

Annex B

Gas Transmission Connection Charging Methodology

INTRODUCTION

1. This Methodology which is published in accordance with Standard Licence Condition 4B of the Licence applies exclusively to Design Works and Construction Works associated with:
 - (a) new NTS connections;
 - (b) modifications to existing NTS connection apparatus;
 - (c) disconnections of existing NTS connection apparatus; and
 - (d) diversions of sections of the NTS.

2. It should be noted that in addition to a physical connection to the NTS, the following additional requirements also need to be satisfied before gas can flow through that connection as specified in the Network Code:
 - (a) National Grid will require gas shippers at the connection point (or DNs in the case of Exit capacity for NTS/LDZ Offtakes) to acquire the appropriate Entry and/or Exit capacity in accordance with the Network Code and the IECR and ExCR methodology statements;
 - (b) National Grid will require a customer to enter into a Supply Point Network Exit Agreement (NExA), Connected System Exit Point (CSEP) NExA, NTS/LDZ Supplemental Agreement, Network Entry Agreement (NEA), Interconnector Agreement or Storage Connection Agreement (SCA), as appropriate.

3. It should also be noted that the following Reinforcement will be triggered as a result of the release of Entry and Exit capacity and not as part of the connection process:
 - (a) For Entry capacity – all necessary Reinforcement;
 - (b) For Exit capacity – only that Reinforcement that is needed upstream of the Connection Charging Point (“CCP”).

SECTION 1 - PRINCIPLES

4. National Grid will recover the Actual Costs incurred when it carries out Design Works and Construction Works, i.e. customers are charged on a cost pass-through basis.
5. Charges reflect the cost of labour, materials, and any other expenses required to carry out the work to the customer's requirements including applicable Lane Rental Charges¹. Each cost element will carry an appropriate level of overhead.
6. National Grid will calculate Estimated Costs and Actual Costs using:
 - (a) National Grid's fully absorbed direct costs associated with undertaking any works, i.e. including appropriate overhead costs;
 - (b) Individually tendered rates for indirect costs, and
 - (c) Any other costs not included above related to the provision of connection activities.
7. National Grid may carry out work additional to that which is required to meet the requirements of the customer to ensure that it develops the NTS in an economic and efficient manner. Where this occurs, the cost of any additional works will not be charged to the customer.
8. All charges are made subject to the appropriate Standard Conditions of Contract (SCCs), which will be made available on request in respect of specific projects.
9. Bespoke quotations will identify any assumptions that are used in the determination of the Estimated Costs.
10. National Grid will enter into commercial agreements with customers on the basis of Estimated Costs, and will seek an advance payment of these Estimated Costs in accordance with both the relevant commercial agreement and National Grid's prevailing credit policy.
11. However, to ensure that the Actual Costs of the project are recovered as described in paragraph 11 above, when final payment is due, as specified in the relevant commercial agreement, National Grid will compare Actual Costs with Estimated Costs invoiced to date and charge for the additional costs incurred or refund any overpayment, as may be the case.

SECTION 2 - CONNECTION CHARGING METHODOLOGY

Connection – Load Size Threshold

12. Loads (or sources of gas) below 58,600,000kWh (2 million therms) per annum shall not be connected, or be permitted to connect, to the NTS. In exceptional circumstances where suitable alternative connections to a Distribution Network are not available, then National Grid will consider requests on a case by case basis.

Design Philosophy

13. Design Works rely upon information provided by the customer and will also use other publicly available information as well as information relating to the NTS.
14. National Grid will construct apparatus on a least project cost 'fit for purpose' basis taking into account the customer's requirements and its relevant Licence obligations. Where there are different fit for purpose design solutions, which meet a customer's requirements, National Grid will base the charge to the customer on the solution with the lowest overall cost of construction. However, National Grid may choose to implement a solution that has a lower whole-life cost, with the balance of the cost of construction being met by National Grid.
15. The term 'fit for purpose' refers to a design that will safely transport the requisite quantity of gas at an appropriate pressure throughout the life of the apparatus taking into account the Gas Act requirement for economic pipe-line system development.

