

**UNIFORM NETWORK CODE – TRANSPORTATION PRINCIPAL DOCUMENT****SECTION V - GENERAL****1 INTRODUCTION****1.1 Ancillary Agreement**

1.1.1 An "**Ancillary Agreement**" is an agreement between the Transporter and one or more Users setting out any terms of a transportation arrangement (as defined in Standard Special Condition A3 of the Transporter's Licence) in relation to the relevant System(s):

- (a) entered into pursuant to any provision of the Code which contemplates that such an Agreement may be entered into; or
- (b) which expressly provides that it is to be a "**Network Code Ancillary Agreement**" for the purposes of this Section V.

1.1.2 Subject as provided in this Section V an Ancillary Agreement shall be treated as forming, as between the Transporter and the User or Users party thereto, and as to its subject matter, a part of the contractual relationship between the Transporter and such User(s) existing pursuant to the Code and the relevant Shipper Framework Agreement.

1.1.3 In any Ancillary Agreement (unless it otherwise provides) terms defined in or for the purposes of the Code and not otherwise defined in such Ancillary Agreement shall have the meanings ascribed thereto in or for the purposes of the Code.

1.1.4 An Ancillary Agreement may be amended by agreement of the Transporter and the User(s) party to that Agreement and not otherwise; and accordingly an Ancillary Agreement shall not be subject to modification pursuant to the Modification Rules (but without prejudice to any modification of any provisions of the Code which apply to or are incorporated into such Agreement).

1.1.5 A breach by a User of a term of an Ancillary Agreement will not (unless the Ancillary Agreement so provides) be a breach of the Code.

1.1.6 Any Ancillary Agreement applying in respect of a System Entry Point or Connected System Exit Point shall provide (in such manner as the Transporter shall reasonably determine) for any User who may (or intends to) deliver gas to or (as the case may be) offtake gas from the Total System at that point to accede to such agreement; and the Transporter may refuse to allow a User who has not acceded or agreed to accede to such an Agreement to deliver or offtake gas or to hold System Capacity or to make a Nomination at or in respect of the relevant System Point.

1.1.7 In this paragraph 1.1 references to Users exclude DNO Users.

**1.2 Non-Code Transportation Arrangements**

1.2.1 For the purposes of the Code:

- (a) "**Non-Code Transportation Arrangement**" means a transportation arrangement, which is for the time being in force, made between a Transporter and a gas shipper on terms other than those of the Code, or in the context of a

particular System Point, such a transportation arrangement relating to the delivery or offtake of gas to or from the Total System at such point;

- (b) **"Non-Code Shipper"** means a gas shipper who is party to a Non-Code Transportation Arrangement.

1.2.2 Where a Transporter makes or has made a Non-Code Transportation Arrangement, subject to paragraphs 1.2.3 and 1.2.4(a):

- (a) for the purposes of giving effect to such arrangement and to the provisions of Sections C, D, E, F, H, I and K of the Code which apply by reference to the quantities of gas delivered to and offtaken from the Total System by Users, and of calculating such quantities, National Grid NTS will be treated as a User of the NTS as respects the quantities of gas delivered to and offtaken from the Total System by the Non-Code Shipper (and where such arrangements relates to the offtake of gas from an LDZ, then so far as relevant, the relevant DN Operator is treated as a User of the LDZ);
- (b) for the purposes of giving effect to such arrangement and to the provisions of Sections G2 and G3, the Transporter will be treated as a User of the relevant System as respects the Supply Meter Points which are or are to become subject to such arrangement.

1.2.3 Nothing in paragraph 1.2.2 shall have the effect of conferring on the Non-Code Shipper any right or imposing on it any obligation under the Code, nor as implying any terms into the Non-Code Transportation Arrangement.

1.2.4 Where a Non-Code Transportation Arrangement is one to which Condition 6(3) of the Shipper's Licence applies:

- (a) the Transporter may elect for some or all of the purposes of paragraph 1.2.2 that the Non-Code Shipper shall be treated as a User in place of the Transporter;
- (b) the Code shall apply so as to give effect to the arrangement or undertaking referred to in the said Condition 5(3);
- (c) paragraphs 1.2.5 and 1.2.6 shall not apply in respect of the Non-Code Transportation Arrangement.

1.2.5 Where a Shipper User is also a Non-Code Shipper, its Non-Code Transportation Arrangements (including without limitation holdings of System Capacity or Storage Capacity for LNG facilities) as Non-Code Shipper shall be separate from, and shall be given effect and accounted for separately from, those under the Code.

1.2.6 In accordance with and without prejudice to the generality of paragraph 1.2.4, the calculation of a User's Daily Imbalance, and any Daily Imbalance Charges, Scheduling Charges, Overrun Charges or Storage Overrun Charges at LNG Facilities, shall be made disregarding quantities of gas delivered to or offtaken from the Total System or System Capacity held by the User as Non-Code Shipper.

## **2 USER ADMISSION**

### **2.1 Admission requirements**

- 2.1.1 In order to become a Shipper User in relation to a System a person (the "**Applicant User**") must:
- (a) satisfy or secure satisfaction of the requirements in paragraph 2.1.2; and
  - (b) accede to the relevant Shipper Framework Agreement and thereby agree to be bound by the Code.
- 2.1.2 The requirements referred to in paragraph 2.1.1(a) are as follows:
- (a) the Applicant User shall have applied to the Transporter, in such form as the Transporters may from time to time prescribe, giving the following details:
    - (i) the name of the Applicant User;
    - (ii) the legal nature of the Applicant User, and where the Applicant User is not a company incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 (as amended), such further information concerning the constitution of the Applicant User as the Transporter may reasonably require;
    - (iii) the address and telephone and facsimile numbers of the Applicant User, and the individual for whose attention notice is to be marked, for the purposes of notice under GT Section B5.2.3 and B5.3.1;
    - (iv) where the Applicant User is not a company incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 (as amended), an address for service in accordance with paragraph GT Section B6.6.3;
  - (b) either:
    - (i) a Shipper's Licence shall have been granted to the Applicant User which is in force and in respect of which no notice of revocation has been given, and the Applicant User shall have provided a copy of such licence to the Transporter; or
    - (ii) a Shipper's Licence shall be treated as having been granted to the Applicant User pursuant to a scheme made under paragraph 15 or 16 of Schedule 5 to the Gas Act 1995;
  - (c) in relation to an LDZ of which National Grid is not the owner or operator, the Applicant User is, or will be, a Shipper User under National Grid's Network Code at the User Accession Date;
  - (d) the Applicant User shall have secured compliance with those requirements of Section U which are required to be complied with before a User is able to send and receive UK Link Communications, including without limitation:
    - (i) the installation and connection of the UK Link User Equipment and the UK Link User Software either at:
      - (1) the Applicant User's premises; or
      - (2) where the Applicant User secures the services of a User Agent for the installation and connection of the UK Link User

Equipment and Software, at the User Agent's premises, provided that where the User Agent ceases or is unable (for any reason) to provide such services, then the Applicant User shall, as soon as is reasonably practicable after such cessation, secure the installation and connection of the UK Link User Equipment and the UK Link User Software at the Applicant User's premises;

