

Stage 02: Workgroup Report

0338:

Remove the UNC requirement for a 'gas trader' User to hold a Gas Shipper Licence

Provision within the Uniform Network Code to allow for users who do not convey gas to become signatory to the UNC without holding a Gas Shipper Licence.



The Workgroup recommends that this modification should now proceed to Consultation.



High Impact: N/A



Medium Impact: N/A



Low Impact: Shipper Users, National Grid Transmission and the Authority

What stage is this document in the process?



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About this document:

The purpose of this report is make a recommendation to the Panel, to be held on 21 July 2011, on whether Modification 0338 is sufficiently developed to proceed to Consultation and to submit any further recommendations in respect of the definition and assessment of this modification.



3 Any questions?

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1 Summary

Why Change?

Some UNC activities do not involve the conveyance of gas and do not require a Shipper Licence to be held. However, parties that wish to accede to the UNC are required to hold a Shipper Licence, such that accession to the UNC may be the sole reason for holding a Licence. If Ofgem were to decline to issue Licences in these circumstances, some parties may be excluded from the GB gas market.

Solution

This modification proposes to introduce a new type of User so as to distinguish:

- Users involved in the conveyance of gas, or arranging for the conveyance of gas.
- Users whose activities involve only the non-physical trading of gas at the NBP.

This modification recognises that both types of User should be able to accede to the UNC. This modification further proposes that it is the User's responsibility to ensure that it has the appropriate licence in place prior to undertaking the relevant activities described in the UNC.

Impacts & Costs

The impacts and costs are expected to be marginal.

Implementation

Implementation would have no material impact on processes and could be immediately following a direction to implement.

The Case for Change

By marginally reducing the costs of entry and UNC compliance for some parties, implementation could facilitate the securing of effective competition. In addition, implementation will allow market entry if Ofgem were to refuse to issue a Shipper Licence to parties that require this solely to enable UNC accession. However, removal of the requirement to hold a licence would also be a reduction in regulatory oversight, which may have a deleterious impact on competition, and could be seen as counter to wider European proposals that may require all gas market participants to be licensed.

Recommendations

The Transmission Workgroup considers that the modification should now proceed to consultation.



What is the National Balancing Point?

This is the notional point on the National Transmission system between all inputs and all outputs.

2 Why Change?

The UNC provides for three types of User – Restricted User, DNO User and Shipper User. Some Shipper Users do not undertake activities that require a Shipper Licence to be held, but hold a Shipper Licence in order to accede to the UNC. Holding a Shipper Licence solely for this purpose could be regarded as inappropriate and inconsistent with the Gas Act definition of the circumstances for which a Shipper Licence is required.

Ofgem has consulted on its approach to licensing and has indicated that Licences may not be issued in future if the applicant does not envisage undertaking the activities that require a Licence. This could exclude some parties from acceding to the UNC. Equally Ofgem may consider revoking Shipper Licences that are not being actively used for the purposes defined in the Gas Act, and this would mean some Users would no longer meet the conditions to remain a UNC User.

3 Solution



What is the TPD?

TPD is the Transportation Principal Document.

Gas Traders Modification

This modification proposes to create a new class of user within the UNC. This new User role, termed a "Trader User" will allow parties to accede to the UNC for the purposes of engaging in non-physical market transactions only. This modification proposes that the admission process for Trader Users shall be similar to that for Shipper Users, but will differ in that it will not require the party to hold a Shipper licence.

For the avoidance of doubt this modification does not propose to allow parties to sign up to the UNC to engage in activities including the physical conveyance of gas without holding the relevant licence.

The current UNC defines "Shipper User", listed in the defined terms as defined at TPD B2.2.1(a), and "Users", listed in the defined terms as defined at B2.2.1(i). This modification proposes to add a new defined term, "Trader User", also defined in Section B2.2.1. The exact definition, and to which Sections of the UNC it applies, is very important to determine the correct applicability. This modification proposes that the definition of "User" within Section B of the General terms shall incorporate Trader User, and therefore existing references to "User" throughout the UNC shall refer to TUs by default. This modification further proposes that the UNC Sections will be clearly identified as applying to a TU or not by exception within those Sections. For example, Section B of the TPD describes 'Users' as entities that can book Capacity, and a TU party would not gain access to that Section, and a new paragraph within Section B would indicate this.

The new definition in Section B of the General Terms will give a high-level definition of the UNC activities acceded to by being classified as a TU. However, the definitive detail of UNC paragraphs applicable to the TU role will be defined in each Section in a similar fashion to the paragraphs that currently define the applicability of DNO Users (see TPD B1.12 as an example of this).

The changes proposed to the UNC are detailed below and are listed by reference to each Section of the UNC.

UNC Introduction

The UNC Introduction and defined terms lists are generalised and would be applicable to TUs admitted to the UNC.

Transportation Principal Document Changes

Detail of the access to UNC Sections gained by admission to the TU role is given below:

TPD A: This Section defines systems classification, and as such applies to TUs in that it supports other Sections that TUs must have access to. As such it is proposed that this Section remains applicable to all parties to the UNC including TUs.

