

Development Workgroup (Mod proposal 0005)

Unbundled Choice of Meter Reading Service Provision

Monthly Report

7 May 1996

The first meeting of the Development Workgroup took place at Tottenham Court Road on 1 May 1996. The following agenda items were considered

- Future meeting dates and location
- Scope of Development Workgroup
- Unbundled Meter Reading Process
- Unbundled Principles
- Implementation Timetable

Meeting Dates

The Workgroup agreed to provide deputies in the event that meetings cannot be attended; the following meeting timetable was agreed

14 May 1996	Solihull
29 May 1996	London
12 June 1996	Solihull
26 June 1996	London
10 July 1996	Solihull
24 July 1996	London
7 August 1996	Solihull

All meetings in London to be at Tottenham Court Road, wherever possible.

Scope of Development Workgroup

A scope was proposed by TransCo, taken from the modification proposal Terms of Reference. This was discussed and the agreed scope can be seen in **Appendix A**.

Whilst out of scope, it was agreed that the Workgroup would be mindful of the impact on suppliers and consumers, of the modification proposal.

Unbundled Meter Reading Process

It was recognised by the Workgroup that, in order to develop commercial principles, agreement would have to be reached regarding the flow of information in the unbundled meter reading process.

The information flow associated with unbundled meter reading was discussed and agreed - the process can be found in **Appendix B**.

A key principle is that unbundled reading consists of two distinct processes

- The provision of meter reading data
- Enquiry process associated with resolving issues arising from variations in supply point asset details

Unbundled Principles

The Workgroup agreed to utilise the "Unbundled Principles", proposed by TransCo, as a vehicle for developing the commercial principles surrounding unbundled meter reading.

The detail surrounding the commercial principles will develop, however the broad areas discussed were

- Notification of MRA: opting for service
- Information to be exchanged
 - At Commencement
 - Ongoing information flow
- Obtaining of Meter Readings
- Provision of Meter Readings
 - Annual Readings
 - Opening Readings
 - Must Reads
- Validation
- Audit
- Sub Deducts

Implementation Timetable

On an ongoing basis, the workgroup will develop and refine an implementation timetable. At this early stage, the Workgroup are not in a position to arrive at an implementation timetable, however it was recognised that a target date of 1 October 1996 should be agreed at this point.

Ref: Moderep/002

Appendix A

Development Workgroup Scope

Agreed 1 May 1996

DEVELOPMENT WORKGROUP SCOPE

(Modification 0005)

TransCo are committed to providing Customers with choice over the provision of Non Daily Meter Reading Services (NDM) under the Network Code. Choice of unbundled service provision is also a high priority for the Regulator, with October 1996 as the preferred implementation date, and is key to the opening up of competition in meter reading.

In order that choice can take place, the Network Code must be modified and the necessary commercial principles and systems changes must be implemented. The Modification Panel have ruled that a Development Workgroup should be formed to make the necessary changes.

Within Scope

The following issues are within the scope of the Workgroup

- Assess feasibility of 1st October implementation date
- Agree Implementation plan
- Develop and agree commercial principles
- Develop and agree costs and changes to UK Link, interface file formats, and Shipper systems
- Develop and agree legal text changes to Network Code
- Deliver modification report encompassing the above details

Out of Scope

The following issues, whilst being impacted by the provision of unbundled choice of meter reading service, are out of the scope of the Workgroup

