

iGT UNC Modification Workstream Meeting 17-01

Thursday 5th January 2017

Joint Office of Gas Transporters, Consort House, 6 Homer Road, Solihull, B91 3QQ

Attendee		Organisation	
Steve Ladle	(SL)	Gemserv	Chairman
Colette Baldwin*	(CB)	E-ON Energy	Items 1-8
Carl Whitehouse	(CW)	First Utility	
Maria Hesketh *	(MH)	Scottish Power	
Mark Jones	(MJ)	SSE	
Andrew Margan	(AM)	British Gas	
Mike Fensome	(MF)	RWE Npower	
Steven Britton*	(SB)	Cornwall Energy	Items 1-8
Paul Orsler	(PO)	Xoserve	
Dave Addison	(DA)	Xoserve	
Steve Mulinganie*	(SM)	Gazprom Ltd	Items 1-8
Naomi Nathaniel*	(NN)	Plus Shipping	Items 1-8
Richard Pomroy	(RP)	Wales & West Utilities	Items 1-8
Cher Harris*	(CH)	Indigo Pipelines	
Nicky Rozier*	(NR)	Brookfield Utilities	
John Cooper*	(JC)	Brookfield Utilities	
Jenny Rawlinson*	(JR)	Brookfield Utilities	Items 1-8
Katy Binch*	(KB)	ES Pipelines	
Kishan Nundloll*	(KN)	ES Pipelines	
Andy Casper	(AC)	National Grid Gas Distribution Ltd	
Phil Lucas*	(PL)	National Grid NTS	Items 1-8
Jon Dixon*	(JD)	Ofgem	Items 1-8
Bob Fletcher	(BF)	Joint Office	
Mike Berrisford	(MB)	Joint Office	Secretariat
Paul Roche*	(PR)	Gemserv	Secretariat
Rachel Bird	(RB)	Gemserv	Secretariat

**Attended via teleconference*

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting of the iGT UNC Modification Workstream. The Chair welcomed UNC members to the meeting and acknowledged that the meeting would be split into two sections, firstly considering Modifications for Nexus implementation, then continuing the iGT agenda for the remainder of the Workstream.

2. Confirmation of Agenda

The Chair confirmed the items for discussion as outlined in the final agenda. The Chair noted that there were several additional items of business, specifically with respect to the file formats of PSR's connected to iGT078 & iGT079, the RGMA guidance document and finally a new Modification proposal. The Chair agreed to address the items of business at the tail of the meeting.

3. Approval of the Previous Minutes

Attendees reviewed the minutes from the Modification Workstream meeting held on 6th December 2016 (16-12). There were additional comments received prior to the meeting which the Code Administrator had incorporated into the draft minutes. These included a small amendment to RG001. The minutes were agreed and approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. Outstanding Actions

Please refer to the table in Appendix 1 at the end of the minutes for updates on actions arising.

Action 16/12-01

RB updated the Group that a Final Modification Report had been prepared and submitted to the Panel on 21st December 2016. The Panel unanimously agreed to implement iGT090F with an implementation date of PNID. The Post Panel FMR was published on the iGT UNC website on 22nd December 2016.

Modification Work Groups

5. **iGT092 – Implementation of Non-Effective days for Project Nexus Implementation**
6. **iGT092A – With a minimum of two system business days**
7. **UNC0602 - Implementation of Non-Effective days and Variant Non-Business days for Project Nexus Implementation**
8. **0602A – With a minimum of two system business days**

<http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0602/050117>

The full discussion for Modification Workgroups 5-8 can be found on the Joint Office website by following the above link. Below is a summary of the Workgroup discussions.

The Workgroup discussed the benefits for both Modifications considering the alternates and their additional benefits. The Workgroup concluded that the original Modifications (iGT092 & UNC0602) offer the benefits of the least disruption to the 21 days switching obligations for Suppliers as these will be impacted on only 3 days across the implementation period. However, this may be a more technically involved system solution requiring industry participants to make additional changes to processes or systems to manage the changes to the objection window.

