

Joint Office

of Gas Transporters

DECEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Joint Office of Gas Transporters Newsletter, we hope you find this a useful addition to your inbox. It is issued on a monthly basis and is intended to provide an overview of what is happening across the Uniform Network Code (UNC) governance arena. In this Newsletter, we have provided an overview of progress across everything we do, please refer to the Table of Contents below.

At A Glance....

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Meet the Joint Office of Gas Transporters Team.
<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/jointoffice/staff>

Table of Contents for December 2017

Implementation Dates Coming Up	2
Consultation Close-Out Dates	2
November Panel Meetings (09,16 and 24)	2
New Modifications discussed at November Panel	2
Workgroup Reports discussed at November Panel	2
Final Modification Reports discussed at November Panel	3
Distribution Workgroup Headlines	4
Transmission Workgroup Headlines	5
Distribution Network Charging Methodology Forum (DNCMF)	5
Committees Update	6
Things to Note...	6

Implementation Dates Coming Up		
UNC Ref	Title	Date
0593V	<i>Provision of access to Domestic Consumer data for Price Comparison Websites and Third-Party Intermediaries</i>	TBC (by the DSC Change Management Committee)
0616S	<i>Capacity Conversion Mechanism for Interconnection Points</i>	01 January 18

Consultation Close-Out Dates		www.gasgovernance.co.uk/consult
0627S	<i>Removal of the absolute requirement to include a Remotely Operable Valve (ROV) Installation for all new NTS Exit connections</i>	07 December 2017

November Panel Meetings (09,16 and 24)	
New Modifications discussed at November Panel	
For a summary of the content of these modifications, see Pre-Panel Briefing Note at: https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/panel/091117 https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/panel/161117 https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/panel/241117	
0619B <i>Application of proportionate ratchet charges to daily read sites.</i> www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0619	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authority Direction Approved. • Issued to Workgroup 0619 for Assessment. • First Workgroup meeting 23 November 2017 (Distribution Workgroup). • Report to Panel by 21 December 2017.
0638 <i>Mandate monthly read submission for Smart and AMR sites from 01 April 2017.</i> www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0638	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authority Direction Approved. • Issued to Consultation. • Deadline for responses 5pm on 20 November 2017.
Workgroup Reports discussed at November Panel	
0627S <i>Removal of the absolute requirement to include a Remotely Operable Valve (ROV) Installation for all new NTS Exit connections.</i> www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0627	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issued to Consultation. • Deadline for responses 5pm on 07 December 2017.
0633S Mandate monthly read submission for Smart and AMR sites from 01 December 2017 www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0637	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issued to Consultation. • Deadline for responses 5pm on 20 November 2017. • Report to Panel on 24 November 2017.

Final Modification Reports discussed at November Panel	
<p>0634 (Urgent) <i>Revised estimation process for DM sites with D-7 zero consumption</i> www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0628</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panel voted by a majority that this Modification should not be implemented. • Ofgem directed implementation. • Implementation date 20 November 2017 • Panel subsequently issued the subject of the Modification for assessment to the Distribution Workgroup. • Report to Panel by the 19 April 2018.
<p>0607 <i>Amendment to Gas Quality NTS Entry Specification at the St Fergus NSMP System Entry Point</i> www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0607</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panel unanimously recommended that this Modification should be implemented • Ofgem decision awaited.
<p>0625 <i>Extension of 4 months to 10 months to transfer non-mandatory sites from Class 1.</i> www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0629</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panel voted by a majority that this Modification should not be implemented • Ofgem directed implementation • Implementation date 28 November 2017.
<p>0633 <i>Mandate monthly read submission for Smart and AMR sites from 01 December 2017.</i> www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0633</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panel voted by a majority that new issues had been identified during consultation • Re-issued to Workgroup • Report to Panel by 21 December 2017.
<p>0637S <i>Amending the permissions to release data to Meter Asset Provider organisation.</i> www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0637</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panel unanimously determined that this Modification should be implemented • Implementation date 08 December 2017.
<p>0638 <i>Mandate monthly read submission for Smart and AMR sites from 01 April 2017.</i> www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0638</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panel voted by a majority that new issues had been identified during consultation • Re-issued to Workgroup • Report to Panel by 21 December 2017.

