UNC Modification

At what stage is this document in the process?

01 Modification

02 Workgroup Repo

03 Draft Modification

Final Modification Report

Purpose of Modification:

UNC 07XX:

To change the submission requirements for Offtake Profile Notices to allow values to be submitted in either volumes or energy, where currently only energy is specified in UNC.



The Proposer recommends that this modification should be:

Changes to Offtake Profile Notice

• subject to self-governance

Submission Requirements

· assessed by a Workgroup

This modification will be presented by the Proposer to the Panel on 18 Feb 2021. The Panel will consider the Proposer's recommendation and determine the appropriate route.



High Impact:

None



Medium Impact:

None



Low Impact:

NTS, GDNs, Shippers

Style Definition: TOC 1

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1 Summary

What

The UNC currently provides for submission of Offtake Profile Notices (OPNs) to Transporters in only one format, an energy value provided in MW. The intent of this modification is to amend the text of UNC TPD Section J, Para 4.5.3, to enable future submissions to be provided in either energy or volume.

Why

Some sites that are directly connected to the NTS have requested the ability to provide details of their offtake profile in volume values rather than in energy. National Grid NTS is already in a position to accept OPNs in a volume format but considers that a change to the UNC should be made to clarify this.

How

Text will be inserted into UNC TPD Section J which expands the current means of submission to provide for OPN values to be submitted in either volume or energy units. National Grid NTS systems already allow for this so there are no system changes required for National Grid NTS, just an update to UNC text to enable a process that is already available for future use.

2 Governance

Justification for Self-Governance

We do not believe that implementation of this Modification would have a material effect on any of the self-governance criteria. .

There is no cost to National Grid associated with the proposed changes and so no cost to be passed on to Users or sites.

The enhanced level of flexibility proposed by the Modification would not remove any existing functionality for Users or sites providing OPNs to National Grid and so there would be no requirement for Users or sites to make any system changes unless they chose to.

Requested Next Steps

This modification should:

- be subject to self-governance
- be assessed by a Workgroup

3 Why Change?

The UNC currently provides that where an Offtake Profile Notice (OPN) is submitted to a Transporter, the values contained therein shall be energy values, but some parties that have sites directly connected to the NTS would prefer the unit of measurement to be the volume of gas taken from the NTS rather that the energy

it contains as a consequence of their sites being set up to record and monitor usage in volume rather than energy.

In such cases, conversion of a volume to energy using a Calorific Value (CV) is required to submit the notice. Conversion back to volume for the purposes of Network balancing is calculated by National Grid using a telemetered Calorific Value but if the initial submission was carried out using an averaged or approximate CV, the variation could lead to slight differences. The ability to select the more appropriate units, dependant on usage and the systems set-up at individual sites, could therefore give a more accurate picture when Offtake Profile Notices are submitted.

4 Code Specific Matters

Reference Documents

UNC Section J

5 Solution

The Modification will amend TPD Section J, Para 4.5.3 to expand on the current requirement to provide the "rate of offtake" in MW by specifying a wider range of acceptable units, enabling either energy or volume submissions.

6 Impacts & Other Considerations

Does this modification impact a Significant Code Review (SCR) or other significant industry change projects, if so, how?

There is no expected impact on any other industry change projects.

Consumer Impacts

Directly connected NTS consumers will benefit from greater flexibility in how they submit their OPNs to National Grid NTS.

Initial discussion with GDNs has focused on the notices they send to National Grid, however, Section J 1.3.1 (c) defines "the Transporter" as the operator of the *upstream system* which in turn is defined in 1.3.1 (a) as *the NTS or (as the case may) the LDZ from which gas flows at such Inter-System Offtake.*

This definition could encompass GDNs, meaning that they may be in receipt of OPNs from industrial and commercial sites connected to their networks which currently would only be in energy (MW) and should this modification be approved, future OPNs could be submitted to GDNs in volumes. We feel it would be appropriate to give GDNs and other stakeholders the opportunity to discuss and input to the final wording of any changes to the legal text via workgroups to ensure the changes do not impact systems and processes where this may be unnecessary.

Cross Code Impacts

There are no Cross-Code impacts.

EU Code Impacts

There are no EU Code impacts.

Central Systems Impacts

There are no impacts on central systems or National Grid operational control systems. The GCS application is already capable of converting data from energy to volume and vice-versa where required.

There may be system impacts for GDNs' operational control systems if they are currently unable to accommodate receipt of OPNs from DN connected sites in volume units, however the intent is to structure the modification to avoid this if any such costs would not be outweighed by benefits.

7 Relevant Objectives

Impact of the modification on the Relevant Objectives:		
Relevant Objective		Identified impact
a)	Efficient and economic operation of the pipe-line system.	Positive
b)	Coordinated, efficient and economic operation of	None
	(i) the combined pipe-line system, and/ or	
	(ii) the pipe-line system of one or more other relevant gas transporters.	
c)	Efficient discharge of the licensee's obligations.	None
d)	Securing of effective competition:	None
	(i) between relevant shippers;	
	(ii) between relevant suppliers; and/or	
	(iii) between DN operators (who have entered into transportation	
	arrangements with other relevant gas transporters) and relevant shippers.	
e)	Provision of reasonable economic incentives for relevant suppliers to secure that the domestic customer supply security standards are satisfied as	None
	respects the availability of gas to their domestic customers.	
f)	Promotion of efficiency in the implementation and administration of the Code.	None
g)	Compliance with the Regulation and any relevant legally binding decisions of	None
	the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Co-operation of Energy Regulators.	

The proposed change affords flexibility allowing each site to choose the best option for them. Providing OPNs in the units most relevant to the use of the gas at the offtake avoids the need for conversions to be performed manually and could improve accuracy of OPNs without having any negative impact on National Grid as the GNCC is already set up to process these in multiple formats.

Improved accuracy makes control room decisions on any actions required to balance the network more informed, improving the efficiency with which the NTS is run which in turn would feed through to the LDZs.

8 Implementation

Self-governance procedures are proposed; therefore, implementation could be effective from the sixteenth business day following Panel direction to implement.

9 Legal Text

Text Commentary

Legal text to follow

Text

Legal text to follow

10 Recommendations

Proposer's Recommendation to Panel

Panel is asked to:

- Agree that self-governance procedures should apply
- Refer this proposal to a Workgroup for assessment.