The Workgroup concluded that the Alternate Modifications (iGT092A & UNC0602A) offer the benefits of reducing the risk of erroneous transfers by maintaining a minimum of two days' objection window, akin to what they are currently used to. Hence, it also offers a more simplistic approach to implementation as there will be no need to amend systems to cater for the 1-day window. However, this will result in an increase in impacted days from 3 to 6 days where the Suppliers 21-day switching obligations cannot be achieved.

It was noted by the Workgroup that erroneous transfers can cause significant increases in workload and processing costs. It was suggested that it might take an average of around 6 weeks to correct an erroneous transfer back to the pre-transfer position.

It was noted by AM that should Shippers take systems offline the weekend ahead of 22nd May, this may create an additional backlog of files which need to be processed by central systems once systems go live. This was considered to be a programme issue, although DA confirmed that no additional non variant business days would be required to manage this risk.

MF noted that if suppliers do implement their changes on the weekend before the NEDs begin the extra objection day will allow suppliers to use existing automated objection processes to clear their objections before they implement their changes on the Friday and avoid manual management of objections on the Monday. This reduces the impact on Xoserve, as they will have less to process against what will be potentially in flight supply points on the Monday night before they shut down for the NEDs.

There was some discussion about how the two-day objection window would operate in practice if iGTs operated under their current code requirement to respond to a submitted confirmation within up to 48 hours. JR noted that if the maximum period allowed was used there may be very limited or no opportunity for the current shipper to object. CH commented that when Xoserve provided the block timetable it wasn't clear that this was not based on the full 48-hour processing timescales therefore it did not fully consider iGT processing. Whilst it is understood the majority of iGT domestic CoS processing is fully automated, this is not the case for all. With this in mind the alternate Modification may help in ensuring that there is at least a day during which current iGT shippers may receive the notice and respond with an objection if necessary. As such the Workgroup noted that it would be to the benefit to all parties if iGTs could ensure they responded to supply point transfer requests as soon as possible.

There were concerns raised that consumers may not be able to enjoy the full benefits of switching to a new tariff where 21 day switching obligations cannot be met. In the worst case this impact could be up to 3 days' loss of benefit for an individual consumer. This impact only arises for 092 on a maximum of three switching days, whereas 092A this impact would apply to 6 switching days. Previous analysis suggests this could impact 1,700 or 3,400 consumers (3 and 6 impacted days respectively). The alternate proposal results in customer switching taking longer than the prescribed 21 days on 6 occasions, which means there is a delay to customer of new tariff realisation, although the group felt the materiality of the customer impact is offset to a degree by the low volume of gas consumed during

the summer months and the wider customer benefits of facilitating a smooth transition to the new Nexus arrangements.

For the iGT modifications, the Workgroup agreed that the Workgroup Report could be finalised and submitted to the January Panel with a recommendation that it be sent out for industry consultation. To facilitate this a draft of the Workgroup Report would be distributed by the Code Administrator and parties were requested to send in any comments by 4pm on the following day (6th January 2017).

Action MWS17/01-01: Code Administrator to finalise the Workgroup report and circulate to all Workgroup attendees for comment by 4.00pm on 6th January 2017.

9. CSEP NExA Table release 2016

The Chair noted that the draft CSEP NExA table had been released and circulated in early December to all iGT members. The Chair invited the Workgroup to raise any issues with the table for discussion. The Workgroup were happy with the table and agreed that it was reflective of the data they were seeing in their individual businesses.

The Workgroup were happy for the document to be sent to the next Panel meeting on 18th January 2017 with a recommendation that this is approved and implemented in the June 2017 release of the iGT UNC.

The Chair reminded the Workgroup that the next NExA table review would not take place until 2018 due to the Implementation of Single Service Provision, and additionally that the timings for this review have been moved to commence the process in April following the implementation of iGT071S.

Action MWS17/01-02: Code Administrator to add the CSEP NExA Table results to the January Panel agenda for decision.

