

CODE MODIFICATION PROPOSAL No. 0080
" Acceptance of AMR reads at supply points with correctors "
Version 1.0

Date: 30/03/2006

Proposed Implementation Date:

Urgency: Non-Urgent

Proposer's preferred route through modification procedures and if applicable, justification for Urgency

(see the criteria at http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/temp/ofgem/cache/cmsattach/2752_Urgency_Criteria.pdf)

Urgent procedures are not sought for this proposal.

This Modification Proposal has been discussed at the Distribution Workstream in March. As such, the proposer does not consider that further development is required and the Modification is now in a suitable state to proceed direct to consultation.

Nature and Purpose of Proposal (including consequence of non implementation)

At present the Uniform Network Code specifies that where a converter is fitted at a metering installation, the index, uncorrected and corrected readings are not all required to constitute an accepted reading where Daily Read equipment is installed. This recognises that limited capacity of the equipment does not allow all three readings to be transmitted. Section M 1.4.3 (a) specifies that the reading of the index **and** the unconverted reading are not required. This Modification Proposal would extend this to include meter readings from any form of automated meter reading (AMR) equipment. It is proposed that the submission of the uncorrected read is optional but not mandatory.

Consequences of not making the change. What would happen if the status quo remains?

This Modification Proposal would allow a greater number of AMR readings to be accepted by the systems. This in turn facilitates greater efficiencies within the operation of the Shipper and Supplier processes.

Without this change it will be necessary to carry out a greater number of manual reads, retaining unnecessary costs and inconvenience to the customer.

Basis upon which the Proposer considers that it will better facilitate the achievement of the Relevant Objectives, specified in Standard Special Condition A11.1 & 2 of the Gas Transporters Licence

We believe that implementation of this Modification Proposal will further the relevant objectives, as specified in SSC A11 of the Gas Transporters licence, by:-

- Efficient and economic operation of the pipe-line system (para (a))
- Securing effective competition between relevant suppliers and shippers (para (d) and (ii))

By allowing a greater number of actual meter readings to be accepted on the systems. This will improve the correct estimation and deeming processes; this in turn improves the planning and operation of the networks. The increase in actual readings will enhance the information available in the AQ setting process in addition to the accurate reconciliation of energy consumed. The acceptance of automated meter readings will reduce operational and administrative costs of Shippers and Suppliers.

Any further information (Optional), likely impact on systems, processes or procedures, Proposer's view on implementation timescales and suggested text

Where the meter index and the uncorrected read are not both available there is a possibility of meter drift. This would occur where the corrector may not accurately record some of the meter pulses. From the Proposer's initial analysis, this is not thought to be a major issue leading to significant errors in recorded consumption. Any error would be corrected and reconciled when a manual read is obtained at the periodic meter inspection. This approach would parallel the arrangements for Annual Check reads required for Daily Metered Supply Points although the lesser frequency, co-incident with meter inspections, would be in line with the lower volumes associated with these Supply Points.

Comment on implementation timescales:-

As soon as possible. NB. – UK Link release programme means February 2007 is the next possible opportunity

Code Concerned, sections and paragraphs

UNC Section M, paragraph 1.4

Proposed amendment to drafting:-

1.4.3 For the purposes of the Code, in relation to a Supply Meter

(a) a "Meter Reading" is:

(i) the reading of the index of the Supply Meter; and

(ii) where a convertor is installed as described in paragraph 12.3, the converted and the unconverted readings of the convertor

except that where Daily Read Equipment **or Remote Meter Reading Equipment** and such a convertor are installed, a Meter Reading need not include both the reading under paragraph (i) and the unconverted reading under paragraph (ii);

Proposer's Representative

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Proposer

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Signature

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