

IGT UNC Modification Panel Meeting

Final Minutes

Friday 29th November 2024

Via teleconference

Attendee	Initials	Organisation	Representing	Notes
Anne Jackson	AJ	Gemserv	Code Administrator	Chair
Charlotte Gilbert	CG	BUUK	Observer	
Cher Harris	CH	Indigo Pipelines	Pipeline Operators	
Cristina Ullastre	CU	Ofgem	Authority	
Eilidh McNally	EM	Last Mile Gas	Pipeline Operators	
Graeme Forbes	GF	Gemserv	Code Administrator	
Lee Greenwood	LG	Centrica	Pipeline Users	
Natasha Perry	NP	BUUK	Observer	Proposer for IGT174
Paul Witton-Dauris	PWD	Gemserv	Observer	
Puja Vadgama	PV	Ofgem	Authority	
Talia Lattimore	TL	Gemserv	Code Administrator	
Harry Firth	HF	Gemserv	Code Administrator	Secretariat

1. Welcomes and Apologies

The Chair welcomed the Panel to the reconvened meeting. The Chair noted that following the ongoing quoracy issues the Panel faces, the Code Administrator (CA) had opened a meeting prior to this and held that open for one hour as per Code rules (Part L6.10).

There were apologies from Ellie Osobina (Ofgem) and Jenny Rawlinson (JR) (BUUK) It was noted that CH would be acting as an alternate for JR.

2. Confirmation of Agenda

The Chair confirmed the items for discussion as outlined in the final agenda. The Panel were invited to add any items for AOB. GF added Item 13 – Cross Code Digitalisation Steering Group Update. TL added Item 14 – IGT UNC LinkedIn Page.

3. Approval of the previous minutes (24-10 and 24-10 Reconvened)

HF invited comments on the 24-10 meeting minutes noting that no comments had been received prior to the meeting. No comments were raised during the meeting and the minutes (both standard and reconvened meetings) were approved as a true and accurate account of the meetings.

4. Outstanding Actions

The Panel were informed that there were no outstanding actions.

Modification Business**5. IGT174 - Update of IGT UNC Code Communication Methods**

NP provided the Workgroup with an overview of the Modification. NP informed the Workgroup that the Public Switch Telephone Network is being switched off, affecting a few traditional services including fax machines. NP added that 'fax and 'facsimile' are both mentioned in the IGT UNC and the SOS Query Management ancillary document, and all of these mentions need to be removed from Code. NP added that a couple of grammar changes would also be made to change the spelling of 'email' from 'e-mail' in some places.

NP noted the equivalent Modifications raised in the Retail Energy Code (REC), Smart Energy Code (SEC) and Uniform Network Code (UNC) to remove mentions of fax and replace with email. They added that the UNC Modification, [0864 – Update of UNC Code Communication Methods](#), has been approved and is awaiting implementation.

NP added that they believed this Modification meets the requirements for Self-Governance as there are no identified material impacts.

NP suggested that the next steps would be for this Modification to be issued for Consultation. They added that following the Consultation, that they hoped to return the Modification to Panel on 20th December for final decision. CG added that there had been pre-Modification discussion held at the November Workstream meeting and proposed that this assessment is sufficient for the Panel to approve IGT174 being issued for consultation, which the Workstream members agreed with.

NP presented a table of the proposed changes to the IGT UNC and some ancillary documents to the Panel. CH queried a proposed amendment to Section 3.3.2, as the word 'facsimile' appeared to have not been removed. NP responded that there were multiple amendments to this section, and these amendments had been highlighted separately in the Modification Proposal Form. TL confirmed that all mentions of 'facsimile' had been removed and added that the draft legal text had been published and provides a clearer view of the amendments proposed by IGT174. They added that this will be noted in the Draft Modification Report (DMR).

NP added that this Modification had mirrored the changes set out in UNC0864, noting that whilst they are making the same changes the Modifications are standalone. NP added that there would be a positive impact on reduced environmental damage, as switching to email will reduce printing. They added that a positive impact on Relevant Objective (F) – Promotion of efficiency in the implementation and administration of the Code had been identified. CU added that other potential cost-saving impacts should be highlighted, such as saving money on ink with the reduction in printing. TL responded that this would be highlighted in the DMR.

CG added that they are aiming for this Modification to be implemented as part of the next standard IGT UNC Release in February 2025. TL suggested that the DMR stated “next available IGT UNC Release” in case there is any unforeseen delay. This will ensure the Modification drops into the next Release, regardless of whether February can be met. The Panel agreed with this approach.

