

98/04/15/04



08 April 1998

Direct Dial: 0171-932-1652

Mr Richard Gray  
Process Manager, Network Code  
Transco  
31 Homer Road  
Solihull  
West Midlands B91 3LT

Dear Mr Gray

**Modification Proposal 224 - Request for Urgency**

We have today rejected the request that modification 224 "Revision of Rough Services", as proposed by Enron, should be accepted as urgent. The modification raises several important questions that deserve greater consideration than can be given during urgent consultation. We believe that this modification should be referred to the Storage Workstream to be developed. In order to allow consideration of the outcome of this development in time for Winter 1998/99, this development should take no more than three months - i.e., the developed modification proposal should be presented to the July Modification Panel.

As for the proposal to remove the requirement for top-up bookings, we have already come to our conclusion on the need for the requirement to book top-up gas in our letter of 1 April 1998. However, Transco's decision to resubmit its safety case in the light of this means that Ofgas would not be able to sign a modification that removes the need for top-up before the HSE had considered Transco's revised safety case. However, as indicated in our letter, that does not necessarily mean that shippers should continue to pay for top-up costs. In this respect, therefore, the modification would need to be developed before being submitted for consultation and, ultimately, approval.

Yours sincerely

*Andy MacFaul*

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Nick Fincham  
Director, Supply Regulation