

PIPELINE INDUSTRIES GUILD**ONSHORE TECHNICAL PANEL****MEETING OF 13TH FEBRUARY 2007 HELD AT THE SHERATON BELGRAVIA HOTEL****KEY POINTS****1. ATTENDANCE****1.1 ATTENDEES (9)**

Dick GRAY (Chair)
 Martin WAYLAND
 Richard ESPINER

Andrew JACKSON
 Bruce McCULLOUGH
 Graham WILCOCK

Keith MOLE
 Mike DARRACOTT
 Phil PARKINSON

1.2 APOLOGIES (23)

Paul O'CONNELL
 Wilson SANATAMARIA
 David YAPP
 Roger SARGOLOGO
 Richard BROUGHTON
 John COPPACK
 Brian SPENCER
 Cheryl BURGESS

Matthew DOHERTY
 Ernie HOLDEN
 Keith MOLE
 Robbie WILLIAMSON
 Kenneth MACDONALD
 Bill HUGHES
 Ian HARRISON
 Richard VERNON

John BARR
 Alan THAYNE
 David WILLIS
 Russell DEARDEN
 Mark JORDAN
 Eric MARTIN
 John VARDON

1.3 PANEL MEMBERSHIP / REPRESENTATION

- Paul GODDEN (BPA) had resigned from the Panel as he was due to retire in April 2007.
- Marc HOBELL (Ordnance Survey) had resigned from the Panel and had been replaced by Mike DARRACOTT.
- Martin WAYLAND (HSE, Chelmsford) had joined the Panel following the retirement of Chris MOVLEY.

It was agreed that there was a pressing need to refresh the membership of the Onshore Panel and to find new members who combined commitment, enthusiasm and a willingness to participate actively in the Panel. It was also agreed that corresponding members needed to be developed.

Phil PARKINSON was asked to get all Panel members to reaffirm their wish to remain on the Panel. Failure either to reply positively or to indicate their preference to be a corresponding member would result in the member's removal from the circulation list / membership.

It was agreed that the revised list of Panel members would be asked subsequently to update / provide their details on the competence matrix as soon as possible after the Panel had been reconstituted. [Almost nobody had replied to previous requests to provide these details.]

It was recognised that there was a need for enthusiastic Chairmen for all Panels. It was noted that all members were volunteers. While it was advantageous if members could attend some / most meetings, it was not considered essential for them to attend them all.

It was felt that the Guild had lost its influence over the past few years and needed to increase its profile. The Onshore Panel needed to be reconstituted and to make a break from non-participating members.

Phil PARKINSON was asked to contact **Cheryl BURGESS** to ask:

- For Branches to be reminded of the standing invitation for the Branches to send attendees to the Panel's meetings, and
- To check what approaches the Guild had made to the five Gas Networks seeking representatives.

It was felt that collaboration with other institutions had been developed successfully by several Branches and should be promoted by HQ for more general issues.

It was agreed that the PIG's "News In Brief" should be used to publicise the role and work of the Panel to members and Branches.

1.4 PANEL STRUCTURES

Keith MOLE was asked to progress the possible merging the Onshore and Utilities Panel. It was felt there were sufficient and significant differences between the Onshore and Offshore Panels to justify them remaining separate, despite the Offshore Panel's reported problems in recruiting a Chairman. The idea of reverting to a single Technical Panel should also be considered / promoted within the Guild, as had previously existed.

The Utilities Panel was reported to be very active with plenty of interest (see report of their recent Warwick seminar, Section 7 below). In terms of onshore pipeline construction activities, it was noted that – other than National Grid's gas pipelines in South Wales – there was a relative lack of activity in the UK currently.

Keith MOLE was asked to take forward these ideas with **Rob WILLIAMS** (Utilities Panel Chairman) and with the Executive, particularly following the recent establishment of two new Panels (Youth and International).

Such a combination would help in terms of representation in terms of attendance overlap with the two current Panels (e.g. for the Ordnance Survey's representation).

2. NOTE OF THE MEETING OF 19TH DECEMBER 2006 AT HQ

2.1 No comments had been received on the notes of the previous meeting (produced by Andrew JACKSON).

2.2 All actions were covered in the items reported below.

3. UKOPA UPDATE

The most recent UKOPA meeting had been held 7th and 8th February 2007 at Killingholme. The notes would be circulated on receipt from Phill JONES. There had been presentations on a range of topics (e.g. maintenance of non-piggable lines).

UKOPA was proposing arrangements for a seminar on land use planning and risk assessment, though this was understood to have been postponed.

A key development had been in terms of land use planning and risk assessments methodology for TD1 (that had been issued in draft by Rod McCONNELL) and for BS8010. The HSE had been asked to promote this as advice to local authorities but there had been problems in terms of resourcing.

Information was available to authorities on the Internet ("PADHI" guidance) and to pipeline operators on how to carry out the risk assessment. Local planning authorities (LPAs) were responsible for deciding planning applications and making decisions based on these methods.

