

0663 : Introduction of provisions to permit a User to change the supplier identity at a Supply Point without submitting a Confirmation and the removal of the associated requirement to procure an Opening Meter Reading v2.0

TRANSCO NETWORK CODE MODIFICATION PROPOSAL No. 0663

"Introduction of provisions to permit a User to change the supplier identity at a Supply Point without submitting a Confirmation and the removal of the associated requirement to procure an Opening Meter Reading."

Version 2.0

Date: 13/11/2003

Proposed Implementation Date:

Urgency: Non-Urgent

Justification

The topic of enabling Users to more effectively manage their Supply Point portfolios has been discussed within the Supply Point & Billing Workstream. A series of measures have been identified which are designed to facilitate User portfolio administration.

Currently, a User is permitted only one supplier identifier to be created per supplier organisation. Transco has Licence and Network Code obligations (G2.5.10) to record such information. Transco intends to facilitate the creation of multiple supplier identifiers against single organisations; e.g. ABC1, ABC2, etc. This provides an opportunity for Users to introduce flexibility within their internal portfolio management processes, for example, by sub-dividing Supply Points by market sector, etc.

To take advantage of this new facility Users would have to amend the supplier identity recorded against the relevant Supply Points on Transco's Sites & Meters database. It has, however, been identified that the process of undertaking such updates (by Supply Point Nomination/Confirmation) is onerous and costly to the User. The Workstream has therefore identified a series of measures to better facilitate this activity. These are described below:

1. The Workstream questioned the necessity for an Opening Meter Reading to be procured in circumstances where the supplier identity changes but that of the User does not. The validity of the read requirement is generally acknowledged where the User identity changes given that Transco disseminates the 'transfer read' to the incoming and outgoing Users. In the event, however, of no change in User identity, the 'transfer reads' are currently submitted by Transco to the same User and are therefore superfluous. It is therefore proposed that the mandatory opening read requirement in these circumstances be removed. Note: Where an Opening Meter Reading was not provided to Transco, a notional meter reading would continue to be generated and submitted to the User. The User may choose to utilise or discard the estimate. Based on a further recommendation of the Workstream, Transco has initiated a Pricing Consultation to set to zero the existing estimated read charge for Smaller Supply Points.
2. Workstream members challenged the existing need to utilise the Supply Point Nomination/Confirmation process to record a change of supplier identity on the Supply Point Register. In response Transco identified that provided the mandatory Opening Meter Reading requirement described above were removed, there would be no necessity for the existing route to

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be used. It is therefore proposed that a new 'fast track' UK-Link facility be introduced which would enable Users to avoid utilising Nomination/Confirmation UK-Link functionality where the objective was solely to change the supplier identity.

Nature of Proposal

- To remove the need for Users to procure an Opening Meter Reading where a change is made to the supplier identity recorded on the Supply Point Register but no change is made to the User identity and/or the Supply Point configuration.
- To render optional the existing mandatory requirement to change the identity of the supplier recorded on the Supply Point Register by Supply Point Confirmation where the identity of the Registered User does not change and to introduce new provisions permitting the supplier identity to be changed in such circumstances without having to undertake a Supply Point Confirmation.
- To correct an error contained within Section M3.8.1. which refers to the 'Supply Meter Point configuration'. This should read 'Supply Point configuration'.

Purpose of Proposal

The measures identified within this Modification Proposal are consistent with Transco's GT Licence Relevant Objective of facilitating the efficient and economic operation by the licensee of its pipe-line system.

Consequence of not making this change

It would remain necessary for Users to undertake updates to the supplier identifier utilising the existing Supply Point Nomination/Confirmation process. The current obligation for Users to procure an Opening Meter Reading in the above circumstances would also remain.

Area of Network Code Concerned

Principal Document Sections G2.5.10 and M3.8.1.

Proposer's Representative

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Proposer

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Signature

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