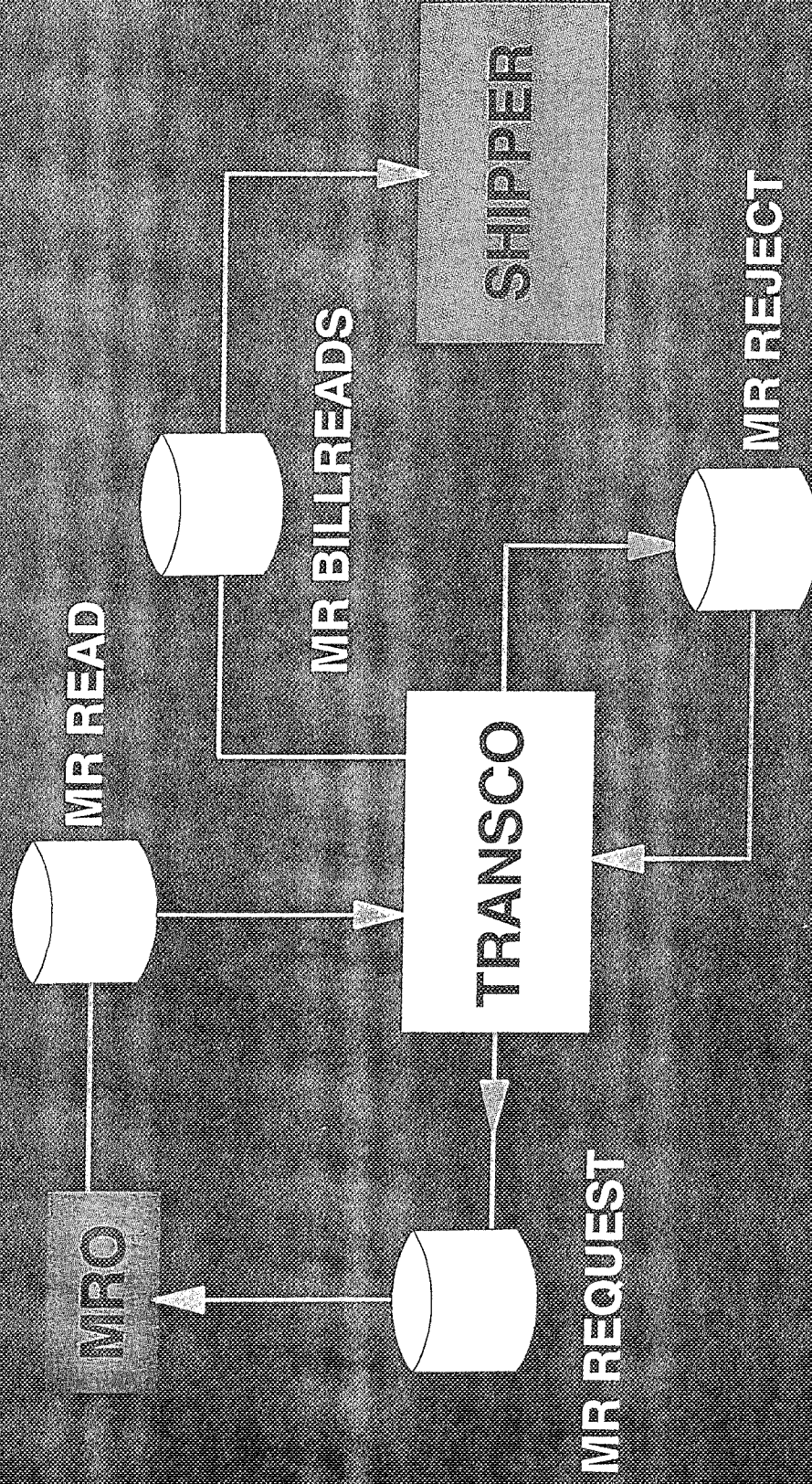
- Transportation pricing
- TransCo "bundled" service provision and liabilities