- (ii) the appointment of one or more Authorised Representatives;
  - (e) the Applicant User shall have provided the emergency contact details required under Section Q2.2;
  - (f) the Applicant User shall have obtained from the Transporters one or more copies of the Code and such other documents referred to in the Code or the Shipper Framework Agreement as the Transporters shall from time to time prescribe for the purposes of this paragraph (f);
  - (g) the Applicant User shall have been assigned an initial Code Credit Limit in accordance with paragraph 3;
  - (h) in relation to the NTS, the Applicant User shall have been assigned an initial Secured Credit Limit in accordance with Section X.
  - (i) the Applicant User shall have provided the Transportation Charges contact detail as required under Section 3.4.7;
- 2.1.3 An Applicant User may accede to a Shipper Framework Agreement before the requirements of paragraphs 2.1.2(d), (g) and (h) are satisfied.
- 2.1.4 Where in accordance with paragraph 2.1.3 an Applicant User has executed a Shipper Framework Agreement, the Applicant User and the Transporter shall be bound by this Section V and (but only for the purposes of enabling an Applicant User to satisfy the requirements in paragraph 2.1.2 (d)) Section U; and the Applicant User shall for such purposes only be treated as a User.
- 2.1.5 The activities performed in accordance with paragraph 2.1.2(d)(i) and the other activities performed in accordance with paragraph 2.1.2 to enable the Applicant User to accede to a Shipper Framework Agreement will be performed as a User Pays Service and the Applicant User shall pay (not in accordance with Section S) to National Grid NTS a User Pays Charge in respect of each such User Pays Service.

## 2.2 Admission of User

- 2.2.1 The Applicant User will become a User with effect from the Day ("**User Accession Date**") which is 3 Business Days after satisfaction of the last of the requirements under paragraphs 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 to be satisfied.
- 2.2.2 Upon the Applicant User's becoming a User pursuant to paragraph 2.2.1 the Transporter will so notify:
- (a) the Applicant User, specifying:
    - (i) the Transporter's notice details for the purposes of GT Section B5.2.3;

and

- (ii) the names of all other Users and their prevailing notice details in accordance with GT Section B5.2.3;
- (b) all other Users, specifying the name of the Applicant User, its notice details provided under paragraph 2.1.2(a)(iii) and the User Accession Date.

### **2.3 Restricted authorisation of User**

Where the Shipper's Licence held by a Shipper User limits or restricts the premises to which the User may arrange for the conveyance of gas by a or any System or in any other way limits or restricts the activities which the User is authorised to carry on:

- (a) the User shall be solely responsible for compliance with such limit or restriction and (subject to paragraph (b)) the Transporter shall not in the implementation of the Code as respects such User be concerned with such limit or restriction; but
- (b) the Transporter shall be at liberty in its discretion to (but shall not be required to) withhold from the User any right or entitlement pursuant to the Code so as to give effect to such limit or restriction.

### **2.4 Single User admission**

Unless expressly otherwise provided in the Code or agreed by the Transporters, a person may only be one User for the purposes of the Code, and accordingly a person who is for the time being a User may not make a further application to be admitted as a User.

### **2.5 Restricted User**

2.5.1 A person which is for the time being either:

- (a) designated by the Authority for the purposes of Special Condition C6 of National Grid NTS's Transporter's Licence; or
- (b) a body which is declared by an Order of the Secretary of State to be a Recognised Clearing House for the purposes of the Financial Services Markets Act 2000 (as amended); or
- (c) a body which is declared by an Order of the Secretary of State to be a Recognised Investment Exchange for the purposes of the Financial Services Markets Act 2000 (as amended) and which makes its own arrangements for clearing transactions effected on its exchange

may be admitted as a User in relation to the NTS for the purposes only of making Trade Nominations pursuant to Section C5.

2.5.2 Where a User is admitted pursuant to paragraph 2.5.1:

- (a) the User hereby undertakes to National Grid NTS that it will not and will not purport to deliver gas to nor offtake gas from the Total System, make any Nomination, will not or purport to act as if it were a Trading Participant,

become a CSEP User or the Registered User of any Supply Point, or hold System Capacity or Storage Capacity at LNG Facilities, or make a System Capacity Transfer or Storage Gas Transfer in relation to an LNG Facility, or otherwise exercise any right or entitlement of a User other than the right to make Trade Nominations pursuant to Section C5 and any rights (consequent thereon) arising under Sections F, S, GT Section A, this Section V, U and X;

- (b) the User shall not make a Trade Nomination more than 5 Days before the Gas Flow Day;
- (c) the User shall not be bound to comply with any obligation under Section L, O or (except pursuant to paragraph 4 thereof) Q.

2.5.3 Where an Applicant User informs National Grid NTS that it wishes to be admitted as a User pursuant to paragraph 2.5.1:

- (a) the requirements in paragraph 2.1.2(b) and (e) shall not apply in respect of the Applicant User;
- (b) it shall be an additional requirement for the purposes of paragraph 2.1.1 that, at the same time as the User accedes to the Framework Agreement, National Grid NTS and the User enter into a memorandum to record that the User is or is to be admitted pursuant to paragraph 2.5.1;
- (c) National Grid NTS's notification to Users under paragraph 2.2.2(b) will specify that the Applicant User has been so admitted.

### **3 CODE CREDIT LIMITS**

#### **3.1 General**

3.1.1 For the purposes of the Code:

- (a) the “**Regulatory Asset Value**” is the value of the relevant Transporter’s regulated assets as published by the Authority at the start of any Transporter’s relevant price control period which will be published and updated to current year prices by the Transporter for the sole use of establishing a Users Maximum Unsecured Credit Limit.
- (b) An “**Approved Credit Rating**” is a published and monitored long term rating provided by a Credit Rating Agency as defined in 3.1.1(d) of not less than Ba3 by Moody’s Investors Service or equivalent rating by either Standard and Poor’s or Fitch Ratings.
- (c) The “**Unsecured Credit Limit**” is that proportion of the Maximum Unsecured Credit Limit extended to a User by the Transporter as calculated in accordance with the table set out in paragraph 3.1.3 or 3.1.4 as appropriate.
- (d) A “**Credit Rating Agency**” can issue an Approved Credit Rating and is confined to Fitch Ratings, Moody’s Investment Service and Standard and Poor’s Rating Group and any of their subsidiaries.

The Transporter will determine and assign to each User a Code Credit Limit, which

may comprise of an Unsecured Credit Limit calculated in accordance with paragraph 3.1.3 and/or security or surety provided in accordance with paragraph 3.4. The Transporter shall keep each User informed of its Code Credit Limit (as revised in accordance with the Code) for the time being. The Transporter shall limit the Unsecured Credit Limit to any User and related company to a maximum of two percent (2%) of the Regulatory Asset Value (The “**Maximum Unsecured Credit Limit**”). The User shall notify the Transporter within 1 Business Day if the User’s Approved Credit Rating changes or if the User has a reasonable belief that its Approved Credit Rating is likely to change.

3.1.2 In this paragraph 3 references to:

- (a) Users include DNO Users;
- (b) National Grid NTS and National Grid Gas plc as a DN Operator shall be construed as a reference to a single Transporter.

