

Mr. Julian Majdanski UNC Panel Secretary Joint Office of Gas Transporters 1<sup>st</sup> Floor South 31 Homer Road Solihull West Midlands B91 3LT **Centrica Energy** 

Millstream East Maidenhead Road Windsor Berkshire SL4 5GD

Tel. (01753) 431059 Fax (01753) 431150

Our Ref. Your Ref.

9 May 2008

Dear Julian,

RE: Modification Proposal 0212: "Revision of the Rough Storage Connection Agreement"

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposal. British Gas supports its implementation.

This appears to be a very straightforward proposal to increase the maximum flow of gas off the NTS and into the Rough storage facility. We understand that the higher flow rates sought for the Rough facility have previously been utilised, albeit on a basis of uncertain availability, and that National Grid has in fact confirmed that the higher flow rate sought will not cause operational difficulties. Against this background, it is difficult to identify any detriment whatsoever, either actual or potential, associated with this proposal.

The importance of the role of storage to "UK plc" is well understood, and is evidenced by the significant investments that are being made to develop new facilities. It would therefore be extremely unfortunate if an inability to amend the contractual arrangements contained within the UNC were to prevent full utilisation of existing storage facilities. This would, of course, also jeopardise security of supply and by implication the stability of UK commodity prices. We also believe that a restriction on the volumes of gas which can be injected into the Rough facility, and therefore withdrawn when necessary, could restrict competition between shippers.

Should you have any queries with regard to this response please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Wright
Commercial Manager