TPD B: It is proposed that TUs would not have access to this Section as Capacity booking lies outside of the activities that TUs would be admitted to, i.e. capacity

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booking is considered to be an activity that relates to "arranging for the conveyance of gas" and therefore requires the party to hold a Shipper licence.

TPD C: It is proposed that TUs would be relevant Users in regard to Section 5, Trade Nominations, while being exempted from access to the rest of Section C. A paragraph to define TU access shall be added at Section C 1 defining non-applicability of TUs to Section C 1, 2, 3 and 4.

TPD D: It is proposed that TUs shall be given admission to D2, Trading Arrangements. This modification proposes that TUs shall be able to post Non-physical Market Transactions as the Originating Participant and accept Non-physical Market Transactions as the Accepting Participant. This modification also proposes that TUs shall be able to accept Physical Market Transactions as the Accepting Participant only. It is proposed that a new paragraph be added to Annex D-1 to restrict "Trader Users" as a Originating Participant for the purposes of Non-Physical Transactions only.

This Modification also proposes that a new paragraph be added to ensure that TUs shall not act in a manner that jeopardises, or at the time could be envisaged at some future point to potentially jeopardise, the safe and efficient operation of the pipeline system. This shall follow a similar form to the existing text of the Shipper Licence Standard Conditions 3, paragraph 2, and will be repeated in TPD Section V: General alongside the Admission requirements for clarity for new applicants.

TPD E: Daily Quantities, Imbalances and Reconciliation consider that Daily Imbalance is calculated between the UDQI and UDQO quantities, and then adjusted to take into account Trade Nominations (E 1.2.2). TUs, who can only make non-physical trades, would default to a value of 0 for each quantity, and as such, Section E1.1 is not relevant to TUs. However, they do incur imbalance under this Section of the UNC if they have not balanced their sell and buy Trade Nominations. Therefore, it is proposed that Section E 1.2 shall be applicable to TUs.

Similarly, there are several other Sections of E 1 that relate only to the conveyance of gas and therefore shall not apply to TUs. These are Sections 1.3 "Reconciliation", 1.4 "System Daily Quantities: Entry", 1.5 "System Daily Quantities: Exit from NTS/LDZ", 1.6 "Information", 1.7 "Scottish Networks", 1.8 "Close-out Rules" and 1.9 "Combined Entry and Exit Quantities".

Section E 1.10 "Energy Balancing on the NTS" shall apply to TUs were they to incur an imbalance as a result of Trade Nominations. This Modification proposes to add an extra paragraph to Section E1 to show TU applicability.

For the avoidance of doubt, this Modification will only change the above Sections to allow for the capture of imbalance on TUs as a result of their activities in relation to the UNC.

Sections E 2, 3 and 4 concern Input and Output quantities, and it is proposed that these Sections shall not apply to TUs as to do so would envisage such parties undertaking conveyance of gas.

Section E 5 captures the calculation of Imbalance including Trade Nominations and therefore it is proposed that it shall apply to TUs.



What is the NEC?

NEC stands for Network Emergency Coordinator, defined at TPD Section Q 1.1.1(c)

Sections E 6, 7 and 8 all concern reconciliations of Supply Points and therefore it is proposed that they shall not apply to TUs.

Section 9 concerns Class A Contingencies, including for the provision of information as described under E1.6, and so therefore it is proposed that it shall not apply to TUs.

Section E 10 concerns Unallocated Gas, and therefore it is proposed that it shall not apply to TUs.



What is the IX?

IX stands for Information Exchange, and is the electronic system that all Shipper Users are required to install to access the UK Link suite of systems.

TPD F: System Clearing, Balancing Charges and Neutrality describe the charges arising from any User incurring an imbalance, and as such it is proposed that it shall apply to TUs. It is proposed that TUs shall also be applicable to Sections F 1.1 and 1.2, which define Balancing Charges and System Prices, but not Sections 1.3, 1.4 or 1.5.

Section F 2 concerns Daily Imbalances, and therefore it is proposed that it shall be applicable to TUs.

Section F 3 concerns Scheduling Charges, and therefore it is proposed that it shall not be applicable to TUs as TUs cannot make Input Nominations, nor physically deliver gas to / offtake gas from to the System.

Section F 4 concerns Balancing Neutrality Charges, and therefore it is proposed that it shall not be applicable to TUs. Section 5 and 6 concern Reconciliation, and shall not be applicable to TUs.

TPD G, H, I, J: These Sections all concern either conveyance of gas (e.g. Section G, Supply Points), or Transporter only activities (Section H, Demand Estimation and Forecasting). It is proposed that these Sections shall therefore be defined as not being applicable to TUs.

TPD K: This Section concerns mostly Transporter activities, and any interactions therein with Users require the conveyance of gas. Therefore, it is proposed that TUs shall not gain access to this Section upon admission to the UNC. For the avoidance of doubt, it is proposed that TUs shall not be entitled to trade gas whilst it is within a storage facility, at Entry / Exit points, etc. and therefore shall not be party to storage type Trades for purposes of Operating Margins.

