the Committee that invites to provide feedback will be issued, noting that a £5 donation to charity will be made for every completed survey.

### 4. Communication of Key Messages

Key Message Communication to be provided.

### 5. Diary Planning

DESC meetings are listed at: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/DESC>

All other Joint Office events are available via: [www.gasgovernance.co.uk/events-calendar/month](http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/events-calendar/month)

Time / Date	Paper Publication Deadline	Venue	Workgroup Programme
10:00 Wednesday 06 March 2024	5 pm Tuesday 27 February 2024	Radcliffe House, Warwick Road Solihull, B91 2AA & Microsoft Teams	Adhoc Workplan Update
10:00 Wednesday 24 April 2024	5 pm Tuesday 17 April 2024	Radcliffe House, Warwick Road Solihull, B91 2AA & Microsoft Teams	TBC
10:00 Wednesday 22 May 2024	5 pm Tuesday 14 May 2024	Radcliffe House, Warwick Road Solihull, B91 2AA & Microsoft Teams	TBC
10:00 Wednesday 03 July 2024	5 pm Tuesday 25 June 2024	Radcliffe House, Warwick Road Solihull, B91 2AA & Microsoft Teams	TBC
10:00 Wednesday 24 July 2024	5 pm Tuesday 16 July 2024	Radcliffe House, Warwick Road Solihull, B91 2AA & Microsoft Teams	TBC
10:00 Wednesday 09 October 2024	5 pm Tuesday 01 October 2024	Radcliffe House, Warwick Road Solihull, B91 2AA & Microsoft Teams	TBC
10:00 Wednesday 11 December 2024	5 pm Tuesday 03 December 2024	Radcliffe House, Warwick Road Solihull, B91 2AA & Microsoft Teams	TBC

<b>DESC Action Table</b>						
<b>Action Ref</b>	<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Minute Ref</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Reporting Month</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Status Update</b>
<b>0101</b>	31/01/24	2.0	DESC Members to provide Xoserve with any feedback regarding the Approach to Review of CWV by 09 February. If no feedback is received, the Approach is to be considered approved.	February 2024	All Members	<b>Pending</b>