

**UNC Request Workgroup 0777 Minutes  
Removal of Obstacles to Market Withdrawal  
Tuesday 07 September 2021  
via Microsoft Teams**

**Attendees**

Eric Fowler (Chair)	(EF)	Joint Office
Helen Cuin (Secretary)	(HCu)	Joint Office
Adam Bates	(AB)	South Hook
Alex Nield	(AN)	Storengy
Amber Talbot	(AT)	Storengy
Andrew Blair	(ABI)	Interconnector
Anna Shrigley	(ASh)	Eni
Anna Stankiewicz	(AS)	National Grid
Ashley Adams	(AA)	National Grid
Ben Hanley	(BH)	NGN
Bethan Winter	(BW)	Wales & West Utilities
Carlos Aguirre	(CA)	Pavilion
Chris Wright	(CW)	Exxon Mobil
Daniel Hisgett	(DH)	National Grid
David Mitchell	(DM)	SGN
Davide Rubini	(DR)	Vitol
Hannah Reddy	(HR)	Corella
Henk Kreuze	(HK)	Vermillion
Ian Laing	(IL)	Wood Plc
Jeff Chandler	(JCh)	SSE
Jennifer Randall	(JR)	National Grid
Joseph Leyon	(JL)	SGN
Julie Cox	(JCx)	Energy UK
Lauren Jauss	(LJ)	RWE
Malcolm Montgomery	(MM)	National Grid
Max Lambert	(ML)	Ofgem
Nick Wye	(NW)	Waters Wye Associates
Nik Cole	(NC)	Shell
Pavanjit Dhesi	(PD)	Interconnector
Phil Hobbins	(PH)	National Grid
Phil Lucas	(PL)	National Grid
Rachel Hinsley	(RHl)	National Grid
Richard Fairholme	(RF)	Uniper
Richard Hewitt	(RH)	Hewitt Home and Energy Solutions
Samual Dunn	(SM)	Interconnector
Samuele Repetto	(SR)	EDF Trading
Sarah Cooper	(SC)	Interconnector
Shiv Singh	(SS)	Cadent
Sinead Obeng	(SO)	Gazprom

Steven Britton (SB) Cornwall Insight  
Tracey Saunders (TS) Northern Gas Networks

Copies of all papers are available at: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0705/070921>

The Workgroup Report is due to be presented at the UNC Modification Panel by 18 November 2021.

## **1.0 Outline of Modification**

Nick Wye (NW) introduced the Modification and explained it had been raised to enable Users to transfer both the Capacity and associated financial liability at an Aggregate System Entry Point (ASEP) when wishing to voluntarily withdraw as a User to the UNC. NW clarified that the Modification had been raised due to differing interpretations of the capacity obligations regarding capacity transfers under UNC TPD Section B following a Voluntary Discontinuance.

NW acknowledged a request from Panel to consider the consequential impacts and any potential interactions with Modification 0779 - Introduction of Entry Capacity Assignments.

NW explained that the Proposer's view was that UNC GT B6 describes the assignment of rights and obligations from one User to another and this is separate to the transfer of capacity as described in UNC TPD Section B5. As such GT B6 allows for the full of assignment of all rights and obligations, including those pertaining to the "ownership" of capacity.

Based on National Grid's initial interpretation the assignee would be subject to prevailing capacity prices and Revenue Recovery Charges and would obstruct a User's ability to withdraw from the UNC.

The Proposer believes that UNC GT B6 means that where Existing Contracted Capacity is the subject of an assignment, post-assignment the rights associated with it are maintained.

NW explained that National Grid are considering the interpretation and whilst there was an impasse the Modification had been raised to add clarity to the UNC.

National Grid were asked if they had an update on their initial interpretation. National Grid were not in a position to provide an update at this stage.

NW explained it would be difficult to provide supporting analysis in support of the Modification as it would not be possible to predict the number of withdrawing Users and the volumes of assigned capacity.

It was noted that if National Grid confirms that the current rules would allow Users to transfer the capacity and the associated financial liabilities then the Modification would be withdrawn.

It was agreed to defer further discussion on the Modification to allow parties to consider the current provisions. Otherwise, NW believed this would be a simple Modification to add clarity and could be implemented independently to Modification 0779 as Modification 0777 was limited in scope to Voluntary Discontinuances.

## **2.0 Initial Discussion**

### **2.1. Issues and Questions from Panel**

See item 1.0 above.

### **2.2. Initial Representations**

None received.

### **2.3. Terms of Reference**

The standard UNC Workgroup Terms of Reference will apply and is available at [www.gasgovernance.co.uk/mods](http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/mods)

## **2. Next Steps**

EF confirmed that the Workgroup would re-consider the Modification at the next Workgroup meeting with a view to drafting a Workgroup Report and potentially concluding the report.

**3. Any Other Business**

None.

**4. Diary Planning**

Further details of planned meetings are available at: [www.gasgovernance.co.uk/events-calendar/month](http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/events-calendar/month)

<b>Time / Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Workgroup Programme</b>
10:00 Thursday 07 October 2021	Microsoft Teams	Development of Workgroup Report