

## Summary of IGT UNC Workgroup – 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022

### **Purpose:**

This paper provides Panel members with a summary of IGT UNC Workgroup discussions where applicable each month.

Please note that the Modifications which will be subject to review at this Panel meeting are not reflected in this document due to them already being on the Panel agenda.

For a full extract of the discussion please refer to the draft minutes [here](#).

### **Modification Workgroups**

#### **IGT159 - Amendments to the Must Read Process**

The Workgroup's primary focus for this meeting was the consideration, discussion and further refinement of the Business Rules, as well as the draft Amended Modification.

The Proposer informed the Workgroup that the Business Rules had been updated following discussions at the May 2022 meeting and that Xoserve had provided comments against these rules.

The updated Business Rules were as follows:

1. IGTs to provide reads (as a result of the 'failure to obtain readings' obligations) to the CDSP, within an agreed window of 20 Supply Point System Business Days (SPSBDs) after the read has been obtained;
  - a) IGTs cannot charge for a reading that is submitted more than 20 SPSBDs after the read date;
2. The ability to exclude sites with a known and identified meter issue preventing reads being obtained from the obligations under 'failure to obtain readings' (must read process);
  - a) Shippers must notify the CDSP of sites with a known [meter issue] preventing reads being obtained to ensure the site is not subject to the 'failure to obtain readings' obligations (must read process), until a time when the fault is resolved;
  - b) Shippers must notify the CDPS where the known [meter issue] preventing reads being obtained has been resolved;
  - c) PAC to receive information on the number of sites removed from the process and how long it takes for the issue to be resolved;

3. Exclusion of SMART, AMR and Active Data Communications Company (DCC) sites from the 'failure to obtain readings' obligations (must read process). For avoidance of doubt, this change will align with the current DN treatment of SMART, AMR and Active DCC sites in relation to the 'failure to obtain readings' logic;
  - a) MPRNs that meet one or more of the following conditions should be excluded from the 'failure to obtain readings' obligations:
    - have Meter Mechanism Code NS, S1 and S2;
    - have an AMR Indicator; or
    - have an active DCC flag;
  - b) For the avoidance of doubt, the above sites will continue to be included in notifications to Shippers where the required Read performance has not been met, however these sites would be excluded from the must read generation process.
4. Supplier of Last Resort (SOLR) / Change of Shipper (CoS);
  - a) Where a Shipper has gained a site via the SoLR process, the timeline for the site to trigger the 'failure to obtain readings' logic should be [paused for 4 months] to allow the new shipper the opportunity to obtain a read;
  - b) Where there is a CoS event, the timeline for the site to trigger the 'failure to obtain readings' logic should be paused for [4 months] from the point the incoming Shipper obtains the site;
5. In any and all cases where a site has been removed from the must read process for 12 months and a read has not been obtained the site will re-join the must read process.

### High level summary of key discussion points

The Workgroup considered the updated Business Rules, in conjunction with the draft Amended Modification, and comments provided by Xoserve.

Regarding Business Rule 1, the Workgroup noted the suggested 20 SPSBD window and discussed:

- the potential system implications;
- current approach to system changes
- funding and cost recovery; and
- the process for obtaining a Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM) from Xoserve.

Following the Workgroup discussion, and based on comments from Xoserve, the Proposer decided to amend this Business Rule. The Proposer felt that the SPSBD submission window should be changed

from 20 to 25 to align with the current validation window. They believed that if a read was considered valid and good enough to enter into settlement, an IGT should be able to charge for it. Other members of the Workgroup agreed with this view.

Regarding Business Rule 2, the Workgroup discussed the exclusion of sites with metering issues and spent a good amount of time considering non-communicating Smart Meters. The Workgroup also discussed the provision of data to the Performance Assurance Committee (PAC) relating to sites being out of the must read process. A Workgroup member advised that the PAC would likely be interested in monitoring sites that had been out of the process for long a period of time, with others agreeing with this view. It was also suggested that the Performance Assurance Reports Register (PARR) reports, which sit under the UNC, be reviewed to consider whether they cover the provision of must read data.

Regarding Business Rule 3, the Workgroup considered the exclusion of Smart, AMR and active DCC sites from the must read process, including the criteria for exclusion and the use of terms like “meter mechanism code” and “AMR”. The Code Administrator confirmed that the terms currently defined in the IGT UNC were “Smart Meter” and “Advanced Meter” and that consideration was needed regarding whether these terms are used, whether the meter mechanism codes for Smart Meters needed to be listed in Code and how best to define an active DCC site. The Workgroup agreed that the definition and approach to the use of DCC in [UNC0692S - Automatic updates to Meter Read Frequency](#) should be reviewed.

Regarding Business Rule 4, the Workgroup considered how a “pause” in the must read process may work in practice and the effect that such a pause may have on the maximum period of 12 months specified in Business Rule 5. There were concerns raised about:

- whether it was possible for a site to be paused from the must read process indefinitely if the 12 month maximum period was not a hard rule; and
- whether the proposed 12 month period may have an impact on the 24 month period currently within code for class 4 sites.

The Workgroup agreed that further consideration was needed at the next Workgroup meeting with regards to this Business Rule.

In addition to the consideration of the Business Rules, the Workgroup also provided initial views regarding Modification Governance, impacts (including consumer, code, system and environment), Relevant Objectives and implementation to help inform discussion at the next meeting.

### **Next Steps for IGT159**

The Proposer is expected to make further changes to the draft Amended Modification and Business Rules based on discussions had at the Workgroup meeting.

The Workgroup determined, with the help of Xoserve, that there will be system changes required

to deliver the solution which means a ROM from Xoserve will be required as part of the development of this Modification.

At the July Workgroup meeting the Workgroup will consider the updated Amended Modification, updated Business Rules and draft legal text changes. At this meeting the Workgroup is also aiming to formally request a ROM from Xoserve to understand potential system impacts and costs, which will be likely be considered at the August 2022 Workgroup meeting.