



Transco, Shippers and other
interested parties

*Bringing choice and value
to customers*

Your Ref:
Our Ref: Net/Cod/Mod/648
Direct Dial: 020 7901 7354
Email: industrycodes@ofgem.gov.uk

15 September 2003

Dear Colleague,

Request for urgent status for modification proposal 648 'Transitional Provisions for the Meter Asset Service Standard'

Ofgem has considered the request for modification proposal 648 '*Transitional Provisions for the Meter Asset Service Standard*', to follow urgent procedures. We do not consider that this proposal merits urgent status and we have set out our reasons for this below.

Standards of Service have played a key role in the relationship between Transco and its Users (Shippers) since the designation of Transco's Network Code in 1996. Following Ofgem's acceptance of Modification Proposal 565, a complete Standards of Service package will be implemented on 1st October 2003, consisting of amendments to standards that already exist and a number of new standards covering activities that have not previously been subject to performance standards or associated liabilities. In particular, the existing service standards for Meter Asset Updates will cease to apply. Whilst it is intended that equivalent standards of service will be contained within the Metering Contracts currently under development, there will be a gap between the implementation of Modification 565 and the Metering Separation date.

Transco has taken the view that as the Metering Separation date is still being discussed by the industry, it should make arrangements for the existing provisions to continue from the implementation of Modification Proposal 565. It is proposed that the provisions for the service standard relating to relevant Meter Information in Section M2.7 of the Transco Network Code, which is to be removed as part of the implementation for Modification Proposal 565, are transferred to the Transitional Arrangements until Metering Separation.

In determining whether to grant urgent status to this modification proposal, Ofgem has considered the criteria¹ it generally applies to such requests. In this instance, whilst the proposal is linked to an imminent date related event, insofar as the new standards will come into effect on

¹ www.ofgem.gov.uk/temp/ofgem/cache/cmsattach/2752_Urgency%20Criteria.pdf

1st October, Ofgem does not believe that there will be a significant commercial impact upon Transco and Shippers, or an impact on the safety and security of the network, if this proposal does not follow urgent procedures. In particular, the existence or otherwise of a standard of service upon Meter Asset updates does not preclude Transco from continuing this activity, in line with its obligations under Standard Conditions 5 and 31, as appropriate, of its Gas Transportation licence.

Ofgem has concluded that urgent procedures are not necessary in this instance. However, this does not preclude the Modification Panel from determining that the time period for progression of the modification be shortened, if this was considered appropriate. If you have any queries in relation to the issues raised in this letter, please feel free to contact me on the above number.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Dixon', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jonathan Dixon
Head of Gas Network Codes