It was reported that there were still issues around the inclusion of gasoline pipelines as major hazard pipelines: the issue was reported to be “still in the balance”. A meeting had been held in London on 12th February 2007 to discuss gasoline pipes. These were expected to be included eventually. There was ongoing discussion on what was to be defined as “gasoline”.

4. NUAG

The PIG had dropped the promotion of any proposed development of a one-call system due to the lack of both legislation and funding that were considered essential to its implementation – even though this was thought by many in the industry to be the ultimate requirement.

Andrew JACKSON reported that NUAG’s vision was more likely to be single, web-based portal where those planning any work would provide the relevant coordinates. The enquirer would be notified of the results derived from the search of a series of web-based data sets and with collated information, giving both details and the required actions.

There was an ongoing debate on who should host this – NUAG, the Government or a new body. The Ordnance Survey currently held some of the relevant information. Much would depend on how the information was to be issued.

NUAG would be meeting in w/c 19th February 2007. A Processes Specification was being developed by the Steering Committee for approval prior to circulation (see note to be attached to these minutes).

The seminar “*Mapping the Underworld*” would be held in Leeds on 17th April 2007 (see the flyer [pdf file] to be circulated with these meeting notes). Previous sessions had been very academic and futuristic as the ideas were largely driven by academics. There was a need to ensure practical considerations were included.

There was still an important issue in that 95% of the buried infrastructure was what already existed and for which data were incomplete or absent – there was a pressing need to capture accurate, as-built, historical data.

Mike DARRACOTT hoped to be able to report further on this and on “VISTA” to Panel members in the future.

Andrew JACKSON felt there was a need to him to continue to emphasise the importance of non-street works utilities (transmission pipelines, etc) to NUAG and to continue to stress to them the concerns of the oil and gas industries about security (and to lesser extent in the case of the water industry infrastructure). The issues related to proposed road rental may give rise to significant costs for services that will put pressure to place new services adjacent to highways rather than in / along them.

5. RECENT ACCIDENTS AND LESSONS LEARNED

Buncefield: The Final Report was now overdue (having been expected at the end of January 2007): no publication date was yet known. The findings were not known at this stage, though the cause of the unconfined explosion (rather than ignition) was understood not to have been confirmed.

It was not known if the current site was to be rebuilt on the current site or whether the site would continue to be by-passed.

Pipeline accident: a fixed wing pipeline inspection aircraft over-flying Exxon pipes had crashed in bad weather on approach to an airfield in Texas killing two.

National Grid: 21st December 2005: poor repairs / faulty spares had reportedly been fitted to a pipeline surveillance helicopter. Two fatalities had resulted from the failure of the tail rotor.

6. STANDARDS UPDATE

Dave WILLIS was unable to attend as he was attending an ISO session in Bucharest.

He requested any feedback from Panel members on the standards package that he had circulated with his e-mail on 26th January 2007 and on the PE pipe electro-fusion couplings issue that he had also raised by Steve WHIPP's in his e-mail of 29th January 2007 that had been forwarded by Dave on the same date (see Section 10, below).

The ISO annual pipelines subcommittee SC2 was to be held in w/c 21st April 2007 in Qatar.

Dick GRAY reported that the BSi's website was poor and that he couldn't access BS8010. **Dave WILLIS** was asked to contact Keith SADY to try and sort this out and to advise Dick as soon as possible. (Panel members were reminded that the BSi charged both for draft and published standards.)

Bruce McCULLOUGH asked how comments were sought on draft standards to ensure the UK's views were represented. **Richard ESPINER** undertook to review and report back.

7. SEMINARS, CONFERENCES AND COURSES

7.1 SEMINAR TO BE ORGANISED BY THE ONSHORE PANEL

After discussion it was agreed there was a need to define the topic for the seminar to be organised by the Onshore Panel for delivery in late 2007. The agreed topic was to be "*Prevention Of Mechanical Damage To Onshore Pipelines*" and would comprise up to six papers. Panel members were asked to suggest contributors or to volunteer to give a paper.

The possible venues should include:

- HQ lecture theatre, or
- University lecture theatre (e.g. London, Warwick).

Phil PARKINSON was asked to convene (initially by e-mail) a small subgroup that was mandated to progress this comprising:

- Dick GRAY
- Phil PARKINSON
- Dave WILLIS
- Brian SPENCER, and
- Cheryl BURGESS

The subgroup's initial objective in next month was to put together the programme and presenters, to agree the venue and to identify potential costs and sponsors and develop publicity materials.