3.1.3

- (a) Where a User has an Approved Credit Rating, such User’s Unsecured Credit Limit at any time shall be calculated as that percentage (%) of the Maximum Unsecured Credit Limit by reference to the User’s Approved Credit Rating as follows:

Approved Credit Rating			User’s % of Maximum Unsecured Credit Limit	Parent Company	Qualifying Company
Standard & Poor’s	Moody’s Investors Service	Fitch Ratings			
AAA	Aaa	AAA	100	✓	✓
AA+	Aa1	AA+	100	✓	✓
AA	Aa2	AA	100	✓	✓
AA-	Aa3	AA-	100	✓	✓
A+	A1	A+	40	✓	✓
A	A2	A	40	✓	✓
A-	A3	A-	40	✓	✓
BBB+	Baa1	BBB+	20	✓	✗
BBB	Baa2	BBB	19	✓	✗
BBB-	Baa3	BBB-	18	✓	✗
BB+	Ba1	BB+	17	✓	✗
BB	Ba2	BB	16	✓	✗
BB-	Ba3	BB-	15	✓	✗

- (b) Subject to paragraph 3.1.3(c), where a Qualifying Company or Parent Company with an Approved Credit Rating provides surety in respect of a User in the form of a Guarantee (the “**Surety Provider**”), then the Approved Credit Rating of such Surety Provider may be used in place of the User’s to calculate such User’s Unsecured Credit Limit in accordance with the table set out in paragraph 3.1.3(a).

- (c) Where a Surety Provider provides surety pursuant to paragraph 3.1.3(b) or paragraph 3.1.3(d) for more than one User, the aggregate surety provided by the Surety Provider shall not exceed the maximum credit entitlement of the Surety Provider calculated in accordance with the table set out in paragraph 3.1.3(a).
  - (d) A User may increase an Unsecured Credit Limit allocated pursuant to paragraph 3.1.3(a) or paragraph 3.1.4 by an incremental amount (the “**Incremental Amount**”) by providing surety (in respect of the Incremental Amount) in the form of a Guarantee from a Surety Provider with an Approved Credit Rating subject to:
    - (i) such Approved Credit Rating being sufficient to cover the Incremental Amount as calculated in accordance with the table set out in paragraph 3.1.3(a); and
    - (ii) paragraph 3.1.3(c); and
    - (iii) in the opinion of the Transporter, such Surety Provider’s ability to bear risk not being exceeded.
- 3.1.4 Where a User does not have an Approved Credit Rating, or a User’s Approved Credit Rating is less than that in 3.1.3(a), such User may obtain an Unsecured Credit Limit by:
- (a) payment history in accordance with paragraph 3.1.5 below; or
  - (b) independent assessment in accordance with paragraph 3.1.7 below
- provided that a User shall only be able to obtain an Unsecured Credit Limit by one of the above methods at any one time.
- 3.1.5 The Transporter may allocate an Unsecured Credit Limit to a User based upon the period of time elapsed that such User has paid all invoices by their due date for payment in accordance with Section S, such that after a calendar month and only until the second anniversary of the User’s User Accession Date, a User may be allocated an Unsecured Credit Limit on the basis of 0.4% of the relevant Transporter’s Maximum Unsecured Credit Limit over a 12 Month period and increasing on an evenly graduated basis each Month up to a maximum of 0.8% of the relevant Transporter’s Maximum Credit Limit.
- 3.1.6 Where a User has been allocated an Unsecured Credit Limit pursuant to paragraph 3.1.5 above, and such User subsequently fails to make payment in full of any invoice (other than in respect of Energy Balancing Charges) issued in accordance with Section S:
- (a) on the Invoice Due Date for payment but payment is made in full within 2 Business Days of the Invoice Due Date (“**a late payment**”), the User shall pay interest on the Invoice Amount and;
    - (i) where a late payment is made on only one occasion in a 12 Month period the User’s Unsecured Credit Limit shall not be increased in accordance with paragraph 3.1.5 above for that Month;
    - (ii) where a late payment is made on more than one occasion in a 12 Month period the User’s Unsecured Credit Limit shall be reduced to zero from the date of the second late payment.



- (b) where payment is made more than 2 Business Days from the Invoice Due Date then such User’s Unsecured Credit Limit shall be reduced to zero from the date of such payment default.

Subject to paragraph 3.1.5 and this paragraph 3.1.6, the User’s payment history may continue to be used following the date of any payment default as set out above to increase the reduced value of the User’s Unsecured Credit Limit in accordance with paragraph 3.1.5 above.

3.1.7 Where a User or Parent Company does not have an Approved Credit Rating, then upon request from such User, the User may select any one of the specified agencies for the Transporter to use to allocate an Unsecured Credit Limit to the User based upon the Independent Assessment Score of the User or Parent Company as follows:

- (a) where such User or Parent Company is unable to obtain an Approved Credit Rating (up to a maximum of 20% of the relevant Transporter’s Maximum Unsecured Credit Limit); or
- (b) where such User or Parent Company has an Approved Credit Rating less than that in 3.1.3(a) (up to a maximum of 13<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub>% of the relevant Transporter’s Maximum Unsecured Credit Limit).

A score of between 0 and 10 will be allocated to the User or Parent Company in accordance with the following table to calculate the User’s Unsecured Credit Limit:

Independent Assessment Score	Equivalent of the Independent Assessment Score to credit scores provided by the independent credit rating agencies for Independent Assessments			% of Transporter’s Maximum Unsecured Credit Limit
	Dunn & Bradstreet/ N2 Check Comprehensive Report	Experian Bronze, Silver or Gold Report	Graydons Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3 Report	
10	5A1	95-100	1A	20
9	5A2/4A1	90-94	1B/2A	19
8	5A3/4A2/3A1	80-89	1C/2B/3A	18
7	4A3/3A2/2A1	70-79	2C/3B/4A	17
6	3A3/2A2/1A1	60-69	3C/4B/5A	16
5	2A3/1A2/A1	50-59	4C/5B/6A	15
4	1A3/A2/B1	40-49	5C/6B/7A	13 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>3</sub>
3	A3/B2/C1	30-39	6C/7B/8A	10
2	B3/C2/D1	20-29	8B	6 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>3</sub>
1	C3/D2/E1	10-19	8C	3 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>3</sub>
0	Below E1	Below 10	Below 8C	0

The Transporter will set the Users Unsecured Credit Limit no higher than the lower of the credit value recommended within the Independent Assessment and the value calculated by applying the Independent Assessment Score to the Transporter’s Maximum Unsecured Credit Limit.

3.1.8 Any Unsecured Credit Limit allocated in accordance with paragraph 3.1.7 shall be reviewed annually. Where any costs are incurred by the Transporter in providing an Unsecured Credit Limit in accordance with paragraph 3.1.7, including any annual reviews, the User shall pay to the Transporter 20% of such costs incurred. All

reassessments in addition to those mentioned above shall be paid for by the party requesting them.

