

Stage 01: Modification

0468:

Unique Property Reference Number (UPRN) Population by Gas Transporters

At what stage is this document in the process?

- 01 Modification
- 02 Workgroup Report
- 03 Draft Modification Report
- 04 Final Modification Report

The modification requires Gas Transporters to populate the Unique Property Reference Number (UPRN) into the address data set.



The Proposer recommends that this modification should be:

- assessed by a workgroup



Medium Impact:
Gas Transporters & Gas Shippers

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About this document:

This modification will be presented by the proposer to the panel on 17 October 2013.

The panel will consider the proposer's recommendation, and agree whether this modification should be subject to self-governance; and whether it should be issued for consultation or be referred to a workgroup for assessment.


Any questions?
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1 Summary

Is this a Self-Governance Modification?

The modification is not proposed to be self governance as it will have impacts on both Gas Transporters and Shippers systems.

Why Change?

Many energy policies are being introduced which relate to the “premise” rather than to a specific customer and there is not a reliable and consistent mechanism which uniquely identifies the premises that will support future policy delivery and accurately maintains the premise address.

The address lifecycle is not currently automatically updated or maintained as it evolves from a new development to a mature premise address, or is aggregated or restructured after any development to existing properties. In order to trigger address updates Registered Users must notify the Gas Transporter when they become aware of any updated address details and the Gas Transporters’ Agent manages the address query process by using CMS queries, this is a labour intensive process which relies on customer provided data being manually keyed into a query process run by the Gas Transporters’ Agent.

However, since the National Land & Property Gazetteer was developed to create a master dataset for address datasets it is now possible to have a unique premise identifier (the Unique Property Reference Number – UPRN) maintained at a national level which is being used by many bodies to ensure accurate address maintenance. GeoPlace is a public sector limited liability partnership between the Local Government Association and Ordnance Survey which provides the definitive source of publicly owned spatial address and street data..

Solution

The Gas Transporters will be required to populate the UPRN within the premise level details of the MPRN when it is created, and before it is issued to a market participant.

The Gas Transporter will then need to maintain the Meter Point Address by reviewing the Meter Point Address data every three months, and where the address dataset has changed provide an updated validated address to the Registered User.

The Gas Transporter will not be required to publish or provide the UPRN to Registered Users.

A query process will be maintained by the Gas Transporter to enable the Registered User to query an address if they reasonably believe the MPRN has been associated with the incorrect MPRN.

Detailed business rules should be developed by a Workgroup.

Relevant Objectives

Implementation of this proposal will facilitate Relevant Objective C – “the efficient discharge of the licensee’s obligation”. By including a unique premise reference number to the address data it will deliver the unique and accurate address requirement of the Gas Transporters’ Standard Licence Condition 31.3a(iii).

Implementation

An implementation date has not been identified, as system impacts have yet to be fully considered, however changes to facilitate the rollout of smart metering have already considered the requirements to populate the UPRN and have ensured that new smart

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metering flows are sufficiently flexible to accommodate the transferring of the data between parties once the data item is held by gas transporters.

2 Why Change?

DECC has considered the definition of customer premises within the context of a number of energy initiatives. For example the Green Deal and the Smart Metering programme which will see the installation of multiple devices at a customers' premises, however there is no standard definition of a customer premise within the Network Code. The standard approach to reference a premise, is to use the property address, however the address starts life generally as a plot reference which is then subject to future updates by property developers, the post office, local authorities and customers; unfortunately gas transporter systems are not always updated in a timely manner. Problems arise when trying to match addresses in different systems when there is no unique reference to a premise which different market participants can rely on.

Furthermore in the context of Smart Metering Rollout, DECC have considered that the use of the UPRN will facilitate improved premise recognition by introducing a single unique reference number related to the premise as opposed to the mixture of meter and premises definitions currently used, this will also assist in more accurate address population across the energy industry. DECC would like to see Gas Transporters and Electricity Distribution Network Operators hold the UPRN which will allow spatial referencing of premises and will tie electricity MPANs and gas MPRNs together to improve data quality. [The responsibility for creation of the UPRN rests with the NLPG - The National Land & Property Gazetteer which was initiated in 1999 and has become the master address dataset for England and Wales. It is the central hub for the 348 address creating local authorities' Local Land and Property Gazetteers \(LLPGs\), which are also known as Authority Addressing Datasets.](#)

[All local authorities create their LLPGs using common data entry conventions, based upon the national standard BS7666:2006, and submit their LLPGs to the national hub, managed by GeoPlace. The creation and maintenance processes are well-tested, combining local knowledge with central validation.](#)