7.2 FUTURE CONFERENCES / COURSES

Gas Industry networking:

- **IGEM / SBGI Gas Industry Awards Lunch** - Tuesday 8th May 2007, Park Lane, London: Speaker: Lord Truscott, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Energy.
- **SIR DENIS ROOKE LECTURE**, RIBA London - Wednesday 30 May 2007, by Sir John MOGG, KCMG, Chairman of the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority.
- **IGEM Engineering Update Summer Conference and Exhibition**, Loughborough – Tuesday, 5th and Wednesday, 6th June 2007: Further details will appear on the IGEM website as soon as these are available.

8. PIG HQ ISSUES - UPDATE

8.1 OFFICE LOCATION

PIG HQ was still negotiating the new rent for the lease of the office at Belgrave Square. (£40,000 rent pa currently.) It was possible that HQ would stay as and where it was. There may be a need in the next twelve months to look elsewhere depending on the landlord's stance. HQ may relocate within London or outside – this had still to be decided. Keith MOLE's preference would be to propose that the Guild should invest in their own property along the M4 corridor. The Guild may be able either to lodge with a Corporate partner or share with another institution. The preference from the past-Chairmen's Panel was to stay in central London.

Panel members expressed a range of views. IGEM was reported to get more support having moved to Loughborough than it had when based in central London. Staffing in Advantica's offices had been of higher quality for much lower cost than in central London with direct benefits (e.g. membership records improved very quickly due to continuity of staff).

A small working party within HQ was progressing these issues.

8.2 50TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER: 6TH MARCH 2007, LONDON

Currently 820 attendees were expected. Cheryl BURGESS was chasing down former Chairmen.

8.3 SUCCESSION PLANNING

Two nominations had been received for Deputy Chairmen (though details were not known). Panel Chairmen were expected to carry on (subject to any mergers that may occur).

8.4 GUILD WEBSITE

Problems were reported with the Guild's website in terms of access (by the HSE) and the contents were reported to be significantly out of date.

8.5 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

14th June 2007 – Guild AGM.

9. PIG TECHNICAL FORUM

The Forum that had been suggested to coincide with the 50th Anniversary Dinner on the afternoon of 6th March 2007 would **not** now take place.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 ELECTRO-FUSION COUPLINGS

The issues raised in Steve WHIPP's e-mail of 29th January 2007 (that had been forwarded by David WILLIS on the same date) had been included in discussion at the Utilities Panel's seminar that had been held in Warwick on 25th January 2007.

In discussion, while noting the concern about these issues these were considered to relate solely to PE pipes and were therefore more relevant to the remit of the Utilities Panel rather than the Onshore Panel and that they should respond to Northern Branch with planned actions.

10.2 NATIONAL GRID'S PROCEDURE FOR THE INSPECTION OF FLEXIBLE HOSES

The Panel noted the contents of the draft National Grid Safety And Engineering Instruction received from Ian HARRISON of National Grid (e-mail of 7th February 2007) and thanked him for providing these details.

Bruce McCULLOUGH drew attention to related the standards that had been developed for work offshore:

- API/RP/17B – Non-bonded, offshore, and
- API/RP/17J – Bonded, offshore.

10.3 NATIONAL GRID'S DRAFT GUIDANCE ON MARKER POSTS

Panel members were asked to comment directly to Ian HARRISON, copied to other Panel members, on the draft specification that he had been provided for information with his e-mail of 8th February 2007.

10.4 ORDNANCE SURVEY'S USE OF PICTOMETRY

The Ordnance Survey was looking at using a product – “pictometry” – that used aerial imagery for visualisation using oblique imagery from four compass points. Details could be seen at:

<http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite/products/pictometry/index.html>

The aerial photography allowed viewing in elevation to 15 cm. It was possible to use such data in emergency planning or by utilities and for viewing more complex sites (e.g. refineries, etc) and could be used to take three-dimensional images that could be combined with terrain data. The images were sold as tiles and could be site specific. This technique was available for high value (urban) areas only at present.

This technique had been used for several public protection initiatives in the US. The OS was looking to resell this to the Police and emergency services and to local government bodies. Mike DARRACOTT offered to give a brief paper at a future Panel meeting.

10.5 ATTENDANCE AT NATIONAL GRID, WARWICK - 12TH JUNE 2007

Panel members were asked to advise Ian HARRISON as soon as possible if they planned to attend the next meeting so he could make the necessary arrangements.

11. NEXT MEETINGS

NOTE: THERE WILL **NOT** BE A PANEL MEETING ON Tuesday, 6th March 2007: London Dinner (evening) – no Panel meeting (Note: Technical Panel cancelled)

Tuesday, 12th June 2007: National Grid HQ, Warwick starting at 10h00 followed by a visit to the National Control Centre

Thursday, 11th October 2007 (provisional): at Northern Branch's Innovation Day (to be confirmed)

Tuesday, 18th December 2007 (provisional): at PIG Headquarters starting at 10h30 followed by Christmas lunch (to be confirmed).

[Unless stated otherwise, London meetings will convene at 12h30 for sandwiches for 13h00 meeting start.]

Phil PARKINSON
13th February 2007