### 3.2 Code Credit Limit and Relevant Code Indebtedness

#### 3.2.1 For the purposes of the Code:

- (a) a "**Code Credit Limit**" is the sum of a User's Unsecured Credit Limit and any security or surety provided by a User pursuant to paragraph 3.4, provided that such amount must be equal to or greater than the User's Value at Risk;
- (b) "**Relevant Code Indebtedness**" is:
  - (i) the aggregate amount, other than in respect of Energy Balancing Charges, for which a User is at any time liable to the Transporter pursuant to the Code or any Ancillary Agreement, determined on the basis of amounts accrued (and in accordance with paragraph (c) where applicable) and irrespective of whether such amounts have been invoiced under Section S or (where invoiced) have become due for payment; less
  - (ii) any amount which has been paid to the Transporter by the User by way of prepayment, on the basis that the Transporter may apply such amount without the User's consent in or towards payment of amounts referred to in paragraph (i), and which has not yet been so applied;
- (c) for the purposes of paragraph (b)(i) a User's liability for Capacity Charges in respect of a Day shall be treated as accruing on the following Day;
- (d) Subject to paragraph 3.3.4, "**Value at Risk**" at any point in time is the sum of:
  - (i) The aggregate amount (other than Energy Balancing Charges) invoiced to the User pursuant to Section S but remaining unpaid (irrespective of whether such amount has become due for payment); and
  - (ii) The average daily rate of the aggregate amount (other than Energy Balancing Charges) invoiced to the User in the previous calendar month multiplied by 20.

3.2.2 For the avoidance of doubt, the amount of a User's Relevant Code Indebtedness shall be determined by reference to the relevant provisions of the Code, and nothing in the Code shall be construed as withdrawing from a User any right to dispute whether the Transporter has correctly calculated such amount in any case, or from the Transporter any right to dispute the validity of any Invoice Query submitted by any User.

3.2.3 Without prejudice to paragraph 3.2.2, where a User has submitted an Invoice Query in accordance with Section S4.2.1 in respect of any Invoice Document the Transporter will review and give due consideration to such Invoice Query before taking any steps pursuant to paragraph 3.3.

#### 3.2.4

- (a) A User's Code Credit Limit may from time to time be reviewed and revised, in

accordance with the Code, save where either paragraph 3.2.5, 3.2.6 or 3.2.8 applies, in the case of (i), (ii), (iv) and (v) on notice of not less than 30 Days, or in the case of (iii) below on notice of not less than 2 Business Days following the Business Day on which a notice is issued in accordance with 3.2.9, (or in any such case, such lesser period agreed by the User) to the User:

- (i) at intervals of approximately 12 months;
  - (ii) at the User's request (but subject to paragraph 3.2);
  - (iii) where any published Rating of the User or any person providing security for the User is revised downwards;
  - (iv) where any instrument of surety or security expires or is determined;
  - (v) at the Transporter's request where the Transporter has reasonable grounds to believe that the effect of the review will be to reduce the User's Code Credit Limit.
- (b) A Letter of Credit is deemed zero value for User's Code Credit Limit purposes 30 days prior to the date of its expiry.
- (c) A Guarantee is deemed zero value for User's Code Credit Limit purposes 30 days before expiry unless either extended or replaced by security or surety effective from no later than the day after the expiry date of the existing guarantee.
- 3.2.5 Where any published credit rating of the User or any person providing surety for a User is revised downwards to the extent that the credit rating following such revision is less than that in 3.1.3(a) then such User's Code Credit Limit may be immediately reviewed and revised by the Transporter in accordance with the Code, on notice to the User.
- 3.2.6 Where a Supplier of Last Resort (as defined in paragraph G2.1.7(b)) has been appointed and paragraph G2.1.8 applies, a Last Resort User's Code Credit Limit may be reviewed and revised by the Transporter in accordance with paragraph G2.1.10.
- 3.2.7 Subject to paragraph 3.2.8, the Transporter will bear the costs and fees that it incurs (but not any costs incurred by the User) in connection with any review of a User's Code Credit Limit in accordance with paragraph 3.2.4.
- 3.2.8 The Transporter will not be obliged to agree to any request of the User under paragraph 3.2.4(ii) unless the User agrees to reimburse to the Transporter the reasonable costs and fees payable by the Transporter to any third party in accordance with the Code in connection with such request.
- 3.2.9 Where a User's Code Credit Limit has been revised downwards in accordance with paragraph 3.2.4(iii) or 3.2.5 above, the Transporter will notify the User accordingly on the next Business Day following the occurrence of the event described in paragraph 3.2.4(a)(iii).
- 3.2.10 Where the Transporter requires the User to provide additional surety or security, the notice given in accordance with 3.2.9 shall require that such User shall provide to the Transporter, by no later than 17.00 on the second Business Day following the date of such notice, additional surety or security in a form acceptable to the Transporter for an

amount notified by the Transporter, such that when applied it will result in the Value at Risk of the User not exceeding 100% of the Users Code Credit Limit. Subject to paragraph 3.2.11 below, where a User has not provided such additional surety or security by such second Business Day then with effect from the next Business Day following such second Business Day the following shall be payable by the User:

- (a) such amount as set out in the table below based upon the amount of additional surety or security demanded by the Transporter; and

Amount of additional surety or security required	Amount
Up to £999.99	£40
£1,000 to £9,999.99	£70
£10,000 or more	£100

- (b) a daily charge equivalent to that percentage rate as is set out from time to time in the Late Payments of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998 multiplied by the amount of additional surety or security demanded by the Transporter.

3.2.11 Notwithstanding paragraph 3.2.10, where at any time as a direct consequence of an unanticipated increase in a Users registered aggregate “**Supply Point Capacity**”, a User’s Value at Risk increases materially, a User will have one calendar month from the date of notice given by the relevant Transporter, to provide additional surety or security and after expiry of such date, or paragraphs 3.2.10(a) and (b) shall apply.

**3.3 Requirements as to Value at Risk**

3.3.1 Where:

- (a) a User's Value at Risk exceeds 80% of its Code Credit Limit and the Transporter has given notice to the User to that effect; and
- (b) at any time following any notice given pursuant to (a) above, the User's Value at Risk exceeds 100% of its Code Credit Limit, the Transporter will notify the User of such event, giving such User 2 Business Days from the date of such notice to provide additional surety or security for the amount specified by the Transporter in the notice in order to reduce its Value at Risk to below 100% of its Code Credit Limit.

3.3.2 Without prejudice to paragraph 3.3.3, where a User fails to provide such additional surety or security as required in paragraph 3.3.1(b) by the date specified in the notice pursuant to 3.3.1(b):

- (a) with effect from the next Business Day after the date specified in such notice, the User shall pay to the Transporter that amount set out in the table in paragraph 3.2.10(a), based upon the amount of additional surety or security demanded by the Transporter and the daily charge set out in paragraph 3.2.10(b); and
- (b) subject to paragraph 3.3.1, where and for so long as the User’s Value at Risk exceeds 100% of the User’s Code Credit Limit, the Transporter shall be entitled to reject or refuse to accept all or any of the following by the relevant User:

- (i) an application for System Capacity or increased System Capacity at any System Point under Sections B or G5; and/or
- (ii) a notice of appointment under Section B3.13.8 if the User is the proposed Overrun User;
- (iii) in relation to the NTS:
  - (1) a System Capacity Trade under Section B5 in respect of which the User is Transferee User;
  - (2) a System Capacity Assignment under Section B6 in respect of which the User is the Assignee User;

until such time as the User's Value at Risk is reduced to less than 100% of its Code Credit Limit; and

- (c) where from the fifth Business Day after the date specified in the notice, the User's Value at Risk exceeds 100% of the User's Code Credit Limit, the Transporter shall be entitled to reject or refuse to accept a Supply Point Nomination or Supply Point Confirmation under Section G, other than a Supply Point Renomination or Supply Point Reconfirmation until such time as the User's Value at Risk is reduced to less than 100% of its Code Credit Limit.