TL took the Panel through the DMR, adding that any information or discussion in this meeting on the Modification will be set out in this report and issued as part of the Consultation.

TL noted the Proposer’s timeline for IGT174, with the Modification being issued for Consultation on Monday 2nd December for a 2-week period, rather than the standard 3-week period, so that the Modification could return to Panel on 20th December. TL added that the DMR would be a late paper and would likely only be available no later than 18th December and asked Panel if there would be sufficient time to review this paper. The Panel agreed to accept the IGT174 DMR as a late paper for the December meeting.

EM noted that they would be absent from the Panel meeting on 20th December. The Chair asked if other Panel members would be available. CH and LG responded that they would be able to attend. CG added that JR is likely to be available to attend as well. CH added that they were happy to act as an alternate for EM at the December Panel meeting. EM thanked CH.

The Panel unanimously agreed that:

- The Modification should be subject to Self-Governance;
- The Legal Text delivers the intent of the Solution;
- The Relevant Objective (F) identified by the Proposer were positively impacted;
- The Modification does not impact a Significant Code Review (SCR);
- The Modification should be implemented at the next scheduled release after approval; and
- The Modification should be issued for a 2-week consultation period.

CH, CU and the Panel thanked NP for their work on this Modification, noting it was their first Modification as Proposer. NP thanked the Panel and Code Administrator for their help and support in developing this Modification.

Update from Workgroup

6. Workgroup Summary

The Panel had no comments on the Workgroup Summary.

Authority Updates

7. Authority Updates

CU provided Panel with the following updates:

- Ofgem issued a [consultation on Code Manager Selection](#) on 28th November 2024. Ofgem are proposing a three-stage process for both competitive and non-competitive selection. As well as a main licensing assessment phase, there would be an initial eligibility assessment. Once Ofgem have completed the licencing assessment phase, there would also be an implementation and assurance phase before awarding the licence.

Ofgem have also set out their proposed approach to determining whether to select code managers on a competitive or non-competitive basis:

- non-competitive selection for the BSC and REC, based on considerations related to speed of delivery and value for money,
- either competitive or non-competitive selection for the consolidated gas code, electricity commercial code and electricity technical code, based on the number of eligible candidates following a public expression of interest (EOI) process, and
- a deferred decision for the SEC, in recognition that the SEC's current governance arrangements are still in their ramp up phase.

Ofgem are also seeking views on the guidance document, and accompanying forms, that they intend to publish in fulfilment of our obligations under the Code Manager Selection Regulations 2024 and the proposed content of forthcoming Ofgem regulations that would govern any competitive selection process.

Alongside this consultation, Ofgem have launched the selection processes for the first two code managers, with Elexon and the Retail Energy Code Company (RECCo) invited to become code manager candidates for the Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC) and for the REC respectively, subject to the outcome of an eligibility assessment process.

The consultation is available on the Ofgem website and will close on 30 January 2025. Please send any responses or questions on the consultation to industrycodes@ofgem.gov.uk.

- As with previous years, Ofgem will have in place a publishing moratorium over the festive period. The last publishing day will be Friday 13 December 2024 and Ofgem will begin to publish documents again as normal on Friday 3 January 2025.

GF added that it is important for IGT UNC parties to give serious consideration to the consultation, particularly given the long-term impacts and how this will shape the unified Gas Network Code (GNC). They added that Genserv are not currently planning to apply for the Code Manager role for the GNC but will provide support in the transition period as part of their current role as IGT UNC Code Administrator.

The Chair noted the consultation deadline of 30th January 2025 and asked Panel members to review the consultation prior to the next Panel meeting on 20th December, where the consultation will be discussed further.

24/11 – 01: Panel members to review the Ofgem consultation on Code Manager Selection ahead of the IGT UNC December Panel Meeting

8. Energy Code Reform Project Update

PV took the Panel through a presentation which provided an update on the ongoing Energy Code Reform (ECR) Project. PV provided a recap on the aims of ECR and some of the key milestones achieved over 2024, including [Ofgem's publication in August outlining their approach to transitioning to the new governance arrangements](#), and further consultations on [SQSS License Modifications](#) and [Code Manager Licensing with DESNZ](#).

PV informed the Panel that Ofgem are planning to release a series of consultations between now and next spring, followed by additional consultations on consequential changes later in 2025. These upcoming consultations include one on Strategic Direction by February and one on Implementation in March.

