



# Operational Forum October 2018

Meeting Minutes

25 October 2018

**nationalgrid**

# Meeting Summary

Previous Operational Forum: June

Meeting Date: 25/10/2018

Location: Radisson Blu Grafton

Start Time: 09:30

## Attendees

Company	Name and attendance Y/N
National Grid	Karen Thompson (KT) <b>Y</b> Craig James (CJ) <b>Y</b> Martin Cahill (MC) <b>Y</b>
National Grid	Cara Finn (CF) <b>Y</b>
Xoserve	Dave Turpin (DT) <b>Y</b>
* Audience Total = 27	From the following organisations: BP, Brook Green, CIA, CNG, Drax Power, EDF, Engie, ENI, ESB, Gazprom, GMSL, Hartree Partners, Ofgem, RWE, Shell, South Hook Gas, Storengy, YU Energy

## Meeting Agenda

Agenda Item	Key Points	Action Ref
Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Summary of agenda for the day and attendees present</li><li>Operational Data Enhancement proposals paper was discussed at September Ops Forum. Reminder that the deadline for any responses to the paper is the 6<sup>th</sup> November</li><li>Deep dive requested for National Grid Trading on the 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> October and 21<sup>st</sup> October. This will be presented at the Operational Forum on 29<sup>th</sup> November</li></ul>	<b>1</b> <b>2</b>
Operational Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>More detailed slide pack is available online along with other Operational Forum documents. This includes more information about supply + demand, balancing actions taken by National Grid, Cash Inputs/Outputs, Neutrality, and Capacity Auctions <a href="https://www.nationalgridgas.com/data-and-operations/operational-forum">https://www.nationalgridgas.com/data-and-operations/operational-forum</a></li><li>Comparison between Summer 2017 and Summer 2018 key operational trends presented by KT</li><li>Unseasonably high temperatures in April and May saw demand drop below normal in 2018, but otherwise demand has been consistent compared to levels seen last year</li><li>Demand profiles largely consistent between 17 and 18, IUK exports were lower this year, particularly in first half of the summer</li><li>LNG Supply reduced significantly this year, due to high demand in Asian markets</li><li>Generally seen less gas delivered from the north, with higher flows at Easington and Bacton</li></ul>	
Brexit Update	<p>Update provided by Bogdan Kowalewicz. Notes from Ofgem:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>Ofgem continues to work with central government and stakeholders across industry to ensure that our regulatory framework is fit-for-purpose irrespective of the outcome of the negotiations.</i></li></ul>	

- We have reviewed the licences we grant energy companies to operate in the market, to identify interactions with EU law. We have not found anything in the current licence conditions that would appear to become inoperable on exit day, although some changes may be necessary to make them as clear as they can be.
- We have worked with industry code administrators who have performed a similar exercise in respect of industry codes.
- We are keeping our analysis under review and will continue to work with industry to implement consequential changes when the outcome of the negotiation is known.
- We are engaging with interconnector operators to ensure they are putting in place suitable contingencies and will continue to work with our regulatory counterparts in the EU to facilitate this process.
- Whatever the outcome of negotiations, we will continue to monitor and enforce regulations domestically, for example REMIT, to ensure that we have a robust regulatory regime that works for consumers.
- We will continue to engage with stakeholders. We are interested in any issues that the groups wish to raise in relation to energy and Brexit.
- For further questions, please contact:  
Bogdan Kowalewicz  
bogdan.kowalewicz@ofgem.gov.uk

Gas  
Winter  
Outlook

- MC Provided overview of key gas messages for winter this year
- Full Winter Outlook document available at the following link: **3**  
<https://www.nationalgridgas.com/insight-and-innovation/winter-outlook>
- On the winter outlook website, you can also sign up to a mailing list to be updated with new publications and stakeholder engagement
- For any feedback on the winter outlook, please contact:  
[marketoutlook@nationalgrid.com](mailto:marketoutlook@nationalgrid.com)
- Demand forecast is lower than last year's weather corrected outturn, due to an expected reduction in gas power station demand
- UKCS and Norway to continue to dominate stable 'base' supply
- Storage, Interconnectors and LNG provide additional capability, alongside flexible market response
- Code Modification underway for gas notification process
- Modelling demonstrates sufficient supply margin to accommodate all security of supply scenarios
- Winter Outlook will be re-visited throughout and after winter to refine analysis and test scenarios for current and future years