Distribution Workgroup Headlines

www.gasgovernance.co.uk/dist

- **Pre-Modification** – *There were no pre-Modification discussions this month.*
- **0594R** – *Meter Reading Submission for Advanced & Smart Metering.* The Workgroup Report has been concluded for submission to the December Panel. The Workgroup recommended that the Request should be closed.
- **0619** - *Application of proportionate ratchet charges to daily read sites; 0619A* - *Protection from ratchet charges for daily read customers with an AQ of 732,000kWh and below and 0619B* - *Application of proportionate ratchet charges to daily read sites.* The Workgroup considered the Modifications and discussions took place concerning the recent amendments to Modification 0619A and Modification 0619B. The Workgroup concluded that further assessment was required and an extension to the reporting date should be requested, with a report provided to the January 2018 Panel
- **0632S** – *Shipper asset details reconciliation.* The Workgroup noted that there were existing UNC obligations for the provision of meter asset details. However, these might not be sufficient for Smart meters or AMR equipment. It was noted that the proposer intends to consider a potential change to the iGT UNC once the solution in UNC0632S is robust. The Workgroup agreed further assessment is required.
- **0635** – *Reforms to incentivise accurate and timely DM reads to improve the accuracy of Unidentified Gas allocation.* The Workgroup discussed the amended modification and how parties the incentive payments would be distributed. The Workgroup concluded that further assessment was required.

Other Workgroups

- **0623** - *Governance Arrangements for Alternatives to Self-Governance Modification Proposals.* Consideration was deferred to a meeting planned for 08 December 2017
- **0624R** - *Review of arrangements for Retrospective Adjustment of Meter Information, Meter Point/Supply Point and Address data.* The Workgroup received a brief overview of the responses received so far to the Request For Information (RFI) exercise. It was agreed that the RFI responses should be further reviewed at the 08 December 2017 meeting.
- **0630R** - *Review of the consequential changes required in UNC as a result of the Ofgem Switching Programme.* The first meeting is planned for 15 December 2017.
- **0631R** - *Review of NDM algorithm post-Nexus.* The initial meeting clarified the scope of the review and the type of information required to support further analysis. A number of meetings have been held or have been planned and where possible these coincide with DESC meetings. Further review is to concentrate on analysis of EUC bands, War Bands and seasonal weather variations.

Transmission Workgroup Headlines

www.gasgovernance.co.uk/tx

This workgroup meets on the first Thursday of every month and currently covers the following topics:

- **Pre-Modification - Treatment of Capacity at Combined ASEPs.** This Modification Proposal (which is still at the pre-mod stage) will depend on the nature of revenue recovery charge contained within Modification 0621. Submission of a full Modification Proposal will be delayed, pending updates to Modification 0621.
- **Project CLoCC (Customer Low Cost Connections)** is focussing on customer low cost connections to the NTS:
 - **0628S - Standard Design Connections: PARCA process** (Proposer National Grid NTS). Process design was the primary focus this month. Fees will be discussed next month. This modification is due to report to the May 2018 UNC Panel.
 - **0629S - Standard Design Connections: A20 connection process** (Proposer National Grid NTS). Section V Process was the primary focus this month. Charging will be discussed next month. This modification is due to report to the May 2018 UNC Panel.
- The Workgroup received updates on the Industrial Emissions Directive, ongoing IGEM gas quality standard work and National Grid's Gas Quality consultation.