TPD L, M, N and O: These Sections concern Transporter activities and Metering, and therefore it is proposed that TUs shall not gain access to them upon admission the UNC.

TPD Q, Emergencies: This Modification proposes that Trader Users shall not be exempted from the emergency rules as any imbalance position they have built up in relation to a gas day will potentially contribute to the emergency. As with Section D this modification proposes to add paragraphs to ensure that TUs shall not act in a manner that jeopardises the safe and efficient operation of the system.

Section 1, General, concerns the identification of an emergency and the requirement for Users to cooperate with the NEC. This Modification proposes that TUs shall apply under the definition of Users in this Section (notwithstanding paragraphs 1.6, 1.7, and 1.8 to which it is proposed that TUs shall not apply). It is also proposed that Paragraph 1.10.1(c) shall apply to TUs, whereas 1.10.1(a) and (b) shall not.

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However, since TUs would not hold a Shipper Licence, they would have no licence conditions providing an obligation to cooperate with those parties managing the emergency. To ensure that TUs act in a manner conducive to avoiding or, in the event, the successful management of a Gas Supply Emergency, this modification proposes to add new paragraphs in Section Q 1.10.2. The new paragraph shall replicate Shipper User's licence obligations to cooperate (with those managing an emergency) for TUs, worded much as per the Shipper Licence Standard Condition 5 (2), but altered to reflect "Trader User" in place of "licensee".

Section 2, Emergency Preparedness; it is proposed that this Section shall be applicable to TUs, excepting that certain paragraphs relate only to Supply Points, and so Sections 2.1.2 (but not Section 2.1.1), 2.3, 2.4 and 2.5 shall not apply.

Section 3, Occurrence of a Gas Supply Emergency, concerns the activities undertaken during the emergency. The current text concerns the SO asking for physical actions to balance the system, and as such it is proposed that these activities shall not apply to TUs. However, this modification envisages that TUs shall have actions that the SO may require of them which can contribute to resolving an emergency. Therefore it is proposed that Section 3.1 shall apply to TUs.

Sections 3.2, 3.3, 3.4 and 3.5 concern the types of Emergency and all concern physical throughput actions, and so it is proposed that TUs will not be applicable to these sections.

Section 3.6, Return to normal operation; it is proposed that this Section shall apply to TUs.

Section 4, Consequences of Emergency; it is proposed that this Section shall apply to TUs.

Section 5, Safety Monitor and Firm Gas Monitor; it is proposed that this Section shall not apply to TUs.

Section 6, Emergency Curtailment, applies only to Supply Points, and so therefore it is proposed that this Section shall not apply to TUs.

Section 7, Storage Curtailment; it is proposed that this section shall not apply to TUs.

Section 8, Class A Contingencies; it is proposed that this Section shall apply to TUs.

TPD Section R concerns the conveyance of gas (Storage) and therefore it is proposed that this Section shall not be applicable to TUs.

TPD Section S concerns Invoicing and Payment. TUs are able to incur Daily Imbalance Charges as described in Section E, and as such it is proposed that all of Section S shall be applicable to TUs.

TPD U: UK-Link: This Section has recently been modified (Mod 259) to remove the requirement for Shippers to install and maintain the IX. Therefore, it is proposed that TUs shall gain admission to this Section and be considered under the definition of "User" therein, and may or may not choose to have IX equipment installed.

TPD V, General: This Section describes both the admission rules (Section V2) and the Termination rules (Section V4), and as such it is proposed that these Sections will apply to TUs.

It is proposed that Section 2.6 shall have additional paragraphs to detail the UNC Sections to which Trader Users are acceded to.

Section V 1 concerns Ancillary Agreements relating to Entry and Exit points, and it is proposed that this Section shall not apply to TUs.

Section V 2, User Admission: The current Network Code Framework Agreement and Accession Agreement do not specifically require an acceding party to the Code to hold a Gas Shipper Licence, and therefore Trader Users can sign up to the code using the existing documents, thereby meeting the requirement in V 2.1.1(b). This modification proposes that Section 2.1.1 shall be modified to read such that a person may become a Trader User in relation to the NTS as well as the existing clause allowing a person to become a Shipper User in relation to a System.

Trader Users shall be applicable to Section V 2 in general, excepting that paragraphs 2.1.2(b), 2.1.2(c), 2.1.2(g) and 2.1.2(i) shall be modified to indicate applicability to Shipper User only. A new paragraph will be added at 2.1.6 to indicate, for the avoidance of doubt, that a person may not become a TU in relation to any other System than the NTS.

This Modification proposes that any TU wishing to become party to the UNC as a Shipper User must demonstrate to the Transporters that they can meet the criteria for admission as a Shipper User in accordance with existing rules in this Section V 2.1, following which the existing Trader User will gain the additional responsibilities and rights applicable to Shipper Users. For the avoidance of doubt the User retains its Trader User status at all times until the admission date as a Shipper User, and any and all existing Trade Nominations effected into will be retained following admission as a Shipper User.