Design Charges

16. The Estimated Costs in respect of Design Works will be identified within quotations provided by National Grid. These quotations will be dependent upon the information provided by the customer, other publicly available information and information relating to the NTS.
17. If the Customer subsequently changes the data on which National Grid has based the Estimated Costs, then the Estimated Costs will be updated accordingly
18. National Grid will complete the Design Works before the Construction Works are commenced and irrespective of whether the Construction Works take place at a later date. The customer will be required to pay the Actual Costs of the Design Works.
19. In instances where the known requirements of a connection are insufficient to enable progression straight to a Conceptual Design Study, an initial Feasibility Study may be undertaken in order to refine the potential options and associated Estimated Costs for the Conceptual Design Works and Construction Works stages.. Customers may also request a Feasibility Study to analyse potential connections options.

20. For the avoidance of doubt a Feasibility Study will be subject to a separate commercial agreement from the Conceptual Design Study.
21. If, as agreed with the customer, the Design Works are split into stages, e.g. Feasibility Study followed by Conceptual Design Study then National Grid will provide the Estimated Costs and timescales for undertaking each study in turn prior to entering into each agreement. The customer will be obliged to have paid the Actual Costs of each stage before the commencement of a subsequent phase.
22. Where the customer requests National Grid to design a System Extension to the customer's premises, National Grid will supply the customer with a copy of the design report once a study has been completed. Should the customer not choose National Grid to construct the System Extension, then the customer may use the information in this report, under licence, in respect of the hire of an alternative provider to construct the pipeline. Should the customer choose to use an alternative provider to construct the pipeline, then the customer must inform National Grid and ask for a revised quotation for the connection.

Construction Charges

23. The Estimated Costs in respect of Construction Works will be identified in a quotation provided by National Grid and will be based on the best information available to National Grid, including wherever possible, utilising the costs of recent similar projects.
24. The output of a related Conceptual Design Study will normally include a more accurate value for the Estimated Costs of the Construction Works.
25. The customer will be required to pay the Actual Costs of the Construction Works.

Remotely Operable Valve (ROV) Installations

26. All new connections will include an ROV Installation which may be situated either:
 - (a) at a point on the NTS, where the customer wishes to:
 - (i) construct and connect a pipeline with a view to owning and operating the pipeline (such pipeline would not be a System Extension as it would not be owned and operated by National Grid), or
 - (ii) construct and connect a pipeline with the intention that it will transfer to National Grid under a Taking Ownership Agreement (in which case it would become a System Extension); or
 - (b) at the termination point of a System Extension constructed by National Grid.

The costs of the ROV Installation form a part of the connection charge irrespective of whether the connection is for Exit, Entry or Bidirectional purposes.

27. However, where a connection is requested at or adjacent to an existing National Grid site, National Grid will at its sole discretion determine the most appropriate point and design of the connection taking into account potential costs of connection, future operational costs, security of supply and operational flexibility.
28. National Grid does not provide gas flow and energy measurement equipment for transmission connections.
29. In addition to the equipment provided by National Grid, there are several technical requirements that a customer must fulfil if it is to have a connection to the NTS. These relate principally to the customer's metering and telemetry equipment and, where relevant, Gas Quality Instrumentation.

Gas Quality Instrumentation for Entry and Bidirectional connections

30. All connections that are to be used for the entry of gas to the NTS require Gas Quality Instrumentation to be installed by the customer.
31. National Grid's requirements in respect of the quality of gas entering the NTS are contained in the Transmission Ten Year Statement,

System Extensions and Reinforcement for Entry (including the Entry element of Bidirectional) connections

32. The need for System Extensions and Reinforcement to accommodate Entry flows at the connection point will be determined when National Grid receives auction signals for incremental entry capacity in accordance with the Licence and Network Code.
33. The costs of System Extension and/or Reinforcement will not be charged to the customer within the connection charge, but will instead be taken into account in the auction price applicable in any capacity auction.
34. Where separately identifiable Reinforcement is required only to accommodate Exit flows to a Bidirectional connection, then this Reinforcement will be dealt with under the section below.

System Extensions and Reinforcements for Exit (including the Exit element of Bidirectional) connections

35. System Extensions for Exit purposes are treated as a component of connection apparatus (unless provided by the customer) and their costs form part of the connection charge as discussed in section 'Design Charges' above.
36. The need for Reinforcement to accommodate Exit flows at the connection point will be determined when National Grid receives the appropriate signals for incremental exit capacity in accordance with the Licence and Network Code.
37. National Grid apportions the cost of Reinforcement according to its location in relation to the Connection Charging Point ("CCP"). Reinforcement downstream of the CCP is charged to the customer under the terms of this

Statement and will form part of the connection. Reinforcement upstream of the CCP is not directly charged but may be funded by National Grid where required to enable the provision of capacity under the terms of the ExCR methodology statement.

