

0526:

Identification of Supply Meter Point pressure tier



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Why change?



- Shippers/Suppliers/Meter Asset Managers (MAM) requires knowledge of the Pressure Tier applicable to a specific MPRN to ensure they send the appropriate skilled staff with the correct metering equipment.
- Currently, this information can be obtained by specific enquiry of the Gas Transporter (GT) using the GT1 procedures. The GT1 procedure is manual and time-consuming for the enquirer and the GT who has to respond.
- Meter worker local knowledge on pressure tiers has been lost as metering competition has introduced new entrants into the market and so it is essential that we have an accurate & transparent view of this important site attribute.

Options



- By placing corresponding obligations on iGTs and GDNs via the UNCAs, it will enable effective processes to be put in place that give meter workers the transparency of this important and relevant site data.
- Without this transparency, parties have really only two options to be confident that they have the correct meter worker and equipment available at site:
 - Continue to submit a GT1 form and wait for a response.
 - Up-skill the meter worker for all pressure tiers and provision the worker with multiple types of equipment, suitable for all tiers.
- Without this solution, there is a risk that at best transporters could be receiving unmanageable numbers of requests, which will add cost and time to the exchange process, and at worst, that inappropriately skilled workers attend site and leave an unsafe situation for the occupier. The HSE have recommended the industry introduce improved communication in this regard.

Solution - Interim



In the interim

- Not less than quarterly, the GTs would be required to produce an electronic listing (e.g. CSV file) of MPRN and 'Supply Meter Point Pressure Tier' for each MPRN which is not low pressure (to limit the volume of data).
- Where the specific pressure tier records aren't available, GTs to update the data with:
 - Unknown
 - Anything which is not low pressure (Not LP)
- From implementation, centrally capture and store the pressure tier for:
 - All new connections
 - All pressure enquiries resulting in the production of a GT1 document
 - Any re-engineered sites that change the pressure tier
- Stakeholders may still initiate a GT1 procedure for everything not LP prior to planned meter work.

Solution – Enduring



- It is proposed that a new supply point data item of ‘Supply Meter Point Pressure Tier’ be defined with a “valid set” .
- Data will be captured, stored centrally, maintained and made available to Shippers/Suppliers and/or MAMs.
- As part of the data gathering stage MAMs may be willing to provide their records of pressure tier to the GTs to assist the GTs to review and ensure their records are as complete as possible.
- Nothing in this proposal would remove the parties’ obligation to check the actual pressure at site prior to commencing work. The existing operational safety activities would remain to minimise the opportunity of error.
- If a MAM believed that the information provided was incorrect, then they should report this to the GT with any supporting evidence, and the GT should review its records, advise the MAM and update the central records.

Recommended Steps



- The Proposer recommends that this modification should be:
 - Not subject to self-governance because it may materially impact the commercial activities related to the transportation and shipping of gas.
 - Workgroup assessment to develop the modification for x months