TRANSCO NETWORK CODE MODIFICATION PROPOSAL No. 0675
"Isolations - Changes required in accordance with the Review of Gas Metering Arrangements (RGMA)"
Version 1.0

Date: 11/12/2003

Proposed Implementation Date: 12/07/2004

Urgency: Non-Urgent

Justification

Within the remit of the Review of Gas Metering Arrangements (RGMA) programme, the Meter Asset/Work (Isolations) unbundling sub-group of the Supply Point & Billing Workstream has taken the opportunity to develop a revised Isolations regime. This is designed to be consistent with the separation of Transco's transportation and metering businesses and the liberalised gas metering market.

A new feature of the regime is that Users may secure Isolation (a change of Network Code status) of a Supply Meter Point where they have either disconnected a meter from Transco's network or left the meter connected but disabled, for example by clamping the emergency control valve. In the event of a subsequent Supply Point Withdrawal by the User, where the meter remains connected to Transco's network, if after a period of twelve months the meter has not been disconnected, Transco would disable the supply (for example by 'turning down' the house entry tee). The User must warrant that it would be responsible for any gas off-taken prior to the earlier of the meter being disconnected or the supply disabled. This regime would apply to both Smaller and Larger Supply Meter Points.

Commensurate with the new regime would be the introduction new UK-Link functionality which would facilitate more efficient and rapid procurement of a Network Code Isolation by Users.

The new regime features an overhaul of the existing Nework Code Isolations provisions and elimination of the Isolation Siteworks Agreement.

Nature of Proposal

Modification of the Network Code is required to introduce a new Isolations regime. The primary features are described as follows:

- Revision of the definition of Isolation and the provisions governing Isolation status.
- Revision of relevant provisions to clarify that Isolation is a Network Code contractual status and does not constitute physical works.
- Removal of the reference to Transco undertaking physical works as a pre-requisite for Network Code Isolation.
- Removal of the Isolation Siteworks Agreement (an existing Network Code ancillary document).

- Removal of existing Isolations request related provisions and insertion of User notification requirements.
- Clarification of how a Supply Point Withdrawal may become effective under the new Isolation process.
- New provisions governing Re-establishment of an Isolated Supply Meter Point.
- New provisions to ensure that where the meter has been left connected to Transco's system that the User remains responsible following effective Withdrawal for ensuring that the meter is disconnected from Transco's Network within twelve months of such withdrawal.
- New provisions detailing Transco's responsibilities where an Isolated & Withdrawn Supply Point remains connected to its system after twelve months.
- Amendment of miscellaneous provisions of Section G and M of the Network Code to clarifies the impact of metering liberalisation.

Purpose of Proposal

The purpose of this Modification Proposal is to ensure that the Network Code Isolations regime reflects the liberalised supply metering market and is consistent with the requirements of RGMA. The measures identified within this Modification Proposal facilitate Transco's GT Licence Relevant Objective of ensuring effective competition between shippers and and between suppliers.

Consequence of not making this change

The Network Code would not reflect the separation of Transco's gas transportation and supply metering activities. It would also be necessary to retain the redundant Isolations Siteworks Agreement. Transco would in addition be unable to introduce new UK-Link functionality to facilitate an Isolation request.

Area of Network Code Concerned

Principal Document Section G2, G3, M2 & M3.

Proposer's Representative

Christopher J Warner (Transco)

Proposer

Chris Train (Transco)

Signature

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