

Gemini Sustain Plus Focus Group

held on 25/09/2023

Q & A

1. Will you move closer to the rest of Europe where we use net nominations and use edig@s formats? or is the update only a technical lift?

Answer – This functionality will not be in scope of Gemini Sustain Plus that will go live in autumn 2024. National Gas will consider this request for future releases.

2. How will this affect the capacity bookings process for 23/24?

Answer - The Gemini Sustain Plus Programme will not change the capacity booking process for 2023/24. Please note that all data from Legacy Gemini will be migrated to the updated platform.

3. Does the BA option in the bottom left imply that one user account will be able to access multiple BA codes and switch between them, or is this just displayed for information purposes?

Answer – we are aware that some users carry out activities on behalf of more than one BA Code therefore we are looking at technical solutions to make this as simple as possible. Granting this type of access will also depend on the appropriate data and process contractual arrangements being in place between the relevant organisations.

4. Is it a requirement to have federated AAD to use the new solution?

Answer – The use of federated login via Azure AD External Identities (Now known as Microsoft Entra External ID) will be the preferred and primary approach for customers to access Gemini, this allows customers to log into Gemini using their own organisations login credentials (Single sign-on).

5. Would it be possible to have a function that books the difference between requested nomination and net entitlement capacity through a screen similar to the Live capacity vs Nomination report. The reasoning behind this is capacity breaches and incorrect bookings are often the most expensive unnecessary costs.

This function will not be in scope of Gemini Sustain Plus going live in Autumn 2024. National Gas will consider requests for future releases.

6. Will the API follow the same format as the current version (XML based)? Or will this be changed to something else (JSON based, for example)? - dependant on how users want to integrate.

Answer – The Gemini API gateway solution delivered during Gemini System Enhancements already allows customers to choose either XML or JSON in API requests/responses. This approach will continue in the new Gemini API gateway that will be delivered as part of Sustain Plus. However, the API gateway will only be accessible over the internet and will require a JWT (JSON Web Tokens) to be provided for authentication.

7. At the beginning you mentioned that the API URL will change, but does this mean that the API's themselves will not be changed and therefore the new system is forward compatible machine to machine ? - See answer 7.
8. We have noticed something like "flat file replacement with API " in some initial mails. Will this cover current IX flows replaced with APIs ? See answer 7.
9. Please can you share the slides used today, and the timeline for the changes.

Answer – the slides used in the Focus Group meeting have been added to the Xoserve website.

10. In terms of role types - would it be worth considering a role type of 'academic' going forward?

Answer - The Gemini platform is available only to UNC signatories. National Gas publish a wealth of industry data on the National Gas Transmission Data Portal.

11. How flexible will this new system be? Will there be a summary screen to review multiple capacity bids in multiple locations seamlessly during a bid window rather than viewing each individually (e.g. like Prisma summary).

Answer - The upgraded Gemini will be significantly more flexible for users with improved navigation, visual dashboards. We are working through the detail of dashboards that will be made available and will provide an update on the specific screen request made here at the next Focus Group meeting.

12. How long will the IX based API be available? Will the password change requirements for IX-API still apply, assuming we need new user credentials?

Answer - IX based API access will cease at the go-live of the new Gemini Sustain Plus solution. Access to the new Gemini API gateway will require new credentials in the form of a JSON web token (JWT), the current assumption is that the tokens will be renewed on an annual basis and there will be a streamlined process put in place to support the renewal process.

13. Will there be any API test environments we can use?

Answer - The Market Trials test environments will include API connectivity. There will be an item on the agenda for next Focus Group concerning API's.

14. Could there be customisable push notifications/ warnings? For capacity breaches, balances, mismatches etc?

Answer – There will be notifications of this nature. We will provide some details at a future Focus Group meeting.

15. Is the old Gemini and ID's usable after go-live ?

Answer – following go-live, only the Gemini Sustain Plus version will be available. However, the historic data will be migrated over before go-live. Where a current user needs to retain their access to Gemini, the migrated data will include the mapping of their existing user ID to their new user account details. There will be an onboarding process prior to go live to ensure users will have access through appropriate IDs.

16. How long with the Change pack be issued for review for?

Answer - We anticipate sharing the Change Pack with the Focus Group. It will be submitted in line with the minimum 6 months notice period and cover all aspects of Sustain Plus. We will not be creating an “external screen pack” because the new UI means every screen is changing and so the highlights will be mentioned at future Focus Group /visible to customers in the Market Trials.

17. Go-live date will be for Q3 2024, will you look to implement on the 1st October?

Answer - We will avoid 1st October/start of the Gas Year.