

**TRANSCO NETWORK CODE REVIEW PROPOSAL No. 0650**  
"Provision of Testing Services for Electronic Code Communications"  
Version 1.0

**Date:** 11/09/2003

**Proposed Implementation Date:**

**Urgency:** Non-Urgent

**Justification**

The IT landscape that Shippers and Transco now operate is significantly different from that presented in the past. Shippers and Transco are continually faced with major initiatives both internally (consolidation, renewal of legacy systems) and externally (Project Gemini, RGMA) that dramatically effect systems and processes.

This constant renewal and redevelopment of the industry is generating more requirements for more communications to more participants, year on year.

Due to the complexity and criticality of electronic code communications between Transco and Shippers, testing is paramount as a means to find problems and mitigate risks. Unfortunately, outside large projects (Project Gemini, RGMA) there is little scope for Transco to support Shippers in terms of software testing, as there is no provision for such services within the Network Code.

**Nature of Proposal**

It is required that Transco and their agents would provide and support appropriate testing services for Shippers in relation to electronic code communications.

It is perceived these services would take the form of test documentation, provision of testing and technical support. In addition Transco would facilitate a framework for engagement of such services with Shippers or their agents.

**Purpose of Proposal**

To ensure that there is a clear responsibility for Transco to provide testing services for current and future electronic code communications. It is hoped that a successful modification to the Network Code would allow: -

- Increased visibility and assurance for changes to code communications both to and from Transco
- Creation of a more open and flexible relationship for Shippers and Transco to operate within
- A methodology to encourage innovation and efficiency while is actively reducing risks to Shippers, Transco and the community as a whole

**Consequence of not making this change**

There will be, and currently exists, a clear unmitigated risk in all system development concerning electronic code communications. This in turn, represents a potential risk to many key areas: -

- System security and safety
- Existing systems and processes in place between Transco and Shippers
- Supply point competition

**Area of Network Code Concerned**

Section U

**Proposer's Representative**

Steve Gordon (Scottish Power)

**Proposer**

Michael Reid (Scottish Power)

**Signature**

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