Similarly, this Modification proposes that any Shipper User wishing to become party to the UNC as a Trader User must demonstrate to the Transporters that they have met the criteria required to cease Shipper User activities in accordance with existing rules in Section V 4.2 "Voluntary Discontinuance". For the avoidance of doubt the User retains its Shipper User status at all times until the admission date as a Trader User, and any and all existing Trade Nominations effected into will be retained following admission as a Trader User.

It is proposed that Section V 3 shall not apply to TUs.

It is proposed that Section V 4 shall also apply to TUs. Paragraph V 4.3.1(f) (Termination due to revocation of Shipper Licence) applies solely to Shipper Users having had a licence granted, and TUs, by definition, will therefore not be relevant to this clause.

Section V5 is data protection, and therefore it is proposed that this Section shall apply to TUs.

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Section V6 is User Agents, and therefore it is proposed that this Section shall apply to TUs.

Section V7 is Transporter as user and therefore it is proposed that this Section shall not apply to TUs.

Section V8 is Liabilities, and therefore it is proposed that this Section shall apply to TUs.

Section V9 is Neutrality audit for NTS and so therefore it is proposed that this Section shall not apply to TUs.

Section V10 is Compensation in the event of non delivery of gas, and so therefore it is proposed that this Section shall not apply to TUs. However, this Modification proposes a housekeeping change to V 10.1.1(g) which should correctly be numbered 10.1.2

Section V11, General, paragraphs 11.1 and 11.2 contain nothing of relevance to TUs and therefore it is proposed that this Section shall not apply. However, it is proposed that a paragraph shall be added at V 11.3 to reflect that described above for Section D, such that TUs shall not act in a manner that jeopardises, or at the time could be envisaged at some future point to potentially jeopardise, the safe and efficient operation of the pipeline system.

Section X, Energy Balancing Credit: as described above for Section E, it is possible for a User Trader, to be in an imbalance position at end of day. Therefore, it is proposed that Section X shall apply to TUs.

Section Y concerns the Gas Transportation Charging Methodology and therefore it is proposed that this Section shall not apply to TUs.

Section Z is NG Storage, and it is proposed that this Section shall not apply to TUs, which shall not be able to inject and withdraw from storage, as this would constitute conveyance of gas.

Transition Document

Parts I and IIA of the Transition Document are the general Sections, which apply to all Users, and it is proposed that these Sections shall therefore include TUs. Section IIB applies to Transporters only, and so shall not apply to TUs.

Section IIC, which details the specific transition arrangements, contains Paragraphs that all refer to activities involving the conveyance of gas, and therefore it is proposed that TUs shall not apply to this Section.

Section IID: Flexibility Bidding. It is proposed that TUs shall be excluded as the definitions at IID: 2.1.1 (a) and (b) clearly define the bid as being made to deliver extra commodity, or off-take extra commodity, either of which is conveying gas. It is proposed that Trader Users shall not apply to this Section.

Section III concerns the Offtake Arrangements Document, therefore it is proposed that TUs shall not apply (see below).

Modification Rules

Section 1 of the Modification Rules is the introduction, and therefore it is proposed that TUs shall be included within the definition to "User" here, and that Trader Users shall accede to the Modification Rules.

Therefore Section 2.1, the defined terms, which currently defines both Relevant Shipper and User, shall be modified to include Trader Users.

Section 3, The Modification Panel, concerns the constitution of the Panel and makes provision for the inclusion of User representatives. It is proposed that TUs shall be applicable under the definition of "User" for this Section.

Sections 4 and 5 concern rules for Panel membership and the Panel meetings, therefore it is proposed that both Sections shall be applicable to TUs.

Section 6 describes, amongst other things, the relevant persons and representatives, and it is proposed that this Section shall be updated to include Trader Users.

All other Sections of the Modification Rules (7 through 12) are general to the Rules, and therefore it is proposed that these sections shall be applicable to TUs upon admission.

General Terms

Section A of the General Terms concerns Dispute Resolution. It is proposed that this Section shall be relevant to TUs upon admission, and therefore the definition of "Users" here (A1.1.2) shall include TUs.

Section B, General; it is proposed that this Section shall be applicable to TUs, but shall include some changes as follows:

References in paragraph 1 to Shippers Framework Agreement shall apply to TUs as described above under TPD Section V.

Paragraph 2.2.1, definitions of Users, add "Trader User". This shall note both the positive definition of a party to code for the purpose of non-physical market transactions and the limitation on non-conveyance of gas through the NTS.

Paragraph 2.3.3, References to a Party, shall include TUs as potential parties.

TUs shall be appended at 2.4.1 (Effect of Code and liabilities) to include TUs. Also, append TUs to 2.4.4 to include TUs alongside Shippers.

Paragraph 4, UNC Committee; TUs to be included in "Users" definition.

Paragraph 5, Notices and Communications, include TUs as potential parties.

Paragraph 6, General, references parties and Users, TUs shall be relevant to both.

Section 4: C, Interpretation, is generalised and it is proposed that TUs shall be applicable.

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Offtake Arrangements Document

This modification has not considered a detailed walk-through of the OAD, but proposes that the Offtake Arrangements can only relate to the conveyance of gas so this entire document is not applicable to Trader Users by definition.