Charging Methodology Forums

Distribution Network Charging Methodology Forum (DNCFM)

- The next quarterly DN Revenue reports will be published at: www.gasgovernance.co.uk/DNRevenueReports/2017Dec and these will be reviewed at the DNCFM on 11 January 2018.

NTS Charging Methodology Forum (NTSCMF) www.gasgovernance.co.uk/ntscmf

- **0621 - Amendments to Gas Transmission Charging Regime** was considered at both the NTSCMF meetings in November, and on 06 December 2017. It will be considered further at workgroup meetings on 14 December and 20 December 2017. Topics covered include: Transition, Compliance, Transmission Services Revenue Recovery, Short Haul/Avoiding inefficient bypass, Interruptible.
 - This Modification will request an extension at the December Panel, to report at the March 2018 instead of the January 2018 UNC Panel .
 - An updated draft modification with further detail of the specific aspects of the proposed changes was discussed at the 22 November meeting. A formally amended Modification is eagerly awaited. At the time of writing, two alternates will be presented to the December 2017 Panel for consideration.
- **0636 - Updating the parameters for the NTS Optional Commodity Charge** was considered at both the NTSCMF meetings in November, and on 07 December 2017 after the Transmission workgroup meeting had concluded. It will be considered further at the workgroup meetings on 18 December 2017 and in January 2018. Topics covered include: GCD11, methodology, piping sizes, cost data, impacts.

with that proposed in 2015 and replace the MNEPOR in the current formula with the average daily flow at the exit point from the previous Gas Year divided by 75%. The first discussion for this Modification is planned to take place at the NTSCMF meeting on 06 November 2017 and is also due to report to the January 2018 UNC Panel.

Committees Update

Energy Balancing Credit Committee (EBCC) www.gasgovernance.co.uk/EBCC

- Members noted that there were no significant issues identified in the Operational Report.

Demand Estimation Sub-Committee (DESC) www.gasgovernance.co.uk/desc

- The meeting was scheduled for 11 December 2017. Due to poor weather conditions, the meeting was cancelled. We will be communicating a new date shortly.

Performance Assurance Committee (PAC) www.gasgovernance.co.uk/PAC

- **PAC UIG Meetings 14 and 29 November 2017**

PAC held open meetings to discuss related UIG issues, with the aim of identifying reports which might support its assessment of UIG associated risks and issues. The meeting on 29 November 2017 focused on DN Read specific issues and knowledge transfer. PAC intend to review the outcomes of the UIG meetings to identify reporting or possible remedial actions.

Data Service Contract (DSC) Committees www.gasgovernance.co.uk/DSC-CDSP

The DSC Change Management Committee met on 08 and 27 November 2017. The scope of Release 2 (scheduled for June 2017) was reviewed and agreed, with 8 changes being removed as a result of cost/benefit assessment. Consequently, three additional changes were included with one further change included on the understanding it will be reviewed in December 2017.

- The DSC Contract Management Committee met on 15 November 2017. The Committee received updates on KPI reporting, activities towards UIG Resolution, Information Security, Business Continuity and GDPR. A GDPR workgroup was set up.

The DSC Credit Committee continue to monitor payment performance with no significant issues being reported.

Things to Note...

- We are delighted to welcome Chris Shanley back to the Joint Office. Chris will be undertaking the role of Workstream Manager.
- December Panel will be the last for Alex Plant. Joint Office wishes to express our sincere thanks to Alex for all his hardwork, support and commitment over the last three years.
- From January, we look forward to working with Mark Shurmer.
- We wish both Alex and Mark every success for the future.
- **Withdrawn Modification(s)**
 - **None this month.**
- **Ofgem Christmas Moratorium** – Ofgem have communicated that during the Christmas period they do not generally publish decisions or other information on their website. Ofgem's last publishing day this year will be Wednesday 20 December 2017 and they will then begin to publish documents again on Tuesday 02 January 2018. If clarification is required in relation to the above, Ofgem's contact is Raymond Elliot.
- We wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

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