3.3.3 Subject to paragraph 3.3.1, where and for so long as the Value at Risk of the User for the time being exceeds 100% of the User's Code Credit Limit, the Transporter may give Termination Notice (in accordance with paragraph 4.3) to the User.

3.3.4 For the purposes of paragraph 3.3.2(b)(i) and (iii) and the application of Section B3.3.3(f), a User's (excluding DNO Users) Value at Risk shall be treated as including:

- (a) the amounts of the aggregate NTS Exit (Flat) Capacity Charges;
- (b) the amounts of the aggregate NTS Entry Capacity Charges

payable by the User for each Day in the following twelve (12) calendar months commencing from the first Day of the calendar month following the Day in respect of which the User's Value at Risk is to be determined, irrespective of whether such amounts have been invoiced under Section S.

### **3.4 Surety or Security under Code**

3.4.1 Any instrument of surety or security provided by a User pursuant to paragraph 3.4.6 (and whether or not entered into by the User) shall not be a part of the Code nor an Ancillary Agreement; and no provision of or modification of the Code, nor any inconsistency between the Code and any such instrument, and nothing done by the Transporter pursuant to the Code, shall prejudice or invalidate any such instrument.

3.4.2 Where a User has provided surety or security pursuant to paragraph 3.4.6 the User (or the person giving the surety) may request the Transporter to release all or any of such security or agree to a reduction in any maximum amount of such surety.

3.4.3 Following a request by a User under paragraph 3.4.2, the Transporter will as soon as reasonably practicable and, except where the User also requests a review (by an agency

appointed by the Transporter for such purposes) and revision of its Code Credit Limit, in any event not more than 10 Business Days after such request, release security, or agree to a reduction in surety, to such extent or by such amount as will permit the condition in paragraph 3.4.4 to be satisfied.

3.4.4 The condition referred to in paragraph 3.4.3 is that the amount of the User's Value at Risk, at the date of such release or reduction is not more than 100% of the amount of the User's Code Credit Limit, determined in accordance with the Code on the basis of the release of security or reduction in surety (and taking account of any alternative surety or security provided by the User).

3.4.5 For the purposes of Code:

**“Deposit Deed”** shall mean an agreement that is Enforceable and in such form as provided to the User from time to time by the Transporter enabling the deposit of cash as security;

**“Enforceable”** shall mean the Transporter (acting reasonably) is satisfied that the instrument of security or surety is legally enforceable and in this respect, where surety is provided by a company registered outside of England and Wales, the Country of residence of such company must have a sovereign credit rating of a Qualifying Company (where such ratings conflict, the lower of the ratings will be used) and the User shall at its own expense provides such legal opinion as the Transporter may reasonably require;

**“Letter of Credit”** shall mean an unconditional irrevocable standby letter of credit in such form as provided to the User from time to time by the Transporter from such bank as the Transporter may approve, (provided that payment may be made at a United Kingdom branch of such issuing bank) with a long term debt rating of not less than that of a Qualifying Company (where such ratings conflict, the lower of the ratings will be used);

**“Guarantee”** shall mean an on demand irrevocable guarantee or performance bond provided by a Qualifying Company or a Parent Company that is Enforceable and in such form as provided to the User from time to time by the Transporter;

**“Prepayment Agreement”** shall mean an agreement between the Transporter and the User that is Enforceable and in such form as provided to the User from time to time by the Transporter with the purpose of enabling a User to make payments of amounts calculated on a monthly basis by the Transporter (using an accrual methodology set out therein) as representing the Transporter’s estimate of the amounts (other than in respect of Energy Balancing Charges) which will become due by the User to the Transporter in a charging month;

**“Parent Company”** shall mean:

- (i) in the case of a company registered in England and Wales a public or private company within the meaning of Section 4 1 of the Companies Act 2006 that is either a shareholder of the User or any holding company of such shareholder (the expression holding company having the meaning assigned thereto by Section 1159, Companies Act 2006 as supplemented by Schedule 6 Companies Act 2006 and Section 144(3) Companies Act 1989); or

- (ii) in the case of an entity registered outside of England and Wales, such equivalent entity to (i) above that is acceptable to the Transporter, acting reasonably;

**“Qualifying Company”** shall mean:

- (i) in the case of a company registered in England and Wales a public or private company within the meaning of section 1(3) of the Companies Act 1985 with a long term debt rating of at least A provided by a Credit Rating Agency as defined in 3.1.1 (where such ratings conflict, the lower of the ratings will be used); or
- (ii) in the case of an entity registered outside of England and Wales, such equivalent entity to (i) above that is acceptable to the Transporter, acting reasonably;

3.4.6 A User may extend its exposure beyond its Unsecured Credit Limit by providing surety or security in one or more of the forms set out below:

- (a) Letter of Credit: and/or
- (b) Guarantee; and/or
- (c) Deposit Deed; and/or
- (d) Prepayment Agreement;

provided that where an instrument of surety or security is conditional, the Transporter may agree with the User a value below 100% of its full face value. Where the value of the instrument of surety or security cannot be agreed between the User and the Transporter, the User may refer such dispute to Expert Determination in accordance with GT Section A, paragraph 2.

3.4.7 Each User shall provide to the Transporter:

- (a) a single telephone number, a single address and a single facsimile number by means of which the Transporter may contact a representative of the User for any purpose pursuant to Transportation Charges in connection with Section V3 and/or V4; and
- (b) the name(s) or title(s) of the User’s representatives who may be contacted at such numbers and address; and
- (c) such User shall inform the Transporter where there are any amendments to the details provided pursuant to this section V3.4.7.

## **4 DISCONTINUING USERS AND TERMINATION**

### **4.1 General**

4.1.1 A User may cease to be a User of or in relation to a System pursuant to paragraph 4.2 or 4.3; and for the purposes of the Code a "**Discontinuing User**" is a User who so ceases to be a User and the "**User Discontinuance Date**" is the date with effect from which (in accordance with paragraph 4.2 or 4.3) a Discontinuing User ceases to be a User.

- 4.1.2 Upon a User's ceasing to be a User:
- (a) subject to paragraphs 5.6 and 4.3.7, the Shipper Framework Agreement shall cease to bind the Discontinuing User and (as respects the Discontinuing User) the Transporter;
  - (b) each Ancillary Agreement to which a Discontinuing User is party shall, unless otherwise provided in such Ancillary Agreement, terminate as respects that User (but without prejudice to the continuance of that Agreement as respects any other User(s) party thereto) with effect from the User Discontinuance Date.
- 4.1.3 The Transporter will as soon as reasonably practicable after the User Discontinuance Date notify all other Users of a User's ceasing to be a User.
- 4.1.4 An Ancillary Agreement may be subject to termination as respects any User(s), in accordance with its terms, but (except as may be provided in such Ancillary Agreement) such termination shall not result in any such User ceasing to be a User.
- 4.1.5 A Shipper Framework Agreement shall have no fixed duration, but without prejudice to the provisions of this paragraph 4 as respects Discontinuing Users.
- 4.1.6 In this paragraph 4 references to:
- (a) Users include DNO Users;
  - (b) National Grid NTS and National Grid plc as DN Operator shall be construed as a reference to a single Transporter.