PV thanked the Panel for their continued support and engagement with these consultations and added that any questions on ECR should be directed industrycodes@ofgem.gov.uk

AOB

9. IGT UNC Horizon Scanner Update

TL informed the Panel that the IGT UNC Horizon Scanner had been published ahead of the November Workstream meeting with live information. They added that the Workgroup had reviewed the Horizon Scanner and were happy with the content and structure. TL added that the Workgroup had decided to review the Horizon Scanner on a monthly basis, noting that it will be published 5 working days ahead of Workstream meetings, alongside the other meeting papers. They added that this approach will continue to be reviewed by the Workgroup, particularly the frequency of publication. The Workgroup will also review the usefulness of the Horizon Scanner once it has been used for a period of time.

TL added that a dedicated page for the Horizon Scanner will go live on the IGT UNC website on Thursday 5th December, which is the paper day for the IGT UNC December Workstream meeting. TL noted that the [Horizon Scanner page](#) will be accessible via the menu and will sit under "Workstream Meetings".

10. 2025 Planned Release Dates

TL informed the Workgroup that the [provisional IGT UNC 2025 Release Schedule](#) is now available to view on the IGT UNC website. TL added that these dates have been aligned to the current planned Xoserve 2025 Release Dates, but these dates are subject to industry approval and therefore may change. TL added that the Code Administrator will inform all parties if there is a change to the 2025 Release Schedule.

11. IGT UNC Website Update

TL informed the Panel that the Code Administrator had made some changes to the IGT UNC website following feedback from the November Workstream meeting. TL added that the Workstream Meetings dropdown menu had been amended to tidy up all the historic Workstream meeting pages, allowing for the dedicated pages for the Cross Code Modification Implications Tracker, Known Issues Register and soon to be added Horizon Scanner to be more visible. TL advised that the historic Panel meeting web pages will be updated similarly before the December Workstream meeting.

TL also took the Panel through some additional updates to the Website. They advised that the Modification webpages template has been updated for Modifications going forward. These updates allow for further information to be available on the page itself, rather than parties having to go through documents to obtain it. This includes a summary of the intent of a Modification, Proposer details, expected impacts and progression timetable.

TL also noted that as part of the November 2024 Release, TL set the new “IGT UNC Releases” page live. Previously the historic Release information was sat at the bottom of a page dedicated to IGT UNC Code documents. TL has taken the Release information off that page and provided it with its own dedicated page, which will make the information easier to find. For those parties who knew where to find the information previously, TL has put a note on the IGT UNC documents page to direct them to the new Release page.

LG thanked TL for their work on updating the IGT UNC website, adding that they have found it easier to navigate the website since the updates.

12. IGT UNC Panel Shipper Representative Vacancies

TL informed the Panel that the Code Administrator are proposing to change their approach on communicating the current Shipper Representative vacancies to industry. Historically the comms has focused on the potential issues associated with not being a quorate. However, TL suggested adding that the wording be amended to allow for a more positive approach, with focus on the vacancies being a good opportunity for Shippers to get involved, rather than a focus on quoracy. TL added that these comms will be sent out more widely to hopefully reach a larger audience, including on LinkedIn and potentially through the Joint Office who have a larger number of Shippers on their distribution lists.

LG agreed that this was the correct approach to adopt going forwards. The Panel were happy for the updated comms to go out to industry, and TL added this would be done in due course and that the CA would continue to issue comms quarterly.

13. Cross Code Digitalisation Steering Group Update

GF informed the Panel that they had attended the Cross Code Digitalisation Steering Group (CCDSG) meeting on 28th November. GF added that the group will help to establish a best practice document on data within the energy sector that will support some of the Data Sharing Infrastructure work currently being undertaken by Ofgem. GF added that a consultation will soon be sent out by Ofgem on these proposals. GF added that they had advised the Joint Office of these updates, as they have not attended CCDSG meetings, and that the Joint Office had welcomed some discussions with the IGT UNC on the consultation. GF noted both the short-term implications of the CCDSG's work for each individual Code, but also in the long term as a unified GNC. GF suggested that they may reach out to Ofgem for an early copy of the consultation for Panel to review at some point.

14. IGT UNC LinkedIn Page

TL informed the Panel that the Code Administrator have recently launched a [LinkedIn page](#) for the IGT UNC. TL added that this will be used to send out industry communications, such as IGT174 being raised and the consultation to be issued on Monday 2nd December, to grow the IGT UNC's current audience.

The next IGT UNC Panel meeting is scheduled for Friday 20th December 2024.

Annex 1 – Actions Table

Reference	Action	Owner	Status
24/11 - 01	Panel members to review the Ofgem consultation on Code Manager Selection ahead of the IGT UNC December Panel Meeting	Panel Members	Open