

## 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 and update address data as changes come known.



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?

Contact:  
Code Administrator



[enquiries@gasgovernance.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@gasgovernance.co.uk)



0121 288 2107

Proposer:  
Colette Baldwin



[Colette.baldwin@eoneenergy.com](mailto:Colette.baldwin@eoneenergy.com)



telephone  
02476 181382

Systems Provider:  
Xoserve



[commercial.enquiries@xoserve.com](mailto:commercial.enquiries@xoserve.com)

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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.

Additionally, the management of address data quality is a significant workload for the industry with a great deal of challenge and updating of address data to that held by the Transporter in the Supply Point Register which requires a lot of manual intervention by both Registered Users and the Transporter Agency. Approximately 1500 address queries are being raised each week (75,000 queries per annum) to bring meter point addresses to a state of maturity - from the development of new connections (plot to postal updates) through to the improvement in address data quality for more mature sites. Most of this work is completed manually and is resource intensive from both the Registered User and Transporter Agency perspective.

## Solution

The Gas Transporters will be required to assign the UPRN to the MPRN when it is created, or update the UPRN to existing MPRNs where it already exists.

Using the UPRN, the transporters will then review and update the address as it matures in accordance with the detailed business rules.

## 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 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.

Additionally, the management of address data quality is a significant workload for the industry with a great deal of challenge and updating of address data to that held by the Transporter in the Supply Point Register which requires a lot of manual intervention by both Registered Users and the Transporter Agency. Approximately 1500 address queries are being raised each week (75,000 queries per annum) to bring meter point addresses to a state of maturity - from the development of new connections (plot to postal updates) through to the improvement in address data quality for more mature sites. Most of this work is completed manually and is resource intensive from both the Registered User and Transporter Agency perspective.

## 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.

### Business Rules

1. Transporters shall be responsible for reviewing Supply Meter Point address data every three months.
2. Once an address is confirmed as being valid, and a Supply Meter Point has been created that following the relevant meter connection activity – is capable of flowing gas, the Transporters shall within a period of three months review the Supply Meter Point address.
3. Whenever the Transporter updates an address the Transporter shall notify the Registered User of the updated address.
4. Where the Transporter uses an address management product the Transporter shall publish the product details so that Users are aware of the management approach. Where this product uses a property identifier e.g. 'unique property reference number', details of the construction of this reference shall be available to Users.
5. The Transporters shall not be required to publish or provide property identifier to Users.
6. Where the Transporters have indicated use of an address management product, the Transporters shall use this product to maintain Supply Meter Point address data.
7. Where the Transporters have indicated use of an address management product, once the User has identified that the Supply Meter Point address is associated with the incorrect address maintained by the address management product they must notify the Transporter providing sufficient information for the Transporter to assess the association. Where the User is able to identify an alternative unique property reference number to which they believe that the Supply Meter Point should be associated they may, but shall not be obligated to, provide this information to the Transporter.
8. Where the Transporters have indicated use of an address management product and where the Supply Meter Point address data matches the address management product, the Supply Meter Point address will be assigned a 'valid' flag. Any alternative address data that a User obtains will need to be queried with the address management service provider. Once this address data has been accepted and provided by the address management product the Transporters shall update the Supply Meter Point address data.
9. Shipper address queries may be reviewed by the Transporter for address data matches where the Supply Meter Point address data cannot be matched against the address management product. i.e. the 'valid' flag is not populated. If updated, the Transporter shall then assess whether the 'valid' flag shall then be populated.

### User Pays

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

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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.

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.

## 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.