

Extraordinary UNC Workgroup 0780S Minutes
Amendment to Gas Quality NTS Entry Specification at the St Fergus
SAGE System Entry Point
Friday 01 October 2021
via Microsoft Teams

Attendees

Eric Fowler (Chair)	(EF)	Joint Office
Mike Berrisford (Secretary)	(MB)	Joint Office
Alex Nield	(AN)	Storengy
Anna Shrigley	(ASh)	Eni
Anna Stankiewicz	(AS)	National Grid
Carlos Aguirre	(CA)	Pavilion
Chris Wright	(CW)	ExxonMobil
Christiane Sykes	(CS)	Shell
Ian Laing	(IL)	Wood Plc
Jeff Chandler	(JCh)	SSE
Jennifer Randall	(JR)	National Grid
John Costa	(JCo)	EDF Energy
Lauren Jauss	(LJ)	RWE
Max Lambert	(ML)	Ofgem
Nick Wye	(NW)	Waters Wye Associates
Phil Hobbins	(PH)	National Grid
Rachel Hinsley	(RHi)	National Grid
Richard Fairholme	(RF)	Uniper
Richard Selman	(RS)	Ancala
Sinead Obeng	(SO)	Gazprom
Steven Britton	(SB)	Cornwall Insight

Copies of all papers are available at: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0780/011021>

1. Introduction and Status Review

Eric Fowler (EF) welcomed all parties to the meeting and explained that in light of the sad passing of the Proposer, Eric Marston today's meeting would take the form of a 'light touch' meeting only, as both a mark of respect to Eric and in recognition that his Ancala colleagues are currently being brought up to speed on the subject matter.

1.1. Approval of minutes (07 September 2021)

In noting the post meeting change to outstanding action 0902, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

1.2. Approval of Late Papers

None to consider.

1.3. Review of Outstanding Actions

Action 0901: SAGE (~~EM~~[AF/RS](#)) to provide a Carbon Benefit Analysis.

Update: When asked, Workgroup participants in attendance agreed to defer consideration of the action until such a time as Ancala personnel have had time to consider the matter and get up to speed on requirements with the support of National Grid

and the Joint Office. **Carried Forward**

Action 0902: SAGE (EMAF/RS) to consider introducing Safeguards to the Modification to review CO₂ NEA level on an annual basis based on actual use and projected use.

Update: When asked, Workgroup participants in attendance agreed to defer consideration of the action until such a time as Ancala personnel have had time to consider the matter and get up to speed on requirements with the support of National Grid and the Joint Office. **Carried Forward**

2. Modification Assessment

In introducing himself as the Engineering Manager at Ancala, Richard Selman (RS) explained that Ancala are currently undertaking an internal review of the wider situation and that work also remains ongoing on the Carbon Benefit Analysis which he hopes would be available in time for consideration at the 04 November 2021 Workgroup meeting. In short, the main factors are:

- Unit removes the equivalent of 1000 tonnes of CO₂ per annum;
- Yearly CO₂ increase of circa 0.5% has been observed;
- 2.57 – 2.58% CO₂ difference;
- High running costs and startup energy consumption for the amine plant, and
- Demand is small and intermittent in nature.

EF suggested that the ability to decommission the larger heat plant could potentially lead to benefits around utilisation of greener energy, as per COP26.

When asked whether Self-Governance remains the most appropriate route for the Modification to follow, especially in light of the concerns relating to equal access aspects, EF advised that he expects that the Workgroup would consider the status of the Modification as part of their deliberations and development of the (draft) Workgroup Report in due course.

EF went on to also suggest that the 'target' Workgroup Panel reporting date of December 2021 could be tight.

3. Review of Impacts and Costs

Specific consideration deferred.

4. Consideration of Wider Industry Impacts

In providing a brief overview of the National Grid presentation provided at the 07 September 2021 Workgroup meeting, R Hinsley (RHi) reminded parties that at that meeting they had been requested to consider the content ahead of this meeting.

During the course of the presentation, the following key points were noted (by exception):

- *Penetration of Gas onto the NTS (2)*, slide 7;
 - The information provided reflects the 'worst case' scenario;
 - As far as the percentage flow at each beach terminal is concerned, the difference in modelling between 'high' and 'low' demand is not clear as the modelling utilised is more simplistic in nature;
- *Penetration of Gas onto the NTS (3)*, slide 8;
 - Based on what has flowed (i.e. as-is) data;
- *Penetration of Gas onto the NTS (4)*, slide 9;
 - As far as the projected maximum inert gas content is concerned, the Modification stipulates a maximum of 7% in order to protect plant and equipment;
 - In the case of the Modification it is the Wobbe index, rather than GS(M)R requirements that establish the percentage requirements;

- Relaxation of the St Fergus CO₂ limit should not restrict injection elsewhere on the NTS;
 - St Fergus operates just below the ballasting limit line;
 - The (draft) Workgroup Report ‘*Consumer Impacts*’ section will be updated to reflect the position in due course (i.e. variation sensitivities in line gas etc.);
- Feedstock aspects have not been considered at this time and any parties experiencing issues are advised to contact National Grid direct to resolve;
- Parties believe that there is value in adopting a more open approach (i.e. around point specific qualities of gas etc.) and take potential consumer impacts into account;
- Whilst CO₂ concentration related impacts look relatively small, National Grid remain committed to undertaking ‘due diligence’ on their compressor operations modelling (NO_x and CO₂ concentrations etc.);
 - National Grid investigations are ongoing;
 - National Grid does not envisage any issues so long as the 7% limit is not breached;
- It was noted that the information provided highlights that these are expected to be short duration (exceptional) instances of higher CO₂ that are posing the problems. PH did point out that the market can change (i.e. gas prospecting etc.) and that once allowed the higher limits might be utilised routinely;

In concluding the discussion, EF reminded parties to examine the previous (closely related) *UNC Modification 0607 ‘Amendment to Gas Quality NTS Entry Specification at the St Fergus NSMP System Entry Point’* for a pointer to this Modification, especially the objective test requirements beyond a given date (as per 0607) and how best to avoid a first come, first served based solution.

5. Development of Workgroup Report

EF explained that whilst a (draft) Workgroup Report has been prepared ahead of the meeting, it would be prudent to await the provision of an amended Modification (in light of the above discussions) before looking to develop the document further.

6. Next Steps

Ancala (AF and RS) along with National Grid (RH) to consider whether to amend the Modification and provide an update at the 04 November 2021 Workgroup meeting.

7. Any Other Business

None.

8. Diary Planning

Further details of planned meetings are available at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/events-calendar/month

Time / Date	Venue	Workgroup Programme
10:00 Thursday 04 November 2021	Microsoft Teams	Standard Workgroup Agenda
10:00 Thursday 02 December 2021	Microsoft Teams	Standard Workgroup Agenda

Action Table (as at 01 October 2021)

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
0901	07/09/21	1.0	SAGE (AF/RS) to provide a Carbon benefit Analysis	SAGE (EM AF/RS)	Carried Forward Update due at 04/11/21 meeting
0902	07/09/21	1.0	SAGE (AF/RS) to consider introducing Safeguards to the Modification to review CO ₂ NEA level on an annual basis based on actual use and projected use.	SAGE (EM AF/RS)	Carried Forward Update due at 04/11/21 meeting