

Review of UNC Section Q “Emergencies”

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UNC Distribution Workstream

Section Q – Scope of Review

- Ensure the UNC Definitions, requirements and obligations are clear & consistent with the NEC Safety Case, GS(M)R and E1
- Ensure the structure of UNC Section Q is logical and processes described follows the steps taken by NEC and E1
- Provide clarity as to the roles and responsibilities of all parties in the event of a Network Gas Supply Emergency
- Incorporate certain elements of UNC0035 and address the possible ‘relevant price’ ambiguity arising from UNC0044 legal text

Proposal: Simplification of Definitions and Processes

- Revise UNC Section Q definitions (shorter)
- Remove the term 'potential'
- Reorder of sub-sections into logical sequence and, clarification of the relationship between Emergency Procedures, Emergency Stages and Emergency Steps
- Gas Deficit Emergency (Q.3.2) and Critical Transportation Emergency Constraint (Q.3.3) revised and now includes all Stages (1 to 5) of a Network Gas Supply Emergency
- Other minor revisions where appropriate

Proposal: Incorporating elements of UNC0035

- The Authority directed National Grid NTS not to implement UNC0035 (Revisions to Section Q to Facilitate the Revised NEC Safety Case)
- The Ofgem decision letter of 16th November 2005 did indicate support for several of the proposed changes
- These changes are now being proposed as part of this review;
 - The NEC might declare individual Stages, sequentially or, several Stages together;
 - Clarification of the relationship and roles of Transporters/DNs in the event of a requirement for demand-side reduction;
 - Trade Nominations completed prior to the suspension of the OCM will be included within the Users' imbalance.

Proposal – Remove potential ambiguity of UNC0044

- UNC0044 (Revisions to Section Q to Facilitate the Revised NEC Safety Case) was implemented on 1st October 2005
- There is some potential ambiguity in the existing legal text in relation to a User having a successful ECQ claim but the OCM remains open (Section Q.6.3.4). National Grid NTS wishes to remove the potential ambiguity of the term “relevant price”.
- Revised text (Q.6.3.5) to be inserted that reflects “relevant sell price” and “relevant buy price” rather than “relevant price”.

Recommendation

- National Grid NTS to raise a new UNC Modification Proposal
- With support and agreement from the UNC Transmission Workstream, recommend to the UNC Modification Panel that the proposal is sent straight to consultation
- Timing:
 - UNC Transmission Workstream - 6th April 2006
 - UNC Modification Panel – 20th April 2006
 - Consultation closeout – 22nd May 2006
 - FMR due - 13th June 2006
 - UNC Modification Panel - 15th June 2006
 - Ofgem decision - June/July 2006
 - Implementation - 1st August 2006