10. RG001 - FGO review implications for the iGT UNC

The Chair noted that the work plan for the FGO review had been circulated to the iGTs prior to the meeting working towards an implementation date on PNID. The Chair noted that Gethyn is to start drafting the legal text for iGT086 in January and that hopefully there will be a document to review at the February Workstream meeting. The Chair noted that this was still dependant on the UNC legal text progressing and that it is hoped that iGT086 is brought to a Workgroup at the March Workstream meeting.

11. RG002 – Code Governance Review 3 (CGR3) Changes

PR noted that the draft Self-Governance guidance document has now been published on the iGT UNC website, and circulated to iGTs for discussion. PR noted that the document published is in line with the UNC's version with some specific reference to the iGTs. The Workgroup were happy with the document and decided that this should be passed to the Panel for a decision at their January meeting.

PR noted that this document is the last element to be decided on in this review group and PR suggested that if this document is passed by the Panel the review group should be considered finalised and closed.

Action MWS17/01-03: Code Administrator to add the Self-Governance Guidance document to the January Panel agenda for decision.

12. iGT093F Amendments to the CSEP NExA Table (Fast Track)

The Chair noted that this Modification is currently out for Consultation and will close on 9th January 2017. This will then be taken to the January Panel for an Implementation decision. RB noted that there has been no comment received for this Consultation to date.

13. iGT UNC Known issues register

RB noted that the Known issues register has been fully updated following the action from the last Workstream meeting, however, there are no new issues to add.

14. AOB

New Modification Proposal

PO informed the Workgroup that a new Modification proposal is currently being drafted after investigations into iGT data revealed that there are over 3000 iGT supply points without a recorded reading within the last 3 years or more. It is essential when supplying the data for the new system to have at least one read within the last 3 years in order to set the starting point for the new AQ calculation processes. The purpose of the Modification is to authorise Xoserve to calculate one on behalf of the iGTS such a read with a date as of the 1st April 2014.

Also, under the current Code guidance, an initial read should not be used if it has been submitted more than 25 days after the date that the read was taken. PO noted that there had been previous discussions with the iGTs with regards to relaxing the rules around supply point readings if it was agreed that this would be a one-off exercise and carried out in a clearly defined period. PO suggested that there be a joined up approach between shippers, suppliers and iGTs to retrieve and process this missing information to mitigate the amount of estimates that will be needed to be generated.

DA outlined the timescale which have already been carried out in the UNC with GTs. DA noted that the window given for data collection was four weeks. Xoserve then carried out a data validation which lasted a further four weeks, as near to a million supply points were received. PO noted to the Workgroup that the very final deadline for the missing data to be submitted and processed by Xoserve would be PNID-8.

The Chair suggested that the iGTs put forward a timetable for this exercise and suggested that Xoserve send out a list of MPRNs to the relevant parties.

KB enquired whether the additional processing of this late data would have the potential to delay the loading of iGT data for Project Nexus on the next IDR. DA could not give a definitive answer to this question and will go back to the project team to ask the question.

It was suggested that these files would not need to be separated for processing and could still be sent via a .CSV file format. KB suggested that there be a March deadline proposed for this project.

The Chair concluded that the iGTs propose March as a deadline for all missing read data to be submitted to Xoserve for Validation. SL concluded that PO draft a letter alongside BU-UK who are the Proposers of the new Modification, to be sent out to all Shipper Data Management Group (DMG) Representatives.

Action MWS17/01-04: DA to speak with Project team to find out if additional processing of missing data would delay the loading of iGT data for Project Nexus.

Action MWS17/01-05: PO and NR to draft a letter to all iGTs requesting their cooperation in a data gathering exercise for supply points with an insufficient meter reading history for Project Nexus.

Action MSW17/01-06: PO and NR to redraft the Modification proposal and submit it to the Code Administrator for circulation.

PS1/PS2 File format error

The Chair noted that an email had been received from AM regarding a problem found during testing of British Gas' systems for the changes required to implement iGT078 (and iGT079). AM explained that Microsoft does not support file formats listed as .PS. This means that any PS1 or PS2 confirmations sent cannot be received through Microsoft systems, this is due to the associated risks of viruses and Malware. AM noted that that the British Gas de-centralised tech team had initially suggested a 4-character file format, however, it later suggested that to future-proof this process a 3-character format would allow for automation.