Appendix B

Meter Reading Process

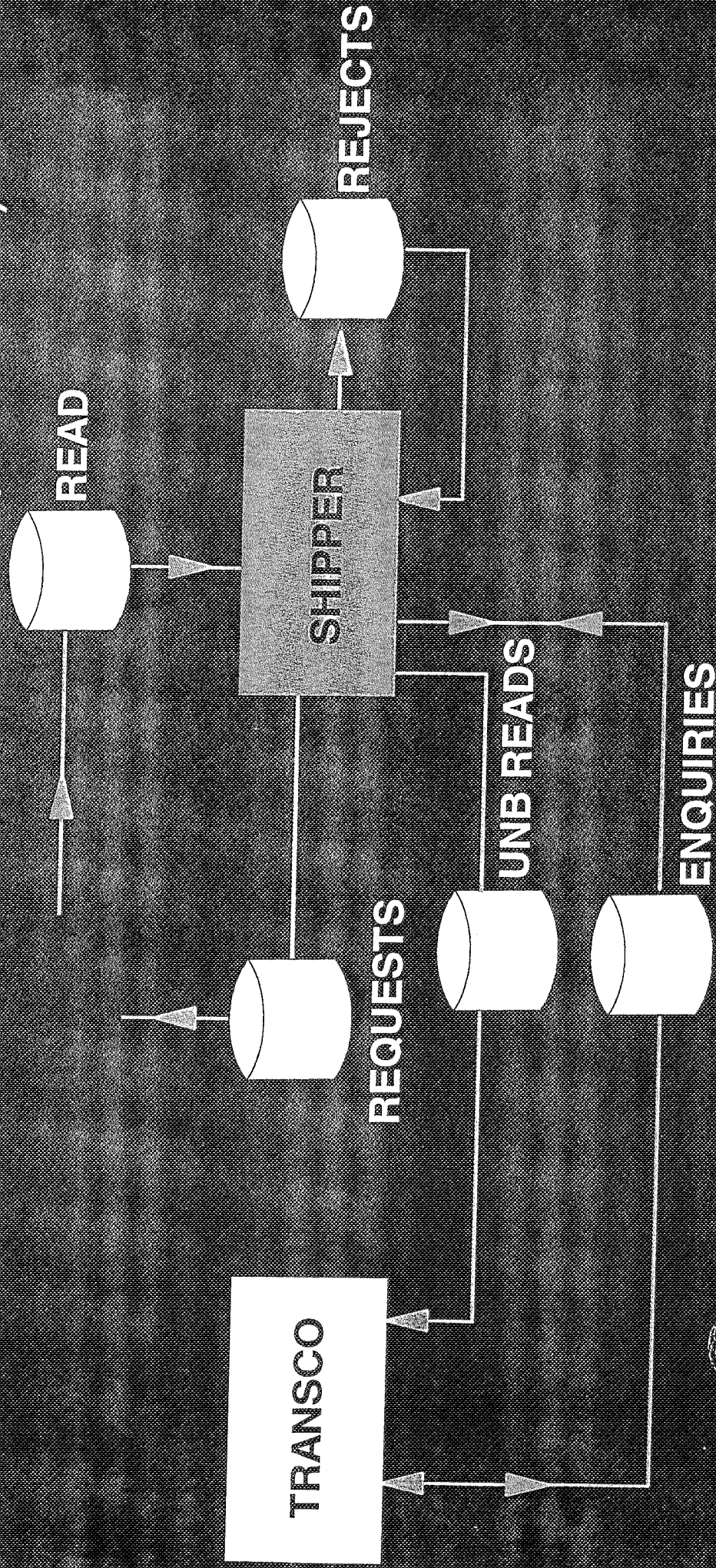
Agreed 1 May 1996

BUNDLED METER READINGS



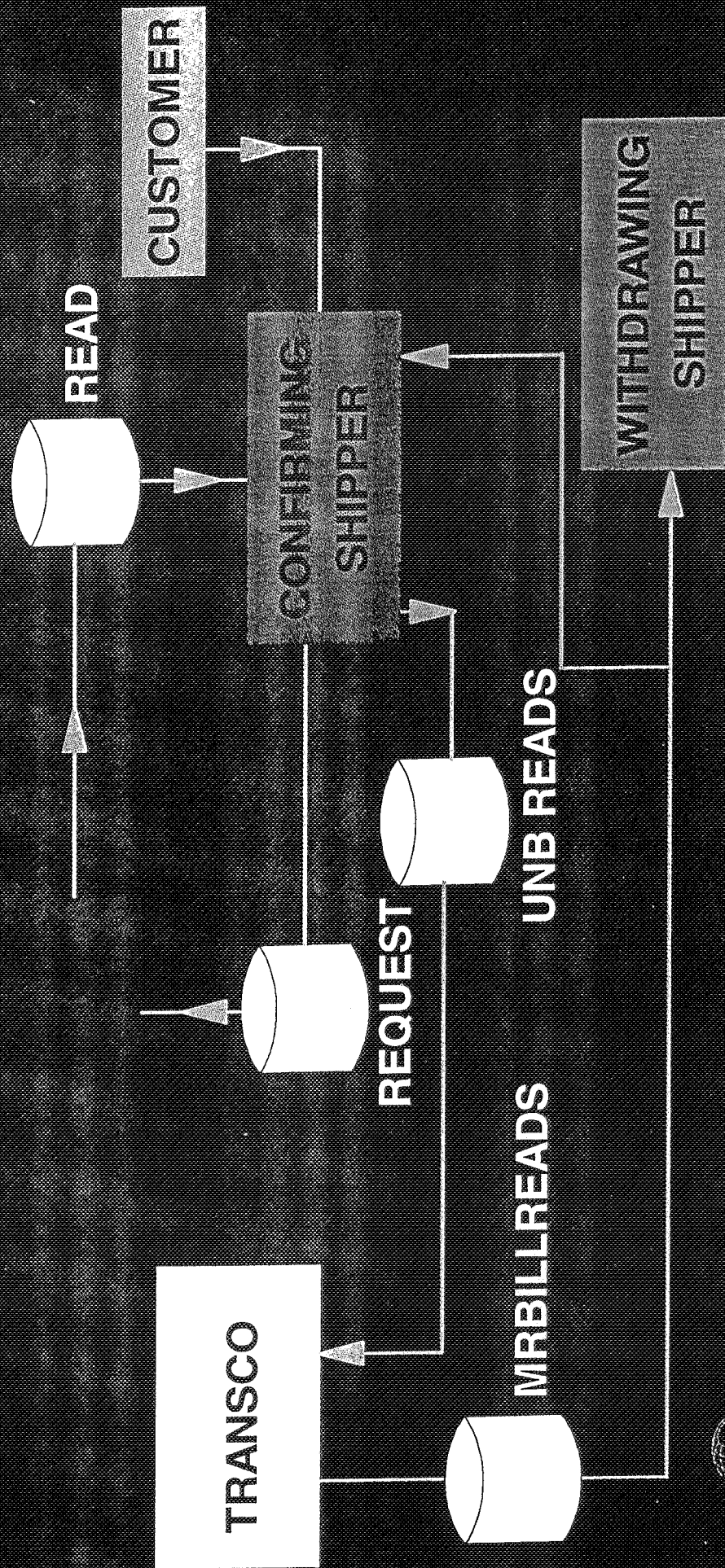
British Gas
TransCo

UNBUNDLED METER READINGS (CYCLIC)



British Gas
TransCo

UNBUNDLED METER READING (TRANSFER READ)



British Gas
TransCo

Choice of Unbundled Meter Reading Service Provision

(Modification Proposal 0005)

Monthly Report 10th April 1996

The Terms of Reference have been amended to reflect the views expressed by the Modification Panel on 28th March 1996.

The Development Workgroup members have been contacted; the workgroup has not met. It is expected that the first meeting will be scheduled for week commencing 29th April 1996

Ref : Moderep/001