

Minutes of iGT 038 Review Group

7 November 2011

Present

Danielle Fynney	E.ON Energy	Part
Sham Afonja	RWE npower	
Anne Jackson	SSE	
Dan Simons	EDF Energy	
Cher Harris	SSE Pipelines	
Lisa Wong	ESP	
David Speake	ESP	Chair
Colette Baldwin	E.ON Energy	
Catherine Wheeler	Ofgem	
Jenny Rawlinson	GTC	Teleconf
Mark Jones	SSE	Teleconf
Dave Bowles	Fulcrum	Teleconf
Trevor Peacock	Fulcrum	Teleconf
Elaine Carr	Scottish Power	Teleconf
Gethyn Howard	IPL	Teleconf

2. Review original modification

The group clarified that the intent of the modification is to develop a rolling AQ mechanism for implementation as soon as possible, rather than aligning timescales with a potential Project Nexus implementation of this requirement. In other words, the iGT development of this functionality is not to be dependent on progress elsewhere in the industry.

Members were happy that the intent of the modification was clear: to calculate an AQ each time a read is successfully processed by the iGT, and to provide the updated AQ values for the supply point to the shipper.

3 Review Terms of Reference

No changes were made to the Terms of Reference.

4 Review of previous and ongoing work in this area – UNC209; UNC380; Project Nexus UNC work

DS updated the group on developments elsewhere, notably the development of UNC 380 and further (interim Project Nexus requirements). UNC 380 has been developed and provided to Project Nexus as a business requirement. It will now be subject to cost benefit analysis and detailed specification when the time comes. It was agreed that the group needs to study the work carried out under UNC 380 to understand the business requirements. **DS to circulate relevant material before next meeting.**

Some shippers have stated that they would like to see changes in this area in advance of Project Nexus implementation, and so xoserve proposed a number of interim 'compromises' which could bring about a similar effect as a rolling AQ regime. These alternative approaches included an extension of the current LSP appeals process; and also running AQ review twice a year instead of once.

(Note that xoserve do not support progressing any of these alternative scenarios, as they believe doing so will simply delay the implementation of the full UNC 380 solution.)

Group members agreed that iGTs would not be pursuing any of these alternatives as part of the 038 development work since it should be possible to implement the ideal solution reasonably quickly. iGTs are not subject to the systems constraints that would prevent xoserve from doing the same, and are likely to have different processing timescales as a result.

5 Role of this workgroup in the context of the wider industry change

It was noted that large scale changes are underway which would need to be monitored to ensure that any change made to iGT UNC had an appropriate shelf life.

Note the previous agreement that this iGT UNC work is not dependent on the progress of mod 380.

Some related work was undertaken earlier in 2011 to understand the current AQ review process and clarify ambiguous areas by rewriting the guidance document (iGT UNC ancillary document). It was agreed that this work should be revisited in order to agree whether and how to streamline any AQ review changes that will be made. **DS to circulate current redraft of the guidance document.**

6 Development of workplan and timetable

The following AQ review process structure was identified:

		Comments
Inputs	Valid meter reading	This process may highlight any remaining weaknesses in read submission and processing.
	WAALP data	It is assumed that for the same calculation to run, this data will be required. There is a need to investigate how iGTs get hold of this data, and any impacts on xoserve
Process	AQ calculation	Do all date ranges and tolerances remain the same?
Outputs	Notification of revised AQ	File format needs to be developed
	Reporting and updates to xoserve	Will this be more regular? Are current file formats appropriate?
	Reporting	Is there still a requirement for periodic reporting? Frequency?
	Update to NExA values	Process already discussed under previous review – any change to this?

Other impacts

1. The group questioned the need for challenges in a rolling AQ process. For further discussion
2. The current iGT UNC rules around the frequency with which iGTs must accept reads may need revising.
3. What is the impact on threshold crossers? In the future it may not matter if a supply point 'yo-yos' between SSP and LSP but currently this would mean the continual creation and shutting down of LMNs for the purposes of xoserve reconciliation reporting.
4. What will be the impact on % change thresholds?

The following timescale was suggested. AQ review 2012 takes place as normal, for the last time. Following October 2012, there is a 'quiet' period where no AQ review activity takes place, during which the transition to rolling AQ could happen. (February 2013 iGT UNC release?) This would require a mod to be raised to iGT UNC by spring 2012 (no exact date confirmed).

7 Future Meeting Dates

The next meeting is confirmed for December 15th 2011, venue to be advised (London).

8 AOB

None.