[The data is created and maintained at local level to an agreed methodology under the LLPG data entry conventions document \(DEC-NLPG\), and passed to the hub which tests its structural conformance to the agreed implementation of BS7666 \(2006\) Parts 1 & 2. The hub also checks the quality through a regular data audit against third party national address datasets such as the Valuation Office Agency's Council Tax and Non Domestic Rates lists of addresses.](#)

[Each record has a Unique Property Reference Number \(UPRN\) which provides a reference key to join related address records across different datasets. Even if a property is demolished, the UPRN can never be reused and retains its historical information.](#)

[The Property Lifecycle](#)

[Local authorities' legal responsibilities place them at the source of the property lifecycle for addressable objects. Activities such as street naming and numbering, planning applications, building and environmental control, licensing, electoral registration, council tax and non-domestic ratings repeatedly bring local authorities in contact with land and property enabling documentation of its lifecycle.](#)

[Throughout its lifecycle, information on the address of a property can change. This may be due to a change of name, a sub-division or aggregation of an address within a building, change of use, such as from single occupancy to multiple occupancy, or the eventual demolition of the property. All of these historic, alias and provisional addresses are recorded against the same UPRN.](#)

[Information on the timing and nature of the change will be known first by the local authority as part of their normal processes before being passed onto any other third party such as Royal Mail, which will add a postcode if it delivers mail to the address.](#)

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3 Solution

Gas Transporters will be required to include the UPRN as part of the premise address details for each supply point. (For the avoidance of doubt this includes all currently connected premises as well as all future connected premises.)

From the date of implementation the Gas Transporters will be required to populate the UPRN within the premise level details of any new MPRN when it is created, and before it is issued to a market participant.

The Gas Transporter will then need to maintain the Meter Point Address by reviewing the Meter Point Address data every three months, and where the address dataset has changed provide an updated validated address to the Registered User.

The Gas Transporter will not be required to publish or provide the UPRN to Registered Users.

A query process will be maintained by the Gas Transporter to enable the Registered User to query an address if they reasonably believe the MPRN has been associated with the incorrect MPRN.

The Gas Transporters will be required to prepare, consult on and agree with Registered Users a plan to update the UPRN to all currently connected premises within twelve months of the Project Nexus Go-Live date.

~~Detailed business rules will need to be developed to determine how the UPRN is populated and communicated as well as where it is included in the premise details within UK Link systems and files.~~

User Pays

Classification of the modification as User Pays, or not, and the justification for such classification.

It is envisaged that changes to the Transporter computer systems will be required, which makes this a User Pays modification, however as this facilitates the delivery of the transporter licence conditions, the proposer believes the funding of this should be met in full by the Gas Transporters.

Identification of Users of the service, the proposed split of the recovery between Gas Transporters and Users for User Pays costs and the justification for such view.

Fully funded by gas transporters on the basis that address details are within the ownership of the gas transporters and the solution improves the licence requirements for a unique and accurate address provision. It will also reduce the current Transporters cost's and associated liabilities for Address Management queries , as the automating of address updates will remove the vast majority of address queries raised via CMS.

Proposed charge(s) for application of User Pays charges to Shippers.

Not applicable

Proposed charge for inclusion in the Agency Charging Statement (ACS) – to be completed upon receipt of a cost estimate from Xoserve.

Not applicable

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4 Relevant Objectives

Impact of the modification on the Relevant Objectives:

Relevant Objective	Identified impact
a) Efficient and economic operation of the pipe-line system.	None
b) Coordinated, efficient and economic operation of (i) the combined pipe-line system, and/ or (ii) the pipe-line system of one or more other relevant gas transporters.	None
c) Efficient discharge of the licensee's obligations.	Positive
d) Securing of effective competition: (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.	None
e) Provision of reasonable economic incentives for relevant suppliers to secure that the domestic customer supply security standards... are satisfied as respects the availability of gas to their domestic customers.	None
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 the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Co-operation of Energy Regulators.	None

Standard Licence Condition 31 – Supply Point Information Service

SLC 31.3 a (iii) requires that the Supply Point Information Service hold and maintains a “unique and accurate address of each premises” – by holding the UPRN, it will enhance the information being held on the Supply Point Information Service by using a truly unique identifier for a single premise rather than using the triangulation of multiple data items to define a single point.

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5 Implementation

Implementation costs and timescales will have to be identified when the business rules and system impacts are fully developed and understood.

6 Legal Text

Legal text will be provided by the Gas Transporters when development of the proposal is complete.

7 Recommendation

The Proposer invites the Panel to:

- Determine that this modification should not be subject to self-governance;
- Determine that this modification should progress to Workgroup assessment.