The Workgroup resolved that the best approach to naming these files would be for PS1 to be renamed **PSA** and PS2 to be renamed **PSB**. PO suggested that he would look at the file type register to see if these are used in any other system and report back to the Code Administrator. The Chair suggested that if these new file format names are available the Code Administrator notify that all parties going forward these will be the new file names.

The Chair also noted that with regards to iGT078 & iGT079 a variant Modification will need to be produced to acknowledge the change in file format name which will amend the ancillary documents. This should be raised as a fast track Modification and AM noted he was happy to support this.

Action MSW17/01-07: PO to check PSA & PSB on the file type register and notify the Code Administrator if these are available.

Action MSW17/01-08: Code Administrator to notify all parties on the file format name change regarding PS1 & PS2 upon confirmation of the new naming convention.

RGMA Document

KB noted that she had only received comments from Kirsty Dudley with regards to the RGMA document after it was sent out to the distribution list for comments. The Workgroup decided that the document should be re-sent and the action point deferred to the next meeting to give parties a chance to review the document and send comments to KB.

Action MSW17/01-09: Code Administrator to resend the document to parties for comment before the next Workstream meeting.

NR informed the Workgroup that she will be raising a modification in the near future in response to the CMA price comparison reform. NR did note that there has been no direction on a deadline by the CMA and therefore this is not a priority at the moment.

The next iGT UNC Modification Workstream Meeting is on 7th February 2017.

Appendix 1

MWS16/11-08	1 st November 2016	KB to combine the iGT RGMA Baseline Document and the iGT RGMA File formats document, to send to the code administrator week prior to next Workstream meeting for them to circulate to industry	KB	Carried forward to February Workstream meeting for discussion to give parties another chance to look over the document.
MWS16/12-01	6 th December 2016	Code Administrator to create the FMR for iGT090F to be taken to the December Panel for decision.	Gemserv	Closed – Taken to Panel and approved for Implementation.
MWS16/12-02	6 th December 2016	Code Administrator to circulate the Self-Governance guidance documents to the Panel for comment.	Gemserv	Closed – Agenda item 17/01-11
MWS16/12-03	6 th December 2016	Code Administrator to update the known issues register on the iGT UNC website.	Gemserv	Closed
MWS16/12-04	6 th December 2016	Action: Code Administrator to add the CSEP NExA Table results to the January Workstream agenda for discussion.	Gemserv	Closed – Agenda item 17/01-9
MWS17/01-02	5 th January 2017	Code Administrator to finalise the Workgroup report and circulate to all Workgroup attendees for comment by 4.00pm on 6th January 2017.	Gemserv	New

MWS17/01-02	5 th January 2017	Code Administrator to add the CSEP NExA Table results to the January Panel agenda for decision.	Gemserv	New
MWS17/01-03	5 th January 2017	Code Administrator to add the Self-Governance Guidance document to the January Panel agenda for decision.	Gemserv	New
MWS17/01-04	5 th January 2017	DA to speak with Project team to find out if additional processing of missing data would delay the loading of iGT data for Project Nexus.	DA	New
MWS17/01-05	5 th January 2017	PO and NR to draft a letter to all iGTs requesting their cooperation in a data gathering exercise for supply points with an insufficient meter reading history for Project Nexus.	PO & NR	New
MSW17/01-06	5 th January 2017	PO and NR to redraft the Modification proposal and submit it to the Code Administrator for circulation.	PO & NR	New
MSW17/01-07	5 th January 2017	PO to check PSA & PSB on the file type register and notify the Code Administrator if these are available.	PO	New
MSW17/01-08	5 th January 2017	Code Administrator to notify all parties on the file format name change regarding PS1 & PS2 upon confirmation of the new naming convention.	Gemserv	New

MSW17/01-09	5th January 2017	Code Administrator to resend the document to parties for comment before the next Workstream meeting.	Gemserv	New
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