## **4.2 Voluntary discontinuance**

- 4.2.1 A User may at any time by giving notice ("**Discontinuance Notice**") to the Transporter apply to cease to be a User of or in relation to a System.
- 4.2.2 A User may not cease to be a User under this paragraph 4.2 until such time as:
- (a) all amounts payable or (other than in respect of any recurrent charge becoming payable by reason only of the lapse of time after the date on which the last of the other requirements of this paragraph 4.2.2 is satisfied) which may become payable by the User to the Transporter pursuant to any provision of the Code, the Shipper Framework Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement have been paid in full;
  - (b) the User is not the Registered User in respect of any Supply Point and is not party to any Shared Supply Meter Notification;
  - (c) the User has complied with the requirements of Section U2.8;
  - (d) under National Grid NTS's Network Code, there is no outstanding Daily Imbalance or NDM Reconciliation Quantity or DM Reconciliation Quantity in respect of the User;
  - (e) any requirements under any Ancillary Agreement in respect of termination under this paragraph 4.2 have been complied with; and



- (f) any outstanding breach, being a breach capable of remedy and of which the Transporter has given notice to the User, by the User of any provision of the Code or the Shipper Framework Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement shall have been remedied
  - (g) and a User may not cease to be a User of the NTS until the User ceases to be a User of each LDZ.
- 4.2.3 Where a User has given notice under paragraph 4.2.1:
- (a) the User and the Transporter shall remain bound by the Code and the Shipper Framework Agreement and any Ancillary Agreement to which the User is party until the requirements of paragraph 4.2.2 are satisfied;
  - (b) the System Capacity which the User is registered as holding shall not be reduced or cancelled other than in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Code (and the User will remain liable for payment of Transportation Charges in respect thereof but may elect to make prepayment thereof).
- 4.2.4 Where a User has given notice under paragraph 4.2.1, after the satisfaction of the last of the requirements of paragraph 4.2.2 to be satisfied:
- (a) with effect from the 5th Business Day following such satisfaction, the User will cease to be a User;
  - (b) without prejudice to paragraph 4.2.5, the Transporter will as soon as reasonably practicable (and where possible before such date) inform the User of the date on which it ceases to be a User under paragraph (a).
- 4.2.5 Notwithstanding paragraph 4.2.4, without prejudice to paragraph 4.1.2(a), the Transporter or (as the case may be) the Discontinuing User shall remain liable, subject to and in accordance with the Code, to the other and (in the case of the Discontinuing User, subject to paragraph GT Section B2.4.2) to each other User, after the User Discontinuance Date:
- (a) for any amount which was or becomes payable under the Code or any Ancillary Agreement in respect of any period before the User Discontinuance Date; and
  - (b) in respect of any outstanding breach of any provision of the Code, the Shipper Framework Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement where such breach was not (for the purposes of paragraph 4.2.2(f)) capable of remedy or (notwithstanding that paragraph) was capable of remedy but was not remedied.
- 4.3 Termination**
- 4.3.1 For the purposes of this paragraph there shall have occurred a "**User Default**" in relation to a User (the "**Defaulting User**") in any of the following events or circumstances:
- (a) where in relation to any amount (or amounts in aggregate) of not less than £10,000 which has become due for payment by the Defaulting User under the Code (excluding for the avoidance of doubt amounts the subject of an Invoice Query which by virtue of Section S4.2.2 have not become due for payment):

- (i) the Defaulting User has not paid the amount in full by the 5th Business Day after the due date for payment;
  - (ii) on or after the 5th Business Day after the due date for payment the Transporter has given notice to the Defaulting User requiring payment of such amount; and
  - (iii) the Defaulting User has not paid such amount in full by the 5th Business Day after the date of the Transporter's notice under paragraph (ii); or
- (b) in accordance with paragraph 3.3.3; or
- (c) where:
- (i) the Defaulting User is in material breach, other than such a breach as is referred to in paragraph 4.3.9, of any material provision (other than a payment obligation) of the Code; and
  - (ii) the breach is capable of remedy by the Defaulting User; and
  - (iii) the Transporter has given notice (making reference to this paragraph 4.3) of such breach to the Defaulting User; and
  - (iv) within 14 Days after the Transporter's notice under paragraph (iii), the Defaulting User does not either:
    - (1) remedy the breach in all material respects, where the breach is capable of remedy within such period of 14 Days; or
    - (2) where the breach is not so capable of remedy, provide to the Transporter a programme (setting out the steps to be taken by the User and the timetable for taking such steps) for the remedy of the breach as soon as is reasonably practicable; and
  - (v) in the case in paragraph (iv)(2), the Defaulting User does not:
    - (1) remedy the breach in all material respects with all reasonable diligence and so far as reasonably practicable in accordance with the programme provided under that paragraph or a revised programme pursuant to paragraph (2); and
    - (2) where notwithstanding the reasonable diligence of the User it is not reasonably practicable for the User to remedy the breach in accordance with that programme, provide to the Transporter a revised such programme; and
  - (vi) the breach remains unremedied in any material respect after the expiry of 7 Days after a further notice by the Transporter to the Defaulting User to the effect that the Defaulting User has not complied with paragraph (iv) or (v); or
- (d) where:
- (i) the Defaulting User is in material breach, other than such a breach as is

- referred to in paragraph 4.3.9, of any relevant provision (other than a payment obligation) of the Code; and
- (ii) the breach is not capable of remedy; and
  - (iii) the Transporter has given notice (making reference to this paragraph 4.3) of the breach to the Defaulting User; and
  - (iv) at any time within the period of 12 months following the Transporter's notice under paragraph (iii), there occurs a further material breach by the Defaulting User of the same provision of the Code; and
  - (v) the Transporter has given a notice of such further breach to the Defaulting User and a period of 7 Days has expired following such notice; or
- (e) where:
- (i) the Defaulting User is unable to pay its debts (within the meaning of Section 123(1) or (2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, but subject to paragraph 4.3.2), or any voluntary arrangement is proposed in relation to it under Section 1 of that Act or it enters into any composition or scheme of arrangement (other than for the purpose of a bona fide solvent reconstruction or amalgamation); or
  - (ii) the Defaulting User has a receiver (which expression shall include an administrative receiver within the meaning of Section 29 of the Insolvency Act 1986) of the whole or any material part of its assets or undertaking appointed; or
  - (iii) the Defaulting User has an administration order under Section 8 of the Insolvency Act 1986 made in relation to it; or
  - (iv) the Defaulting User passes any resolution for winding-up (other than for the purpose of a bona fide solvent reconstruction or amalgamation); or
  - (v) the Defaulting User becomes subject to an order by the High Court for winding-up; or
  - (vi) the Defaulting User becomes subject to a bankruptcy order; or
  - (vii) the Defaulting User becomes subject to an event made in a jurisdiction outside England and Wales, equivalent or analogous to any one or more of those events listed in paragraphs 4.3.1(e)(i) to (vi) above; or
- (f) where the Shipper's Licence granted to the Defaulting User is determined or revoked or otherwise ceases to be in force for any reason whatsoever, or such licence is assigned unless such assignment is contemporaneous with an assignment by the User of all of its rights and obligations under the Code and the Framework Agreement in accordance with GT Section B6.1; or
- (g) an event which entitles National Grid NTS to give a Termination Notice pursuant to paragraph X2.9.3, X2.10.10 or X3.2.2.