38. The System Extension element is the only component that can be provided by the customer.

Quotation Assumptions

39. Quotations for Design Studies and/or Construction Works will include a statement to the effect that the customer, in accepting the quotation will also be accepting that the assumptions are appropriate and understood. If it is determined later that any stated assumption is incorrect, National Grid will determine in accordance with the Standard Conditions of Contract (SCCs) whether the Estimated Costs should be varied and the customer will be informed. In such circumstances, National Grid may cease or delay works pending the customer's acceptance of any increased Estimated Costs.

Taking Ownership of Connection Apparatus

40. Subject to the conditions detailed below, National Grid will take ownership of fit for purpose connection apparatus that is connected to the NTS and that is not intended to be operated by another system operator (e.g. a Connected System Operator that has received a Gas Act derogation).
41. Conditions relating to taking ownership:
- (a) National Grid and the customer must have entered into a Taking Ownership Agreement before any works are undertaken in respect of the design or construction of any apparatus that the customer wishes National Grid to take into ownership. The Taking Ownership Agreement will allow National Grid to carry out audit work at all stages of the project from design through to construction and commissioning in order to determine whether the apparatus to be installed by the customer and adopted by National Grid is fit for purpose.
 - (b) The apparatus shall ***NOT***:
 - (i) be designed to operate at pressures below those normally found in the NTS at the connection point;
 - (ii) form part of a system of pipes that includes any apparatus that will become a connected system that will not also be owned by National Grid;
 - (iii) include gas flow, energy measurement and associated equipment; and
 - (iv) include apparatus that is not fit for purpose.
42. National Grid will charge for audit work carried out under a Taking Ownership Agreement. Charges will be based upon the cost of employing National Grid staff together with any costs incurred by service providers employed by National Grid and will include an appropriate level of overhead charges.

SECTION 4 – DISCONNECTION, DIVERSION AND MODIFICATION OF GAS CONNECTION APPARATUS

43. In general, National Grid will follow the same principles that it applies to connection works in respect of charges for disconnection, diversion and modification services, subject to appropriate commercial arrangements.
44. The precise nature of these works is likely to vary from project to project. Therefore, in order to determine the estimated charges for these works, it may be necessary for National Grid to undertake an assessment of the potential options under a Feasibility Study agreement, which the customer will be responsible for funding. The Customer may also wish to request a Feasibility Study in order to understand the potential options and to provide the Estimated Costs of the remaining Design Works phases and Construction Works. National Grid will provide an estimate of the charges and timescales for undertaking such an assessment prior to entering into an agreement.

Appendix A – Definitions

1. **Actual Costs** are the costs efficiently incurred, in line with Section 1 of this Statement, by National Grid in carrying out the Design Works or Construction Works, as may be the case. Where they are incurred, National Grid will pass on the cost of efficiently incurred connections-related Lane Rental Charges to customers.
2. **Bidirectional connections** are connections that combine elements of both Entry and Exit connections to allow flows of gas onto and from the NTS, e.g. storage facilities, interconnector.
3. A **Conceptual Design Study** which may follow a Feasibility Study typically forms the majority of the Design Works and includes the provision of engineering analysis to assess the impact of the customer request for a connection, disconnection, diversion or modification. Outputs will include the provision of indicative drawings, material schedules and the Estimated Costs of the Construction Works.
4. The **Connection Charging Point (CCP)** is the closest economically feasible point on the NTS, which is deemed to have sufficient capacity to supply the new Exit load disregarding existing Exit loads. The CCP creates the financial distinction between Connection Costs that are fully chargeable to the person concerned (i.e. downstream) and upstream Reinforcement costs which may be funded by National Grid where required to enable the provision of capacity under the terms of the ExCR methodology statement.
5. **Construction Works** are:
 - a. the detailed design required to produce final drawings and material schedules; and
 - b. the physical works, including:
 - commissioning;
 - excavation, backfill and reinstatement in the public highway and excavation, backfill and routine reinstatement on private land, except where requested otherwise; and
 - works associated with telemetry and other systems required to enable National Grid to operate the connection apparatus in accordance with its statutory, Licence and Network Code obligations.
6. **Design Works** are the preparatory design of the connection, disconnection, diversion or modification, which must occur before Construction Works can commence. Design Works typically only involve the preparation of a Conceptual Design Study but in some instances may include a Feasibility Study (in one or more phases) prior to the Conceptual Design Study. For the avoidance of doubt, detailed design forms part of the Construction Works.
7. A **Disconnection** occurs when existing connection apparatus is disconnected.
8. A **Distribution Network (DN)** is a geographically defined network of distribution pipes, typically comprising interconnected local transmission, intermediate

pressure, medium pressure and low pressure networks, connected to and downstream of the NTS (see Special Condition C8A of the Licence for formal definition).

