Appendix 2

GENERAL ISSUES RELATING TO NETWORK CODE VALIDATION RULE CRITERIA

In support of Modification proposal 0439 (New Network Code Validation Rules), the Network Code Validation Rules Sub Committee has assessed a range of issues associated with the proposed revision to the Network Code Validation Rules.

The following broad overview summaries some of the salient points connected with this matter.

i) Accuracy of Reads & Billing: "The site specific temperature and pressure corrector is widely regarded as being a robust and reliable piece of equipment specifically prepared for the purpose for which it is used. Temperature and pressure correctors are manufactured and purchased to the recognised British Standard (BS4161 part 8 1987).This standard was introduced following development by a panel of industry experts and the standard requires that the corrector will meet the exacting requirements that comprise the national standard.

The correctors are installed in accordance with IGE GM5 installation standard and performance is monitored through both routine maintenance and specific checks of the correctors.

Transco therefore has confidence in the design and installation of the corrector and as a consequence considers that the utmost confidence can be taken from the application of site specific correctors to meter readings. Meter readings obtained in this manner which are used for billing purposes can be viewed as emanating from a highly reliable source and are the best evidence of volume that has passed through a meter."

ii) The potential increase in corrector read rejections (estimated from the adoption of the proposed two tier regime), is not anticipated to impact on the speed and level of service offered through LDZ Site Visits to those affected sites.

iii) Utilisation of correctors and suitability of “other” Network Code Validation Rules in a liberalised Metering environment. Examples of issues to be assessed independently of this modification proposal being;

- Choice as to whether correctors require fitting to meters (current requirements dictate their fitting)
- View on any statutory requirements for Corrector accuracy.
- Route(s) for replacement of reads failing Validation checks.

iv) The Sub Committee does not anticipate any revisiting of the corrector tolerance values in isolation of the broader issues referred to in (iii).