- 4.3.2 For the purposes of paragraph 4.3.1(e)(i), Section 123(1)(a) of the Insolvency Act 1986 shall have effect as if for '£750' there was substituted '£10,000'; and the Defaulting User shall not be deemed to be unable to pay its debts for the purposes of that paragraph if any such demand as is mentioned in the said Section is being contested in good faith by the Defaulting User with recourse to all appropriate measures and procedures.
- 4.3.3 Upon the occurrence of a User Default, and at any time after such occurrence at which the User Default is continuing the Transporter may give notice ("**Termination Notice**") to the Defaulting User to the effect that the User shall cease to be a User of or in relation to its System(s) with effect from the date (which may be any date on or after the date on which the notice is given) specified in the notice.
- 4.3.4 Without prejudice to the Transporter's right to give a Termination Notice, as set out in paragraph 4.3.3, where the condition in paragraph 4.3.5 is satisfied, Section X4 shall apply.
- 4.3.5 The condition referred to in paragraph 4.3.4 is that:
- (a) a User Default occurs by reason of the circumstances set out in any one or more of paragraphs 4.3.1(e)(ii), (iii), (vi) or (vii) to the extent that a person, analagous or equivalent to those persons appointed pursuant to paragraphs 4.3.1(e)(ii), (iii) or (vi) is appointed in a jurisdiction outside England and Wales ("**foreign insolvency practitioner**") in respect of the User; and
  - (b) the receiver, administrator, trustee-in-bankruptcy or foreign insolvency practitioner (as appropriate) fails to provide adequate assurances to National Grid NTS in compliance with the principles established in Section X and the Energy Balancing Credit Rules (such assurances not to exceed a legal and binding commitment by the receiver, administrator, trustee-in-bankruptcy or foreign insolvency practitioner (as appropriate), to pay to National Grid NTS all Energy Balancing Debt accruing from (and including) the date of appointment of the receiver, administrator, trustee-in-bankruptcy or foreign insolvency practitioner (as appropriate)), as soon as reasonably practicable after being appointed (but for the avoidance of doubt not within two Business Days of its appointment).
- 4.3.6 Where the Transporter gives Termination Notice to a Defaulting User, with effect from the date specified in the notice, the User will cease to be a User of its System(s) and paragraph 4.1.2 shall apply.
- 4.3.7 Subject to paragraph 6.5.6 of the Modification Rules, the giving of a Termination Notice and the application of paragraph 4.3.6 shall not affect the rights and obligations of the Transporter and the Defaulting User under the Code, the Framework Agreement and any Ancillary Agreement (including rights and obligations in respect of the User Default, and in respect of amounts including interest payable by either Party, and rights and obligations arising pursuant to any provision of the Code in respect of the User's ceasing to be a User) accrued up to the date referred to in paragraph 4.3.6, which shall continue to be enforceable notwithstanding that paragraph.
- 4.3.8 Where the Transporter has given a Termination Notice it shall be entitled to inform such persons as it thinks fit (including another Transporter) that it has done so, including the supplier and consumer in relation to any Supply Point of which the Defaulting User was Registered User, the Connected System Operator or Delivery Facility Operator in

relation to any Connected System Exit Point or System Entry Point comprised in an Aggregate System Entry Point at which the Defaulting User held System Capacity, and any person from whom the Transporter believes the Defaulting User to have purchased gas for delivery to the Total System.

- 4.3.9 For the purposes of paragraphs 4.3.1(c)(i) and (d)(i) the following breaches are excluded:
- (a) a breach which results from a breach by the Transporter of the Code or an Ancillary Agreement;
  - (b) a failure to Interrupt (as described in Section G6.10);
  - (c) the delivery or tendered delivery by the User of non-compliant gas (as described in Section I3.5);
  - (d) a breach other than a wilful breach of a provision of the Code where the Code specifically provides some other remedy for such breach and such other remedy may reasonably be considered to be adequate in the circumstances.
- 4.3.10 For the purposes of paragraph 4.3.1(d)(i) a breach is a material breach of a relevant provision where and only where:
- (a) in the case of a material provision, the breach is wilful or reckless; or
  - (b) in the case of any provision, as a result of the breach the Transporter or any other User is in material breach of any material provision of the Code or any Legal Requirement or incurs any material liability or expense.
- 4.3.11 Where National Grid NTS gives a User a Termination Notice pursuant to this paragraph 4 or Section X:
- (a) each Transporter shall be deemed to have given a Termination Notice to the Defaulting User to the effect that the User shall cease to be a User of its System(s) with effect from the same date specified in the notice given by National Grid NTS;
  - (b) the User shall cease to be a User of its System(s) with effect from the date specified in the notice given to the User by National Grid NTS; and
  - (c) paragraphs 4.3.7 and 4.3.8 shall apply.

## **5 INFORMATION AND CONFIDENTIALITY**

### **5.1 Transporter obligations**

5.1.1 The Transporter shall secure that Protected Information is not:

- (a) disclosed to any person other than:
  - (i) an officer or employee of the Transporter whose province it is to know the same; or
  - (ii) a professional adviser of or consultant to the Transporter; or

- (iii) without prejudice to any requirement under the Transporter's Licence, any 10% Affiliate (other than an Affiliate which is the holder of a Shipper's Licence or a gas supplier's licence) of the Transporter

in any such case in accordance with the requirements of paragraph 5.4; or

- (b) used by the Transporter for any purpose other than carrying on the Transporter Activities.

5.1.2 "**Transporter Activities**" means the carrying on of transportation business (as defined in the Transporter's Licence), the operation, administration, maintenance and development of a relevant System and, the National Grid LNG Storage Facilities (in the case only of National Grid NTS), facilitation of connections to a relevant System, and the implementation and performances of the Code, the Framework Agreement, any Ancillary Agreement and any Siteworks Contract.

5.1.3 In this paragraph 5 references to Users include DNO Users.

## 5.2 User obligations

5.2.1 Each User shall secure that Protected Information is not:

- (a) disclosed to any person other than:
  - (i) an officer or employee of the User whose province it is to know the same; or
  - (ii) a professional adviser of or consultant to that User or a User Agent appointed by that User; or
  - (iii) a 10% Affiliate (other than an Affiliate which is the holder of a Gas Transporter's Licence) of that User; or
  - (iv) subject to paragraph 5.2.3, a consumer or a supplier

in any such case in accordance with the requirements of paragraph 5.4; or

- (b) used by such User for any purpose other than one expressly contemplated by the Code or any Ancillary Agreement or Siteworks Contract to which such User is party.

5.2.2 GT Section B2.4.1 shall not apply in respect of this paragraph 5.

5.2.3 For the purposes of paragraph 5.2.1(a)(iv) Protected Information relating to a Supply Point may be disclosed to the supplier or consumer to the extent reasonably necessary to enable the conclusion and implementation of a contract of sale to the supplier (where relevant) and a contract of supply to the consumer.

