

CODE MODIFICATION PROPOSAL No. 0033

"Notification to Users of Emergency Incidents - Impacts on Code Communications"
Version 1.0

Date: 11/07/2005

Proposed Implementation Date: 01/10/2005

Urgency: Non-Urgent

Proposer's preferred route through modification procedures and if applicable, justification for Urgency

(see the criteria at http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/temp/ofgem/cache/cmsattach/2752_Urgency_Criteria.pdf)

Transco presented the case outlined within this Modification Proposal at the June 2005 meeting of the Distribution Workstream. No significant concerns were raised with regard to the principle. Therefore, Transco seeks that the Proposal be permitted to 'proceed to consultation'.

Nature and Purpose of Proposal (including consequence of non implementation)

Modification of the Uniform Network Code (UNC) is required to enable the notification of emergency incidents to Users in accordance with the document – '*Schedule for Shipper Communications in Incidents of CO Poisoning, Gas Fire/Explosions and Local Gas Supply Emergency*' (to be referred to within the UNC as the 'Shipper Incident Communication Procedure'¹).

Further to implementation of Modification 0649 (described below), notifications will be required to be issued pursuant to the rules contained within the Schedule. Transco has elected to implement these requirements by developing an Internet based incident reporting system. This will incorporate an e-mail alert facility to enable Users to be informed of relevant incidents.

It is proposed to extend the current allowable forms of Code Communication to incorporate Internet/e-mail for the communication to Users of emergency incidents as detailed within the Schedule.

In absence of this Modification, Relevant Transporters would not be able to utilise Internet/e-mail based communication to adhere to the provisions relevant to emergency incidents. The UNC specifies that Code Communications may only be made 'by UK-Link Communication' (in accordance with Section U) or 'by delivery or by post or facsimile'. Currently, Internet based communications are not included within the above definition.

¹ The schedule is to be introduced within the remit of Network Code Modification Proposal 0649 'Referencing Incident Notification Within Network Code' and is planned for implementation on 1 October 2005.

Basis upon which the Proposer considers that it will better facilitate the achievement of the Relevant Objectives, specified in Standard Special Condition A11.1 & 2 of the Gas Transporters Licence

Network Code Modification 0649 is scheduled for implementation on 1st October 2005. The Proposal develops Transporters' existing obligations to provide communication to Users upon the occurrence of Loss of Gas Supply incidents and incidents of Carbon Monoxide Poisonings. A new obligation to issue a communication to Users in the event of gas fire/explosions is also required in the above Proposal.

Changes to the UNC are required to ensure that where supporting Internet based systems functionality is utilised by the Relevant Transporter in accordance with the rules contained within the Schedule, this is identified within the UNC as a means of Code Communication. Transco believes that the measures identified within this UNC Modification Proposal ensure that Users are able to access data made available by the Relevant Transporter. Full availability and transparency of information in these circumstances furthers the GT Licence 'code relevant objective' of securing competition between relevant shippers as set out within Standard Special Condition A11 of the Gas Transporters Licence.

Any further information (Optional), likely impact on systems, processes or procedures, Proposer's view on implementation timescales and suggested text

Transco has developed an incident reporting system which is an Internet based information portal. In the event of a relevant emergency incident occurring, where a User elected to utilise the system, a Transporter would alert the relevant User of such by e-mail. The User would then access the Transporters web based facility to obtain further information regarding the incident. If so directed, this Modification Proposal should be implemented with effect from 1st October 2005.

Code Concerned, sections and paragraphs

Uniform Network Code General Terms Section B5.1

Proposer's Representative

Chris Warner (National Grid Transco - UKD)

Proposer

Declan McLaughlin (National Grid Transco - UKD)

Signature

.....