Other Documents

We recognise that changes are likely to be required to the User Pays Guidance Document, v2.0, as a result of this proposed UNC Modification.

As the User Pays Guidance (UPG) document is not a UNC document the relevant changes to the former are not detailed in this proposal, but it is the proposer's intent to discuss the potential for changes to the UPG document in parallel with this UNC Modification Proposal.

Any subsequent changes found to be necessary will be developed in coordination with all Transporters and we would also welcome any Shipper views. The resulting changes to the UPG document would be presented as a revised version to the UNC Modification Panel for approval.

Changes to the UPG document will only be proposed following implementation the UNC Modification Proposal.

4 Relevant Objectives

Workgroup's view of the benefits against the Code Relevant Objectives	
Description of Relevant Objective	Identified impact
a) Efficient and economic operation of the pipe-line system.	Negative – see below
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.	
c) Efficient discharge of the licensee's obligations.	
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.	Impacted – see below
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.	
f) Promotion of efficiency in the implementation and administration of the Code	Negative – see below

Efficient and economic operation of the pipe-line system

It is proposed to introduce a new obligation that Trader User shall not knowingly or recklessly pursue any course of conduct which is likely to prejudice: the safe and efficient operation by National Grid NTS of the NTS; the safe, economic, and efficient Operational Balancing of the Total System; the due functioning of the arrangements set out in National Grid's Network Code. By applying solely to Trader Users, this could create doubt that other users face a similar obligation, and any doubt in this area could adversely impact the efficient and economic operation of the pipe-line system. By restricting the third of these obligations to National Grid's network Code, this may also adversely impact the operation of other networks since preference may be given to the due functioning of National Grid's Network Code rather than other distribution networks.

Securing of Effective Competition

By allowing parties that do not hold a Shipper Licence to accede to the UNC, a barrier to entry is removed and hence additional parties may participate in the market. This would be consistent with facilitating effective competition. In addition, compliance costs could be reduced for Trader Users since the sections of the UNC that they have to comply with would be pre-defined and mean that they do not need to consider the

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whole UNC and identify the areas with which they need to comply. This would also be expected to offer a marginal benefit to competition.

Removing the requirement to hold a Shipper Licence would remove a level of regulatory oversight from one section of the market. The reduced oversight may mean that appropriate checks and sanctions cannot be applied in as timely a manner, thereby increasing market risk for all participants. This could be expected to adversely impact the securing of effective competition.

Removing the requirement to hold a Shipper Licence to raise UNC modifications may encourage some consumers and their representatives to accede to the UNC as Trader Users. This would allow these parties to raise modifications that they believe would help to secure effective competition.

Promotion of efficiency in the implementation and administration of the Code

Enabling a wider range of parties to propose changes to the UNC may not be consistent with efficiency in the administration of the UNC since parties may raise modifications which have no direct impact on themselves but impact the contractual relationship and obligations of other parties.

European developments envisage the establishment of Europe wide passports which market participants would be required to hold. This could introduce a requirement for all to be licensed. Removing the requirement to hold a licence at this time when a similar requirement could be implemented shortly is inconsistent with efficient implementation and administration of the Code.

5 Impacts and Costs



Consideration of Wider Industry Impacts

The removal of the requirement to hold a Licence could be regarded as inconsistent with Europe an developments to introduce more consistency, with all trading parties being required to be licensed.

Costs

Indicative industry costs – User Pays	
Classification of the Proposal as User Pays or not and justification for classification	
Accession is a User Pays service. Being a change to a User Pays Service, this is a User Pays Modification proposal. Change of status to/from Shipper User from/to Trader User would be a new service.	
Identification of Users, proposed split of the recovery between Gas Transporters and Users for User Pays costs and justification	
All costs will be met by the acceding user, or the user that wishes to change status.	
Proposed charge(s) for application of Users Pays charges to Shippers	
To be provided by National Grid NTS	
Proposed charge for inclusion in ACS – to be completed upon receipt of cost estimate from Xoserve	
To be provided by National Grid NTS	

Impacts

Impact on Transporters' Systems and Process	
Transporters' System/Process	Potential impact
UK Link	None
Operational Processes	A new process would be required to manage changes in User status
User Pays implications	A User Pays service would be modified and a new one created.

Impact on Users	
Area of Users' business	Potential impact
Administrative and operational	Users wishing to change status would incur administrative costs.
Development, capital and operating costs	None

Where can I find details of the UNC Standards of Service?

In the Revised FMR for Transco's Network Code Modification **0565 Transco Proposal for Revision of Network Code Standards of Service.**

Where can I find details of the UNC Standards of Service?

In the Revised FMR for Transco's Network Code Modification

0565 Transco Proposal for Revision of Network Code Standards of Service at the following location:
<http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/sites/default/files/0565.zip>

Impact on Users	
Contractual risks	None
Legislative, regulatory and contractual obligations and relationships	Shipper Users that become Trader Users may no longer hold a Shipper Licence and their regulatory obligations would therefore be reduced.

