Summary of IGT UNC Workgroups – 14th January 2021

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 subjected to a decision at this meeting are not reflected in this document due to them already being discussed in the Panel meeting.

IGT148 – IGT UNC Modification Proposal-Class 1 Meter Reads

The Workgroup discussed the Modification, and it was noted that conversations had been had with IGTs and the Proposer of UNC710S regarding how to proceed with this modification, with two routes being suggested. The workgroup was informed that there was still an action outstanding and, following a meeting with the Code Administrator, the legal text should be ready for presentation at the February Workgroup meeting. It was noted that once the legal text had been agreed, there may need to be a Modification in the UNC to be raised to make amendments to the IGT Arrangements Document (IGTAD).

For a full extract of the discussion please refer to the Draft minutes here.

IGT138 – Performance Assurance Techniques and Controls

It was confirmed that Version 15 of UNC674 would be the final version of the modification and this would be completed and published on the Joint Office website ahead of the February Workgroup in order for the necessary amendments to be made to IGT138. The Workgroup was informed that light changes had been made to the Performance Assurance Framework Document (PAFD) and the legal text would be confirmed within seven to ten days for UNC674. The Chair stated that an appendix to the IGT138 had been amended to reflect how UNC674 (v15) was amended.

It was noted that the legal drafting for IGT138 had not been reviewed as the UNC legal text was not available prior to the UNC workgroup meeting on 7th January 2021. The Chair informed the Workgroup that another Distribution Workgroup meeting was scheduled for 27th January, at which the legal drafting would be raised and discussed. Following this, IGT138 would be published with the legal drafting ready for discussion at the February Modification Workgroup. The Modifications will then be presented to their respective Panel meetings in February before being sent out to consultation (it is anticipated that this will be a lengthened consultation period as the change brings extensive changes into the UNC and both Modifications should track along together). Once the consultation period was over, both Modifications would be sent to Ofgem.

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

<u>Party Engagement – Digitisation</u>
The Workgroup heard that the Code Administrator had a conversation with the Joint Office regarding digitisation. The Joint Office had indicated that their engagement varied, with items of financial and commercial value having high engagement, whereas items with low value had less engagement. It was noted that the Retail Energy Code (REC) was leading the way in terms of digitisation, however it was still unclear as to whether the 'digital requirements' would mean digitising the UNC itself or if something else was required.

It was noted that there would be a Joint Governance Arrangement Committee (JGAC) meeting at the end of January 2021, and although digitisation was on the agenda for that meeting, it would not be a priority.

The Workgroup discussed whether parties would have obligations for digitisation. The Chair noted that Ofgem had stated that they would like to see greater efficiencies in code administration so that the task of digitisation would not be onerous on industry parties, particularly new entrants. The Chair also informed the Workgroup that there may be a license condition arising to add digitisation into the transporter licence and an action was taken to find out the specific details on this matter.

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

<u>Cross-Code Modification Implications Tracker</u>
The Workgroup discussed the below cross-code Modifications.

<u>UNC743S – Revisions to User Terminations Provisions</u>
The Chair highlighted that a review had been carried out of UNC743 and it was agreed that a modification would be needed to update the IGT UNC with new legislation (Corporate Insolvency and Governance Act 2020 ('CIGA')), so a party would need to sponsor a modification and help raise it.

The Chair noted that if a company carried out the appropriate legal procedures for insolvency, it would not be possible to terminate their contract for not paying their invoices. The Chair added that, the way that the IGT UNC has been written does not marry with the new legislation and, as the code cannot overwrite legislation, the termination rules within the code could not be enacted and legislation would take precedence.

The Chair informed the Workgroup that UNC743S would be returning to Panel in February 2021 and

there may be an extension on the implementation date.

Discussion was held as to whether this should be added to the Risks and Issues Register as the code was not up to date. It was noted that if there was no sponsor for this modification, then it would become an issue. An action was taken for IGTs to take this away for discussion and indicate their response to the issue as to whether they wished to become a sponsor for the modification.

UNC734S - Reporting Valid Confirmed Theft of Gas into Central Systems

It was noted that the code administrator was in discussion with Ofgem with regards to the impacts of IGTs and what would need to be considered.

UNC730V - COVID-19 Capacity Retention Process

The Code Administrator noted that there had been an action taken to consider this modification in terms of the new business rule introduced by the variant request. The Code Administrator noted that following review of the legal text for UNC730V the current provisions in code sufficiently capture the changes made the text and therefore an IGT UNC Modification would not be needed.

For a full extract of the discussion please refer to the Draft minutes here.