

0574:

Creating the permission to release supply point data to the Theft Risk Assessment Service (TRAS)

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02	Workgroup Report
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04	Final Modification Report

This is an enabling modification, which seeks to create the necessary permissions in UNC for supply point data to be provided to the Theft Risk Assessment Service (TRAS) to increase the accuracy of the service.

	<p>The Proposer recommends that this modification should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> subject to self-governance assessed by a Workgroup
	<p>High Impact: None</p>
	<p>Medium Impact: None</p>
	<p>Low Impact: Shippers</p>

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About this document:		
This modification will be presented by the proposer to the panel on 18 February 2016.		Transporter: Northern Gas Networks
The panel will consider the proposer's recommendation and agree whether this modification should be:		 jferguson@northerngas.co.uk
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> considered at short notice subject to self-governance referred to a workgroup for assessment. 		 0113 397 5323
The Proposer recommends the following timetable:		Systems Provider: Xoserve
Initial consideration by Workgroup	25 February 2016	 commercial.enquiries@xoserve.com
Workgroup Report presented to Panel	17 March 2016	
Draft Modification Report issued for consultation	17 March 2016	
Consultation Close-out for representations	12 April 2016	
Final Modification Report presented to Panel	13 April 2016	
UNC Modification Panel decision	21 April 2016	

1 Summary

Is this a Self-Governance Modification?

This modification is suitable for Self-Governance as it merely seeks to grant permission to release an existing dataset for use by the Theft Risk Assessment Service (TRAS), therefore there will be no material effect on existing or future gas consumers and competition in the shipping, transportation or supply of gas conveyed through pipes or any commercial activities connected with the shipping, transportation or supply of gas conveyed through pipes.

Is this a Fast Track Self-Governance Modification?

The modification would meet the self-governance criteria, however as it is not properly a housekeeping modification required as a result of some error or factual change it would not be suitable for Fast Track Self-Governance.

Why Change?

The TRAS has a requirement to access Supply Point Information, arising from terms agreed with the Supply Point Administration Agreement (SPAA) process for the purposes of assessing energy theft risk. The provision of data to TRAS will contribute towards fulfilment of supply licence obligations to detect, prevent and investigate theft of energy.

Solution

This enabling modification is proposing to grant access and permissions to access relevant Supply Point Information to the TRAS provider.

Relevant Objectives

Theft of energy has a material impact on energy consumers in terms of cost and safety. It also leads to a misallocation of costs among energy suppliers, which can distort competition and hamper the efficient functioning of the market. Therefore, UNC objective D(ii), securing of effective competition between relevant suppliers is better facilitated by this modification.

Implementation

As self-governance procedures are proposed, implementation could be sixteen business days after a Modification Panel decision to implement, subject to no Appeal being raised.

Does this modification impact a Significant Code Review (SCR) or other significant industry change projects, if so, how?

No.

2 Why Change?

Background

In January 2013 Ofgem implemented new licence conditions for gas suppliers to detect, prevent and investigate theft (SLC12A). Contained within these conditions is a requirement for gas suppliers to implement a central service to assess the risk of theft of gas at consumer premises and so help target theft investigations. To meet this condition a dual-fuel industry procurement was run to appoint a single energy TRAS provider. A contract has been agreed and these services are now being implemented.

The TRAS has a requirement to access Supply Point Information, arising from terms agreed with SPAA for the purposes of assessing energy theft risk. The provision of data to TRAS will contribute to fulfilment of the licence obligations outlined above, and will also deliver a clear benefit to the Industry by identifying supply points with a high likelihood of energy theft. The provision of data will assist TRAS in reconciling energy company data with Supply Point Information registration data to identify exceptions, which will improve TRAS data quality. There are no data protection issues involved here, as the TRAS provider has already taken steps to meet data protection requirements as part of the TRAS arrangements and already has access to the data.

The benefit of increased theft detection is decreased cost for consumers and industry parties, as theft volume is accounted for within industry unallocated energy processes. Additionally and significantly, reducing the number of theft instances within the industry will reduce the overall safety risk to consumers.

The proposer believes that this modification should be considered as 'enabling', since the change would mainly be of benefit to the TRAS provider and Suppliers, which are not Code parties and therefore of indirect benefit to UNC parties.

More information on the TRAS industry procurement can be found at:

<http://www.electralink.co.uk/services/procurement-services>

3 Solution

This enabling modification is proposing to grant the relevant permissions to allow the TRAS provider to specifically access:

- Meter Point Reference Number
- Meter Point Address and Postcode
- Meter Serial Number

This is an ongoing requirement and quarterly refreshes of the data are needed.

This may require amendment to UNC TPD Section V5 (INFORMATION AND CONFIDENTIALITY) to permit the release of the data in question to TRAS.

User Pays

Classification of the modification as User Pays, or not, and the justification for such classification.

A new non-code User Pays service would be created, as this modification would provide information to TRAS, which is a non-Code party

Identification of Users of the service, the proposed split of the recovery between Gas Transporters and Users for User Pays costs and the justification for such view.	TRAS to use the service and pay costs of the data provision
Proposed charge(s) for application of User Pays charges to Shippers.	Not applicable
Proposed charge for inclusion in the Agency Charging Statement (ACS) – to be completed upon receipt of a cost estimate from Xoserve.	To be completed before a modification is issued to consultation.

4 Relevant Objectives

Impact of the modification on the Relevant Objectives:	
Relevant Objective	Identified impact
a) Efficient and economic operation of the pipe-line system.	None
b) Coordinated, efficient and economic operation of (i) the combined pipe-line system, and/ or (ii) the pipe-line system of one or more other relevant gas transporters.	None
c) Efficient discharge of the licensee's obligations.	None
d) Securing of effective competition: (i) between relevant shippers; (ii) between relevant suppliers; and/or (iii) between DN operators (who have entered into transportation arrangements with other relevant gas transporters) and relevant shippers.	Positive
e) Provision of reasonable economic incentives for relevant suppliers to secure that the domestic customer supply security standards... are satisfied as respects the availability of gas to their domestic customers.	None
f) Promotion of efficiency in the implementation and administration of the Code.	None
g) Compliance with the Regulation and any relevant legally binding decisions of the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Co-operation of Energy Regulators.	None

Securing of effective competition between relevant suppliers

Theft of energy has a material impact on energy consumers in terms of cost and safety. It also leads to a misallocation of costs among energy suppliers, which can distort competition and hamper the efficient functioning of the market.

Supplier Licence Condition 12A.8 requires gas suppliers to develop a Theft Risk Assessment Service (TRAS) to support detection, investigation and prevention of gas theft. It has been determined, as part of the industry procurement of TRAS that access to Data Enquiry Service (DES) data would benefit the service provided by improving exception management and overall data quality of the TRAS service.

Therefore, UNC objective D(ii), securing of effective competition between relevant suppliers would be better facilitated by the implementation of this enabling modification.

5 Implementation

As self-governance procedures are proposed, implementation could be sixteen business days after a Modification Panel decision to implement, subject to no Appeal being raised.

Implementation in line with the suggested timetable, to provide the TRAS with access to DES data as soon as possible after April 2016.

6 Impacts

Does this modification impact a Significant Code Review (SCR) or other significant industry change projects, if so, how?

No.

7 Legal Text

Text Commentary

To be provided by Northern Gas Networks.

Text

To be provided by Northern Gas Networks.

8 Recommendation

The Proposer invites the Panel to:

- Determine that this modification should be subject to self-governance; and
- Progress to Workgroup assessment