Impact on Transporters	
Area of Transporters' business	Potential impact
System operation	No material impact
Development, capital and operating costs	No material costs
Recovery of costs	All costs would be recovered on a User Pays basis
Price regulation	None
Contractual risks	None
Legislative, regulatory and contractual obligations and relationships	None
Standards of service	None

Impact on Code Administration	
Area of Code Administration	Potential impact
Modification Rules	None
UNC Committees	None
General administration	None

Impact on Code	
Code section	Potential impact
All Sections	As described in Section 3 of this document.

Impact on UNC Related Documents and Other Referenced Documents	
Related Document	Potential impact
Network Entry Agreement (TPD I1.3)	None

Impact on UNC Related Documents and Other Referenced Documents	
Network Exit Agreement (Including Connected System Exit Points) (TPD J1.5.4)	None
Storage Connection Agreement (TPD R1.3.1)	None
UK Link Manual (TPD U1.4)	Minor; TUs must be able to utilise the Shipper Information Service, and receive relevant Shipper Interface Documents.
Network Code Operations Reporting Manual (TPD V12)	Minor; TUs must be able to receive the Shipper Operations Reports (as delivered via the Shipper Information Service).
Network Code Validation Rules (TPD V12)	None
ECQ Methodology (TPD V12)	None
Measurement Error Notification Guidelines (TPD V12)	None
Energy Balancing Credit Rules (TPD X2.1)	None
Uniform Network Code Standards of Service (Various)	None

Impact on Core Industry Documents and other documents	
Document	Potential impact
Safety Case or other document under Gas Safety (Management) Regulations	None
Gas Transporter Licence	None

Other Impacts	
Item impacted	Potential impact
Security of Supply	Minor – introduction of UNC rather than Licence obligation to cooperate may be seen as weakening the obligation, and could create confusion as the UNC obligation does not apply to Shippers
Operation of the Total System	None
Industry fragmentation	None

Terminal operators, consumers, connected system operators, suppliers, producers and other non code parties	Non-UNC parties would be able to accede to the UNC without obtaining a Shipper licence, and would be able to raise UNC modifications.
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6 Implementation

Implementation would have no material impact on processes and could be immediately following a direction to implement. However, it is recommended that implementation is no earlier than 01 October in order to coincide with changes to the exit regime and so avoid the need to modify transitional legal text.

7 The Case for Change

Nothing additional to that identified above.

8 Legal Text

Suggested Text

TRANSPORTATION PRINCIPAL DOCUMENT

SECTION B – SYSTEM USE AND CAPACITY

Insert new paragraph 1.13 to read as follows:

"1.13 Trader User

In this Section B references to Users exclude Trader User."

SECTION C – NOMINATIONS

Insert new paragraph 1.12 to read as follows:

"1.12 Trader User

In this Section C references to Users, except in relation to paragraphs 5 and 6, exclude Trader Users."

SECTION D – OPERATIONAL BALANCING AND TRADING ARRANGEMENTS

Insert new paragraph 1.9 to read as follows:

"1.9 Trader User

In this Section D references to Users include Trader Users."

Insert new paragraph 4.9 in Annex D-1 to read as follows:

"4.9 A Trading Participant who is a Trader User:

- (a) may post and accept a Market Offer to enter into a Non-physical Market Transaction;
- (b) may not post but may accept a Market Offer to enter into a Physical Market Transaction."

SECTION E – DAILY QUANTITIES, IMBALANCES AND RECONCILIATION

Insert new paragraph 1.12 to read as follows:

"1.12 Trader User

In this Section E references to Users, except in paragraphs 1.2, 1.6, 1.10, 5 and 9.1.1(a), exclude Trader Users."

SECTION F – SYSTEM CLEARING, BALANCING CHARGES AND NEUTRALITY

Insert new paragraph 1.6 to read as follows:

"1.6 **Trader User**

In this Section F references to Users, except in paragraphs 1.1, 1.2 and 2 exclude Trader Users."

SECTION G – SUPPLY POINTS

Insert new paragraph 1.20 to read as follows:

"1.20 **Trader User**

In this Section G references to Users exclude Trader Users."

SECTION H – DEMAND ESTIMATION AND DEMAND FORECASTING

Insert new paragraph 1.11 to read as follows:

"1.11 **Trader User**

In this Section H references to Users exclude Trader Users."

SECTION I – ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Insert new paragraph 1.8 to read as follows:

"1.8 **Trader User**

In this Section I references to Users exclude Trader Users."

SECTION J – EXIT REQUIREMENTS

Insert new paragraph 1.10 to read as follows:

"1.10 **Trader User**

In this Section J references to Users exclude Trader Users."

SECTION K – OPERATING MARGINS

Insert new paragraph 1.6 to read as follows:

"1.6 **Trader User**

In this Section K references to Users exclude Trader Users."

SECTION L – MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONAL PLANNING

Insert new paragraph 1.7 to read as follows:

"1.7 **Trader User**

In this Section L references to Users exclude Trader Users."

SECTION M – SUPPLY POINT METERING

Insert new paragraph 1.12 to read as follows:

"1.12 Trader User

In this Section M references to Users exclude Trader Users."