9. A **Diversión** is a change made to the route of an existing NTS pipeline or the relocation of other gas transportation (not normally connecting pipe associated) assets.
10. **Entry** connections are connections to delivery facilities processing gas from gas producing fields or LNG vaporisation (i.e. importation) facilities, for the purpose of delivering gas into the NTS.
11. **Estimated Costs** are the estimated costs of Design Works or Construction Works, as may be the case, calculated on the basis of the costs that National Grid expects to incur.
12. **Exit** connections are connections that allow gas to be offtaken from the NTS to premises (a 'Supply Point'), to Distribution Networks or to Connected System Exit Points (CSEPs). There are several types of connected system including:
 - a. A pipeline system operated by another gas transporter; and
 - b. Any other non-National Grid pipeline transporting gas to premises consuming more than 2,196MWh (75,000 therms) per annum.
13. A **Feasibility Study** may form the first part of the Design Works to evaluate the full requirements of a connection or modification etc. and provide sufficient detail to enable progression to a Conceptual Design Study. Alternatively a customer may wish to request a Feasibility Study in order to understand the Estimated Costs of the Conceptual Design Works and Construction Works or to consider different connection options..
14. **Gas Quality Instrumentation** comprises instrumentation that will be installed by the customer to monitor compliance of gas entering the NTS with legislative and contractual specifications.
15. **Incremental exit capacity** is as defined in Paragraph 1 of Special Condition C18 of the Licence.
16. A **Metering Installation** may exist at an NTS Offtake and will typically comprise of a combination of;
 - a. Filters;
 - b. Meters;
 - c. Pre heating equipment;
 - d. Pressure regulators; and
 - e. Associated pipework

At NTS Offtakes constructed prior to approximately 2001, the Metering Installation may be owned by National Grid. For information, charges for such installations are covered by National Grid's Metering Charges Statement, which is available on the National Grid website:

<http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Gas/Charges/statements/metering/>

17. A **Modification** is any change made to an existing connection, and associated

equipment.

18. The **National Transmission System (NTS)** is that part of the pipeline system for the time being designated by National Grid as such and described in the National Grid Ten Year Statement.
19. **Network Code** means the network code prepared by National Grid, as from time to time modified, pursuant to the Licence. National Grid's Network Code comprises the provisions set out in the Uniform Network Code (UNC), more details of which can be obtained at the Joint Office website: www.gasgovernance.com.
20. An **NTS/LDZ Offtake** is the exit connection from the NTS to a Distribution Network as defined in the Network Code - Transportation Principle Document Section A3.4.3.
21. **Reinforcement:** National Grid must ensure that the NTS has sufficient capacity to supply new and existing demands at the applicable pressures and to transport new and existing gas supplies. NTS pressures affected by the connection of a new load (or an increase in load at an existing connection) may cause National Grid to need to reinforce the NTS, prior to the load/supply coming on stream. This reinforcement may take the form of new pipelines being laid or the installation, modification of other equipment to increase the pressure within the NTS or commercial alternatives to physical works.
22. A **Remotely Operable Valve (ROV) Installation** comprises the apparatus, constructed by National Grid, at the interface between the NTS and apparatus provided by a third party and will typically include a valve as required with remote operation actuation, full bore bypass and telemetry. ROV Installation apparatus will remain in National Grid ownership irrespective of the ownership of the up/downstream system.
23. **Standard Conditions of Contract (SCCs)** are described in paragraph 8.
24. A **System Extension** is a new connecting pipeline, constructed by National Grid, which runs from the existing NTS to a location specified by the customer. In order to effect isolation and maintenance of System Extensions, they typically require two ROV Installations, one at each end with the addition of 'Pipeline Inspection Gauge (PIG) trap' facilities at both ends to allow inline inspections.

Appendix B – Additional Points Relating to Capacity

Capacity booking

The provision of a connection does not confer any rights on a party to offtake or introduce gas. Gas may only be offtaken / introduced by a Registered User who is a party to the Network Code and has been licensed by the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority to do so.

Allocation of available capacity

National Grid will make capacity available in accordance with the Network Code and the IECR and ExCR methodology statement rules.