

Entry Customer Forum
23rd February 13:00-14:30
Microsoft Teams

Thom Koller	TK	ENA
Katie Harrison	KH	ENA
Stuart Easterbrook (Chair)	SE	Cadent
Tina Hawke	TH	Cadent
Claire Gumbley	CG	NG
Ben Hanley	BH	NGN
Joel Martin	JM	SGN
David Harding	DH	WWU
Richard Pomroy (part)	RP	WWU
Nick Primmer	NP	ADBA
David Hurren	DH	Air Liquide
Lee Firth	LF	Biomethane Assist
Philip Kershaw	PK	CNG Services
Christopher Magness	CM	CNG Services
Julie Cox	JC	Energy UK
Alison Cartwright	AC	Future Biogas
Andy Smith	AS	Future Biogas
Alan Sly	AS	Honeywell
Kiara Zennaro	KZ	REA
Russell Brown	RB	Thyson
Karl Daniel	KD	Thyson

Minutes and actions from the last meeting:

SE welcomed the group. There were no comments on the minutes from the previous meeting.

The actions table was updated:

Number	Date	Action	Owner	Status
1	15 Dec 20	Re-invite Ofgem representative to join the Forum.	ENA	Carried forward
2	15 Dec 20	Arrange a standalone meeting with Ofgem to deep dive into CV issues.	ENA	Carried forward
3	26 Jan 21	Coordinate the development options for progressing a modification response, appraising whether changes could be added to the existing 749R modification	CH	Closed
4	26 Jan 21	Obtain update from DN Forum regarding flexible local offtake requirements	CH	Closed
5	26 Jan 21	Networks to review capacity study processes	Networks	Closed
6	26 Jan 21	Share EnCF discussion with ENA's Data Working Group and obtain update on the National Energy Systems map timescales.	ENA	Closed
7	26 Jan 21	See if it is possible to share Cadent's findings previous thinking on compression levels when converting gas to biomethane.	SE	Carried forward

For actions 5 and 6, it was agreed to provide an update on the ENA National Energy Systems Map and capacity study processes in summer 2021.

For action 7, SE asked TH to pick this up for the March meeting.

Action Plan Tracker:

SE explained that one proposal had been received, which will be covered later on the Agenda:

- Management of test and calibration gas bottles

For Item 1 on the Tracker 'CV blips and flaring - Lack of CV flexibility during plant

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start up' and Item 2 'Primary legislation change for low flow systems - unreachable CV targets', SE explained that ENA have invited an Ofgem representative to join the meeting and the REA have written to Ofgem asking them to appropriately prioritise this work.

KZ received an email from Ofgem at the start of the meeting, who were interested in GDN solutions for reducing flaring. The group agreed to continue to pursue Ofgem engagement. DH noted he would be happy to support. JC asked whether proposed solutions have been developed. TH explained there was a proposal to Ofgem five years ago which suggested amendments to the Letter of Direction. It was agreed that the networks and REA would continue to engage Ofgem on this issue, with the intention of encouraging Ofgem to join the March EnCF.

SE explained that BEIS have set up a Gas Blending Group, focusing on hydrogen blending, where the issue of governance around thermal energy regulations has been raised with BEIS.

For Item 4 'flexible local offtake requirements', RP joined the call as a member of the DN Forum and explained that the issue raised was focused on NGN's network, where there is an interruptible customer. RP explained that the 749R modification had been raised in connection with the flexible capacity requirements at CNG refuelling sites, but a 749R modification could help with flexible requirements. RP suggested joining the [749R Working Group](#) to help progress this issue.

In terms of capacity, RP noted the challenge as sites can't connect unless they have capacity but networks are unable to ask about willingness to be interrupted until sites are connected. For this to change Ofgem would need to amend the interruption arrangements. JM noted that regulation will need to change to link entry and exit capacity, this could pose an issue with managing security of supply.

Proposal – Management of test and calibration gas bottles

JM explained that this has been raised as SGS (Ofgem's technical auditors) regularly raise issues with the networks. Frequent issues relate to expired gas bottles, incorrect types of bottles, and incorrect certificates input into site software. This can be time consuming for GDNs to manage and can lead to a loss of record. JM explained that SGN have developed a procedure [link removed for website upload] for calibration and test gas bottle replacement, which has been shared with all biomethane producers.

RB asked whether SGN's procedure covers all Ofgem-approved instrumentation. JM noted that it does and this procedure would be shared after the meeting.

RB highlighted an issue with some manufacturers of H₂S cylinders stating a three year expiry date, despite the possibility of H₂S being absorbed into the cylinders.

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This means that when calibrating, a cylinder could be in spec but there is no guarantee that there is 4PPM of H₂S in the gas. DH noted that the lifespan of the cylinder will depend on how it was passivated.

DH supported the suggestion of developing KPIs to understand and track issues. The group noted it would be useful if networks could collate key issues that are being flagged on SGS audits.

In relation to the variation in cylinder shelf life, LF noted that there are BOC bottles with five year shelf life and when retested, the mixtures were stable. LF reiterated DH's point on the pre-condition of the cylinders.

In terms of SGS issues, RB highlighted the need to remember the legal requirement to prevent loss of record, particularly ensuring a manual calibration is undertaken when an instrument fails daily calibration.

Next Steps:

- **Action: GDNs to agree how to communicate procedures to biomethane producers.**
- **Action: GDNs to collate key SGS issues**
- **Action: GDNs to develop KPIs for identifying common themes in SGS issues**

Standardisation deep dive:

RB asked for an update on the calibration methodology. TH explained that she would contact RB directly to pick this up.

GS(M)R Siloxanes:

TH explained that the HSE haven't formally endorsed the report on recommended siloxane levels but they don't have any objections with the approach. JM will be leading a group on recommending implementation and a briefing note will be shared with the biomethane community at the end of March.

Site Acceptance Testing Methodology:

TH noted that Matt Pitts (Cadent) has updated requirements and an update will be sent out to DFOs and suppliers within the next month.

Gas Quality Risk Assessment:

TH explained that a consistent approach for GQ8 will be shared with GDNs in April

and an update will be presented at the May EnCF.

ME2:

BH explained that this is currently a document on the Joint Office website and the intention is to take ME2 out of the overarching document, whilst ensuring accuracy elements of ME2, which will stay with the Joint Office. An ME2 technical document will be produced, allowing more flexibility for testing equipment and procedures on biomethane sites.

LGT:

BH explained that NGN have undertaken a review and risk assessment of their ownership model which will be shared with other GDNs in March and update will be provided to the EnCF in April.

Blending Strategy:

TH explained that an update on this will be provided in the May EnCF.

AOB:

RB noted there is not a consistent approach with cylinder regulations and relief valves. **Action: RB and TH to discuss details on cylinder regulations inconsistencies.** SE suggested completing a proposal form so this item can be further discussed. DH noted that he would be happy to support by linking with existing codes of practice, as a member of the Technical Committee of the British Compressed Gas Association.

Meeting closed.

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		levels when converting gas to biomethane.		
4	23 Feb 21	GDNs to further consider how to communicate procedures to biomethane producers.	GDNs	<i>Created</i>
5	23 Feb 21	GDNs to collate key SGS issues	GDNs	<i>Created</i>
6	23 Feb 21	GDNs to develop KPIs for identifying common themes in SGS issues	GDNs	<i>Created</i>
7	23 Feb 21	RB and TH to discuss details on cylinder regulations inconsistencies.	RB/TH	<i>Created</i>