SECTION N – SHRINKAGE

Insert new paragraph 1.6 to read as follows:

"1.6 Trader User

In this Section N references to Users exclude Trader Users."

SECTION O – SYSTEM PLANNING

Insert new paragraph 1.6 to read as follows:

"1.6 Trader User

In this Section O references to Users exclude Trader Users."

SECTION Q – EMERGENCIES

Amend paragraph 1.10. 2 to read as follows:

"Without prejudice to paragraph 1.10.1(b), nothing in this Section Q shall preclude the Transporter from making any request to:

- (a) a Shipper User for the purposes of Standard Licence Condition 5(2) of the Shipper's Licence;
- (b) a Trader User that it use its best endeavours to comply with all requests made by National Grid NTS (save any which are manifestly unreasonable) for the purpose of, as may be appropriate:
 - (i) averting or reducing danger to life or property;
 - (ii) securing the safety of the NTS or the safe conveyance of gas thereby or reducing the risk thereto;

(c) a Shipper User or a Trader User for cooperation pursuant to Regulation 6(1)."

Insert new paragraph 1.13 to read as follows:

"1.13 Trader User

In this Section Q references to Users, except in paragraphs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.9, 1.10.1, 1.11, 2.1.1, 2.2, 2.6, 2.7, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 4 and 8, exclude Trader Users."

SECTION R – STORAGE

Insert new paragraph 1.12 to read as follows:

"1.12 Trader User

In this Section R references to Users exclude Trader Users."

SECTION S – INVOICING AND PAYMENT

Insert new paragraph 1.12 to read as follows:

"1.12 **Trader User**

In this Section S references to Users include Trader Users."

SECTION U – UK LINK

Insert new paragraph 1.13 to read as follows:

"1.13 **Trader User**

In this Section U references to Users include Trader Users."

SECTION V – GENERAL

Amend paragraph 1.1.7 to read as follows:

"... exclude Trader Users and DNO Users."

Insert new paragraph 1.2.7 to read as follows:

"1.2.7 In this paragraph 1.2 references to Users exclude Trader Users."

Amend paragraph 2.1.1 to read as follows:

"In order to become a Shipper User in relation to a System or a Trader User in relation to the NTS a person (the "**Applicant User**") must:

- (a) satisfy or secure satisfaction of the relevant requirements in paragraph 2.1.2; and
- (b) "

Amend paragraph 2.1.2(b) to read as follows:

" ... where the Applicant User wishes to become a Shipper User, either:
.... "

Amend paragraph 2.1.2(c) to read as follows:

" ... where the Applicant User wishes to become a Shipper User in relation to an LDZ of which National Grid NTS is not the owner or operator, "

Amend paragraph 2.1.2(g) to read as follows:

" ... where the Applicant User wishes to become a Shipper User, the Applicant User shall have been assigned:

Amend paragraph 2.1.2(i) to read as follows:

" where the Applicant User wishes to become a Shipper User, the Applicant User shall have provided "

Insert new paragraphs 2.1.6, 2.1.7 and 2.1.8 to read as follows:

"2.1.6 For the avoidance of doubt a person may not become a Trader User in relation to any System other than the NTS.

2.1.7 Where a Trader User wishes to become a Shipper User the Trader User must:

8.1.1.1 (a) *notify National Grid, in such form as National Grid may from time to time specify, that it wishes to become a Shipper User;*

8.1.1.2 (b) *satisfy those requirements in paragraph 2.1.2(b), (c), (g) and (i) which the Trader User was not required to secure or satisfy for the purposes of becoming a Trader User; and*

(c) be assigned a revised Secured Credit Limit in accordance with Section X

and the Trader User shall become a Shipper User with effect from the Day which is 3 Business Days after satisfaction of the last of the requirements specified in this paragraph 2.1.7.

2.1.8 Where a Party who is a Shipper User wishes to become a Trader User such Party must:

(a) cease to be a Shipper User of or in relation to a System (in accordance with paragraph 4.2); and

(b) become a Trader User in accordance with paragraph 2.1.2 on the date on which it ceases to be a Shipper User."

Insert new paragraph 3.1.9 to read as follows:

"3.1.9 In this paragraph 3 references to Users exclude Trader Users."

Amend paragraph 4.1.6(a) to read as follows:

"....Users include Trader Users, except in relation to paragraph 4.3.1(f), and DNO Users."

Amend paragraph 5.1.3 to read as follows:

".... Users include Trader Users and DNO Users."

Amend paragraph 6.1.5 to read as follows:

".... include Trader Users and DNO Users."

Amend paragraph 9.1.5 to read as follows:

"... to Users include Trader Users, except in relation to paragraphs 9.5, 9.6 and 9.7, and exclude DNO Users."

Delete paragraph 10.1.1(g).

Insert new paragraph 10.1.2 to read as follows:

"In this paragraph 10 references to Users exclude Trader Users and DNO Users."

Insert new paragraph 11.3 to read as follows:

"11.3 Trader User Requirements

A Trader User shall not knowingly or recklessly pursue any course of conduct (either alone or with some other person) which is likely to prejudice:

- (a) the safe and efficient operation by National Grid NTS of the NTS;
- (b) the safe, economic, and efficient Operational Balancing of the Total System;
- (c) the due functioning of the arrangements set out in National Grid's Network Code.

