Entry Customer Forum

MINUTES

Tuesday 30 January 2024 at 12.30PM – 2.00PM

MS Teams

ATTENDEES

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| **Name** | **Initials** | **Company** |
| Flávio Ascenco | FA | ADBA |
| Tom Knight | TK | Bohr Engineering |
| Jadie Lawley | JL | Cadent |
| Christopher Magness | CMg | CNG Services |
| Matt Rosenfeld | MR | ENA |
| Nick Primmer | NP | Future Biogas |
| Ian McClusky | IMC | IGEM |
| James Smith | JS | Iona Management Services |
| Emmet McFadden | EM | Mutual Energy |
| Dan Laverick | DL | NGN |
| Peter Thomson | PT | NGN |
| Russell Brown | RB | nZero |
| Sara Bartle | SB | REA |
| Adrian Bancroft | AB | Severn Trent |
| Tony Gillespie (Chair) | TG | SGN |
| Guy Mills | GM | Vale Green Energy |
| Charlotte Marcel | CM | WAGA |
| Catherine Litster | CL | WWU |
| Helen Fitzgerald | HF | WWU |

APOLOGIES

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| **Name** | **Initials** | **Company** |
| Graeme Hunter | GH | Ceres Energy |
| Alison Cartwright | AC | CNG Services |
| Julie Cox | JC | Energy UK |
| Joel Martin | JM | SGN |

MEETING NOTES AND ACTIONS

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| **1. Welcome and Introductions** | **TG** |
| TG was chairing this month’s meeting on behalf of JM, who sent apologies. | |

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| **2. Action Log Update** | | **MR** |
| The group’s action log was updated, noting:   * Commissioning for OptiNet (Cadent’s compressor project) was due to start w/c Feb 12th. * There was no indication from the EBA of similar propane contamination on the continent as was being experienced on GB sites. * All GDNs expressed that they were supportive of a CNG-led review of the contents of the letter of direction. **Action: CNG to set up a session with GDNs for further discussion of a review of a letter of direction (from networks, to include CL, JL, JM, MR, PT, TG).** * High-level reasons for closures of the ROV were shared, amounting to several hundreds of ROV closures a year - on average, more than one closure per site per month. TG suggested bringing this topic into the Technical Working Group to discuss further the reasoning behind these closures, any differences in networks’ divert logic, etc. * Cadent, NGN and SGN confirmed their intention to keep the ROV and RTU as network-controllable assets. WWU currently kept ownership of the ROV, but with site-owned RTUs. | | |
| Actions | CNG to set up a session with GDNs for further discussion of a review of a letter of direction (from networks, to include CL, JL, JM, MR, PT, TG). | CNG |

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| **3. EnCF Action Plan Tracker** | | **TG** |
| *CV Blips (RB)*  As previously discussed, networks agreed to permit the proposed solution from nZero on their sites, and were progressing on a targeted site-by-site basis. No further work was required on this item as a forum, and hence the item was removed from the Action Plan tracker. Networks to provide any relevant implementation updates as and when they occur.  *Biomethane Blending (JL)*  Cadent had received responses back from all sites wishing to blend. Based on their analysis, c.2 sites had the potential to blend all-year-round, with another c.10 who could blend during the high-demand winter period, i.e., blending would *not* be a panacea for all sites to remove the need for propanation (hence appetite to progress with the CNG-led review of the letter of direction to this end). Cadent to write out to these customers at the end of w/c 05/02/2024 to update them with their analysis.  *SGS Issues (TG)*  Discussion hosted around whether there was benefit in hosting a collaborative SGS refresher workshop in the coming months, as compared with following up with troublesome sites on an individual basis.  *Standardisation – ME2 (DL)*  Review of ME2 had been started by Kelton and was due in February. No further updates.  *Operator Competence Accreditation (SB & FA)*  Referring to the initial action plan proposal, SB recapped that the original problem outlined was the limited understanding by engineers and operatives on biomethane sites of the tight legislative and operational frameworks in which the GNs must operate; there was no formal accreditation against which site owners and operatives could demonstrate competence, and there were concerns that GNs were needing to get more involved in compliance-based issues. The initial proposal referenced the possibility for the ADBA ADCS (Anaerobic Digestion Certification Scheme) to develop a 10th module for biomethane gas grid entry.  Following conversations with FA, it emerged that ADBA *had* set up and built this 10th module into their certification scheme, due to be launched in March 2024 (alongside other ADBA training courses currently available) following final revision by the HSE. SB signposted to CRWM, who also ran a technical competency course for anaerobic digestion and sought steer from the group on whether that avenue was worth progressing as well. **Action: FA to circulate the scheme/any available materials on the ADCS Module 10, to provide the group with opportunity to feed in ahead of launch in March 2024.**  GDNs reiterated their support for this accreditation and their commitment to health and safety. GDNs would not be able to stipulate that operatives demonstrated competency through this module, however there was consensus around the value of advertising the module in. e.g., kick-off meeting with DFOs.  *Standardisation – Review of Capacity Studies (TG)*  All GDNs were comfortable with the new template and provisionally set 01/04/2024 as the go-live date.  *In-Grid Compression (CL & JL)*  Cadent and WWU to meet to discuss the compressor technical specifications in more detail. No change in the expected commissioning dates as outlined in previous meetings.  *Gas Entry via IGT Pipelines (TG)*  TG shared the following addition to SGN’s Standard Condition 4B, as planned to submit for Ofgem review:  *An independent Gas Transporter will be permitted to operate a reverse compression facility connected to a GDN’s network, to facilitate such an operation the Independent Gas Transporter must enter into an LDZ System Network Entry Agreement before gas is permitted to flow via the reverse compression facility. The agreement will contain, provisions relating to the monitoring by the GDN of the characteristics of gas at the reverse compression facility and the basis on which the Independent Gas Transporter will compensate the GDN for all reasonable costs and expenses incurred by the GDN for such purpose. The agreement will contain provisions regarding the basis on which the Independent Gas Transporter will comply with the GDN’s instructions regarding operation of the reverse compression facilities following notification by the GDN Operator of maintenance to the GDN’s network affecting such operation. Any SGN costs associated with facilitating the initial connection of the reverse compression facility to the SGN network will be recovered in line with section 3.12.3 (charging for connections to entry storage facilities) and where applicable section 3.13 (reinforcements for system exit connections).*  **Action: TG to set up a placeholder session for JM to discuss SGN’s proposed amendment to their Standard Condition 4B in further detail. All forum members invited to attend if they wish.** | | |
| Actions | FA to circulate the scheme/any available materials on the ADCS Module 10, to provide the group with opportunity to feed in ahead of launch in March 2024.  TG to set up a placeholder session for JM to discuss SGN’s proposed amendment to their Standard Condition 4B in further detail. All forum members invited to attend if they wish. | FA  TG |

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| **4a. Contamination from Propane** | **ALL** |
| TG updated that some sites on the SGN network were adding coalescent filtration to their systems, and SGN planned to add this as a requirement for DFOs in their BIO/2 specification in their next update. | |

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| **4b. GS(M)R Amendments** | **–** |
| *No further updates.* | |

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| **5. Communications from DFOs** | **–** |
| *None received.* | |

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| **AOB – Green Gas Support Scheme Mid-Scheme Review** | **MR** |
| The government response to the Green Gas Support Scheme Mid-Scheme Review was published on 25/01/2024: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/green-gas-support-scheme-mid-scheme-review>  The key changes were to extend the GGSS to March 31st 2028, and to introduce an exemption for heat supplied by eligible heat pumps. | |