Prepared  
ness for  
Winter  
Discussion

- Discussion took place in 4 groups to assess industry preparedness going into winter
- National Grid will analyse feedback and publish findings **4**

NTS  
Overview

- Overview of NTS and operational considerations by CJ
- NTS typically operates between 40 and 90 bar
- Daily demand can vary from 150mcm to 465 mcm
- Commercial nominations through GEMINI tell us how much energy is expected to flow. Physical Notifications tell us the volume and location of

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where gas will flow. We use to determine a strategy, aiming to meet ever assured and ANOP pressure

- Strategy and planning cycle begins 2 weeks ahead, as we plan how to manage stock in the system
- Demand and supply profiles change more within day than previously, this regularly creates linepack swings in excess of 30mcm/d and provides a greater challenge to manage pressures
- Linepack is managed in zones across the country, and local linepack does not always correspond to National
- Pressures in certain network areas have to be sacrificed to manage extremities
- We are looking at ways to improve transparency of operation, such as pressure forecasting and daily linepack information on our operational data pages

<https://www.nationalgridgas.com/data-and-operations>

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Xoserve Update

- UIG publication was intermittent between 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> September. AQ activity took longer than expected with more sites. Process improvement being tested for this
- Job Schedule not automatically triggered on 30<sup>th</sup> September as a result of upgrade. Jobs manually triggered to ensure completion
- GEMINI Exit jobs failing on 7<sup>th</sup> October – auction still ran as expected so minimal impact. Speak to Dave if you believe you were impacted by this
- Service Desk issues – still working to make improvements in this area, and ensure customers are updated with resolution of tickets
- Looking to improve communication with GNCC
- UIG task force information available at following link:  
<https://www.xoserve.com/index.php/unidentified-gas-uig/>
- Xoserve will aim to provide the analysis of the enduring UIG positions by the end of November and, recognising the importance to customers at the Ops Forum, if possible this will be provided sooner
- Contact Dave Turpin for any further queries:  
[dave.turpin@xoserve.com](mailto:dave.turpin@xoserve.com)

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Operational Data Enhancements Paper

- Interest shown in working group discussed in this paper, but more attendance would be beneficial. Please let Karen Thompson know if you are interested in participating
- Money is available in budget specifically to provide enhancements
- KT shared some of the feedback so far. This is included in the online slide pack
- Paper can be accessed at the following site:  
<https://www.nationalgridgas.com/sites/gas/files/documents/Information%20Provision%20enhancement%20proposals.pdf>

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Other Topics

- Queries – National Grid to share common queries at next forum
- Axe the fax – This project is starting with control room processes initially, but will eventually be rolled out to all business process. Business contact for any queries on moving to electronic notifications is Craig Shipley:  
[Craig.Shipley@nationalgrid.com](mailto:Craig.Shipley@nationalgrid.com)

# Meeting Actions

Previous Operational Forum: June

Meeting Date: 27/09/2018

Location: Radisson Blu Grafton

Start Time: 09:30

## Summary of Actions

Action Reference	Action	Responsible	Expected Closure
1	Provide Any Responses to Operational Data Enhancements Paper by 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Attendees	November 18
2	Present findings for trading activity on 1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> and 21 <sup>st</sup> October	National Grid	November 18
3	Share link to Winter Outlook	National Grid	Closed
4	Share findings from Winter Preparedness session	National Grid	November 18
5	Provide indicative date for analysis on enduring UIG	Xoserve	November 18
6	Let Karen Thompson know if interested in taking part in Operational data enhancements working group	Attendees	November 18