SECTION X – ENERGY BALANCING CREDIT MANAGEMENT

Insert new paragraph 1.6 to read as follows:

"1.6 Trader User

In this Section X references to Users include Trader Users."

SECTION Z – NATIONAL GRID LNG STORAGE FACILITIES

Insert new paragraph 1.11 to read as follows:

"1.11 Trader User

In this Section Z references to Users exclude Trader Users."

TRANSITION DOCUMENT

PART IIC – TRANSITIONAL RULES

Insert new paragraph 8.6 to read as follows:

"8.6 Trader User

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In paragraphs 8.1, 8.2, 8.3 and 8.4 references to Users exclude Trader Users."

Amend paragraph 9.1.8 to read as follows:

"... are to Shipper Users (and not to Trader Users or DNO Users)."

Amend paragraph 10.1.2 to read as follows:

"... are to DNO Users (and not to Shipper Users or Trader Users)."

PART IID – FLEXIBILITY BIDDING

Number existing text at paragraph 1 as paragraph 1.1 and insert new paragraph 1.2 to read as follows:

"1.2 References in this Part IID to Users exclude Trader Users."

MODIFICATION RULES

Amend definition of 'Relevant Shipper' in paragraph 2.1 to read as follows:

"Relevant Shipper": for the purposes of these Rules only in relation to an Individual Code Modification Proposal means:

- (a) a Shipper User who has a transportation arrangement with the Transporter in respect of the System(s) to which the Individual Network Code relates;
- (b) where such proposal relates to National Grid NTS's Network Code, a Trader User;"

Amend definition of 'User' in paragraph 2.1 to read as follows:

"User": for the purposes of these Rules, references to a User in the context of an Individual Network Code Modification Proposal includes a "Relevant Shipper" and in all contexts:

- (a) includes a Trader User;
- (b) excludes a DNO User;"

GENERAL TERMS

SECTION A – DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Insert new paragraph 1.8 to read as follows:

"1.8 Trader User

In this Section A references to Users include Trader Users."

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SECTION B – GENERAL

Amend paragraph 1.5.1(a) to read as follows:

"For the purposes of the Code:

- (a) **"Shippers Framework Agreement"** is the agreement pursuant to which a Transporter's Network Code is made binding between the Transporter and each Shipper User and each Trader User; ..."

Amend paragraph 2.2.1 to read as follows:

"For the purposes of the Code:

- (a) **"Shipper User"** means a person other than a Transporter (but subject to TPD Section V7) or a Trader User who is for the time being bound by the Code pursuant to a Shippers Framework Agreement;
- (b) **"Trader User"** means a person other than National Grid NTS (but subject to TPD Section V7) or a Shipper User who is for the time being bound by the Shippers Framework Agreement to which National Grid NTS is a party for the purposes (only) of submitting Trade Nominations in accordance with TPD Section C5 (and not for the purpose of arranging for gas to be introduced into, conveying by means of or taken out of National Grid's Systems; ~~and~~
- (c) **"DNO User"** means ; and
- (d) **"User"** means a Shipper User or:
- (i) (subject to paragraph 2.2.5(a)) a Trader User;
- (ii) (subject to paragraph 2.2.5(b)) a DNO User."

Amend paragraph 2.2.2 to read as follows:

"A reference in the Code to a User as a User of (or in relation to) a System is a reference:

- (a) in the case of a Shipper User, to a the Shipper User in its capacity as a person bound (or to be bound) by the Code pursuant to the Shippers Framework Agreement to which the Transporter which owns or operates the System is a party;
- (b) in the case of a Trader User, to the Trader User in its capacity as a person bound (or to be bound) by the Code pursuant to the Shippers Framework Agreement to which National Grid NTS is a party.

Amend paragraph 2.2.5 to read as follows:

"References to Users in different parts of the Code:

- (a) include or exclude Trader Users;
- (b) include or exclude DNO Users

as provided in each such part of the Code (and references to Parties shall be construed accordingly).

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Amend paragraph 2.4.1 to read as follows:

"Nothing in the Code or a Framework Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement creates contractual rights or liabilities:

- (a) between Shipper Users inter se;
 - (b) between Trader Users inter se; or
 - (c) between DNO Users inter se;
 - (d) between any Shipper User and any Trader User;
 - (e) between any Shipper User and any DNO User; or
 - (f) between any Trader User and any DNO User
- except where the Code"

Amend paragraph 3.1.4 to read as follows:

"... include Trader Users and DNO Users."

Amend paragraph 4.3.8 to read as follows:

"... include Trader Users and DNO Users."

Amend paragraph 5.1.9 to read as follows:

"... include Trader Users and DNO Users."

SECTION C – INTERPRETATION

Insert new paragraph 2.1.7 to read as follows:

"2.1.7 In this Section C references to Users include Trader Users."

9 Recommendation

The Workgroup invites the Panel to:

- AGREE that Modification 0338 be issued for consultation.

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