



# The Yule-Tide

Welcome to our festive edition #14 of Xoserve's monthly Project Trident newsletter, **The Tide**, providing a summary of our progress, sharing updates and upcoming work as we work through our UK Link modernisation project together.

**On behalf of Xoserve and the Project Trident Team, we would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

To ensure you can access the latest information, we are maintaining our [Project Trident homepage](#) with all the latest materials, including our active Project Trident Q&A log.

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## Trident's top three: Headlines for the month

1. Project Trident preferred option is launched to DSC Contract Managers and their nominated representatives.
2. Project Trident Customer Engagement Day scheduled for 4 February 2026.
3. Jeremy Bending announced as Steering Committee Customer Advisor – Transporters.

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### **1. Project Trident preferred option is launched to DSC Contract Managers and their nominated representatives.**

On 8 December, Project Trident launched its preferred option to DSC Contract Managers and their nominated representatives, which was followed by a closed briefing took place on 18 December.

This decision is conditional on us competitively testing the market and remains subject to change until we reach the preferred solution in the Full Business Case. This market engagement continues to seek feedback from potential suppliers on the preferred option and commercial approach ahead of a formal procurement process in early 2026.

If through further analysis and negotiation with potential delivery partners in 2026, the preferred option is not deemed to be affordable, deliverable at an acceptable risk, or not deemed to give Customers value for money, we will revert to an alternative option that better meets the needs of the project, our Customers, and the industry.

We welcome customer questions on the preferred option or any other Project Trident progress or focus areas. These will be used to create a supporting FAQ document to go alongside the Outline Business Case publication in early 2026.

Please share questions on the preferred option in advance of 13 January to the [communications@xoserve.com](mailto:communications@xoserve.com) mailbox, the Stakeholder Engagement team or your relevant Customer Advisor.

If you are a DSC Contract Manager or one of their nominated representatives and you haven't received this update, please contact [communications@xoserve.com](mailto:communications@xoserve.com) for the update to be shared with you.

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## **2. Project Trident Customer Engagement Day scheduled for 4 February 2026.**

To support our launch of the Outline Business Case in early 2026, we would like to invite DSC Contract Managers and their nominated representatives to a Project Trident Customer Engagement Day.

We look forward to welcoming our customers along to our event on Wednesday 4 February 2026, between 10:00 and 16:00 at our Xoserve office at Lansdowne Gate, 65 New Road, Solihull, B91 3DL to discuss extracts of our Outline Business Case and to gather your feedback to help to shape our priorities.

This event will be limited to DSC Customers and their nominated representatives. Spaces are limited so please register as soon as possible. To ensure we get as broad a representation of customers and stakeholders, we'd also ask that a maximum of three people attend per organisation.

Please sign up via the link attached below:

[Register for the event here](#)

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### 3. Jeremy Bending announced as Steering Committee Customer Advisor – Transporters.

We are pleased to announce that **Jeremy Bending** will be joining as the new Customer Advisor – Transporters.

Jeremy brings over 50 years of experience across the UK gas industry, having held senior leadership roles at National Gas, TRANSCO, and other major organisations. Jeremy has been instrumental in shaping operational strategy, regulatory compliance, and infrastructure development. Since leaving National Grid in 2014, he has developed a portfolio career with positions at Executive and Non-Executive Director level. He holds or has held the following roles within the sector:

- Phoenix Energy as Chairman
- Glover Gas as Non-Executive Director
- National Grid as Chief Operating Officer for the gas distribution business
- TRANSCO as Head of National Transmission system

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to Matthew Little, our initial Customer Advisor – Transporters. Matthew has decided not to extend his time in role after the initial six-month term due to other commitments. His technical expertise and guidance have been invaluable in shaping Project Trident during its early stages. We also thank Northern Gas Networks for generously supporting Matthew's time on the project.

[As shared in November](#), the Project Trident Steering Committee agreed on 6 November to extend the Customer Advisor roles for a further six months. The Committee values the advisors' contribution in providing robust challenge and insight to decision-making. A review of the structure, including customer feedback, will follow publication of the Outline Business Case, as the project moves into Procurement and Full Business Case phases. Continuing Advisors:

- **Gareth Evans:** Customer Advisor - Shippers
- **Jeremy Bending:** Customer Advisor - Transporters

You can contact Gareth and Jeremy by email, using "Project Trident" in the subject line. Please allow for a short delay in responses:

- Gareth: [gareth@waterswye.co.uk](mailto:gareth@waterswye.co.uk)
  - Jeremy: [jeremy.bending@armco.solutions](mailto:jeremy.bending@armco.solutions)
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## Stay in touch

If you have any feedback on the newsletter, its content or what you'd like to see next, please email us via [communications@xoserve.com](mailto:communications@xoserve.com). Otherwise stay tuned for more updates and thank you for your continued support.

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