## 5.3 Protected Information

5.3.1 In this Section "**Protected Information**" means:

- (a) for the purposes of the Transporter's obligations under paragraph 5.1:

- (i) any information relating to the affairs of a User which is obtained by the Transporter pursuant to or in the course of the negotiation, implementation or performance of the Code, the Framework Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement to which that User is party;
  - (ii) the terms of any Ancillary Agreement;
- (b) for the purposes of a User's obligations under paragraph 5.2:
- (i) any information relating to the affairs of the Transporter or of another User which is obtained by the User pursuant to or in the course of the negotiation, implementation or performance of the Code, the Framework Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement to which the User and (in relation to another User) that other User are party;
  - (ii) the terms of any Ancillary Agreement to which that User is party.

5.3.2 For the purposes of paragraph 5.3.1:

- (a) information obtained by a Party in the course of the negotiation of the Code or a Framework Agreement shall be Protected Information only insofar as such information was obtained in writing;
- (b) the following information shall (without prejudice to the generality of paragraph 5.3.1(a)(i)) be treated as information relating to the affairs of a User:
  - (i) the identity, address and any other details of a supplier or consumer, or any representative thereof, insofar as disclosed by the User to the Transporter pursuant to or for the purposes of the Code;
  - (ii) (without prejudice to paragraph 5.5.2(d)) information provided by the User to the Transporter pursuant to Sections L and O and details of the User's Code Credit Limit and record of payment of charges under the Code;
- (c) the following information shall (without prejudice to the generality of paragraph 5.3.1(b)(i)) be treated as relating to the affairs of the Transporter: details of Demand Models, End User Categories and other information provided by that Transporter to Users pursuant to Section H; the UK Link Manual; information (other than information referred to in paragraph (b)) which is maintained or recorded in the UK Link System.

5.3.3 The terms of the Code and a Framework Agreement are not Protected Information.

5.3.4 For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of the Code are without prejudice to the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998.

#### 5.4 Terms of permitted disclosure

Where Protected Information is disclosed by the Transporter as permitted under paragraph 5.1.1(a) or by a User as permitted under paragraph 5.2.1(a), the Disclosing Party shall (without prejudice to its obligations under paragraph 5.1.1 or 5.2.1) take all reasonable steps to secure that the person to whom the information is disclosed:

- (a) is aware of the Disclosing Party's obligations under paragraph 5.1.1 or 5.2.1 in relation thereto; and
- (b) does not use or disclose the information other than as is permitted of such Party in accordance with paragraph 5.1.1 or 5.2.1.

## 5.5 Exceptions

5.5.1 For the purposes of this paragraph 5.5, "**Disclosing Party**" and "**Protected Party**" shall be construed as follows:

- (a) for the purposes of the Transporter's obligations under paragraph 5.1, the Disclosing Party is the Transporter and the Protected Party is the User to whose affairs any Protected Information relates;
- (b) for the purposes of a User's obligations under paragraph 5.2, the Disclosing Party is such User and the Protected Party is the Party (either the Transporter or another User) to whose affairs any Protected Information relates.

5.5.2 Nothing in paragraph 5.1 or 5.2 shall apply:

- (a) to the disclosure or use by the Disclosing Party of Protected Information to which the Protected Party has consented in writing;
- (b) to any Protected Information which:
  - (i) before it is obtained by the Disclosing Party is in the public domain; or
  - (ii) after it is obtained by the Disclosing Party enters the public domain
  - (iii) in either case otherwise than as a result of a breach by the Disclosing Party of its obligations under paragraph 5.1 or 5.2;
- (c) to the disclosure of any Protected Information to any person if and to the extent that the Disclosing Party is required to make such disclosure to such person:
  - (i) in compliance with the duties of the Disclosing Party under the Act or any other requirement of a Competent Authority; or
  - (ii) in compliance with the conditions of the Transporter's Licence or (as the case may be) Shipper's Licence held by the Disclosing Party or any document referred to in such licence with which the Disclosing Party is required by virtue of the Act or such licence to comply; or
  - (iii) in compliance with any other Legal Requirement; or
  - (iv) in response to a requirement of any stock exchange or regulatory authority or the Panel on Take-overs and Mergers; or
  - (v) pursuant to any provision of GT Section A or pursuant to any judicial or other arbitral process or tribunal having jurisdiction in relation to the Disclosing Party;
- (d) to any Protected Information to the extent that the Disclosing Party is expressly



permitted or required to disclose that information under the terms of any agreement or arrangement made with the Protected Party or to which it is party (including the Code, the relevant Framework Agreement and any Ancillary Agreement to which the Protected Party is party or bound);

- (e) to the disclosure of Protected Information to any lending or other financial institution proposing to provide or arrange the provision of finance to the Disclosing Party, where and to the extent that the disclosure of such information is reasonably required for the purposes of the provision or arrangement of such finance, and provided that the person to whom the information is disclosed undertakes in writing to and in terms reasonably satisfactory to the Protected Party to maintain the confidentiality of such information;
- (f) to the disclosure of any Protected Information to the Authority, where the Disclosing Party considers in good faith that the Protected Party may be in breach of a condition of the Transporter's Licence or (as the case may be) the Shipper's Licence, to the extent reasonably necessary to draw such possible breach to the attention of the Authority;
- (g) to the disclosure of any Protected Information to any person proposing to make a connection directly or indirectly to a System, where and to the extent that the disclosure of such information is reasonably required for the purposes of supporting the Transporter's charges or requirement to allow such proposed connection to a System to be made and provided that the person to whom the information is to be disclosed is informed in writing of the confidentiality of such information and that prior to disclosure, such person has entered into a confidentiality agreement with the Transporter which prohibits use or disclosure of such Protected Information in terms no less onerous than those contained in this paragraph 5;
- (h) to the disclosure of Protected Information to the Transporter Agency to the extent such disclosure is necessary for the purposes of the undertaking by the Transporter Agency of the Transporter Agency Activities.

5.5.3 Nothing in paragraph 5.1 shall apply to the disclosure by the Transporter of Protected Information:

- (a) to any person to the extent such disclosure is required pursuant to the Modification Rules;
- (b) to any UK Link User where such information is contained in a User Trade Communication transmitted to such UK Link User in accordance with the requirements of Section U5 or is accessible by such UK Link User by or from UK Link in accordance with any function or facility of UK Link described in the UK Link Manual;
- (c) to any User Agent where the disclosure by the Transporter of such Protected Information to the appointing User would not have infringed paragraph 5.1;
- (d) referred to in paragraph 5.3.2(b)(i) where the supplier or consumer concerned has consented to such disclosure pursuant to a Siteworks Contract, Network Exit Provisions or other document contemplated by the Act, the Transporter's

Transporter's Licence or the Code as being entered into by the Transporter and the consumer;

- (e) to the Authority where such information is accessible by the Authority by or from the UK Link System to the extent of the access and in accordance with any function or facility thereof described in the UK Link Manual;
- (f) to the Trading System Operator to the extent required pursuant to the provisions of Section D or to any person to the extent required pursuant to the Trading System Arrangements;
- (g) to a consumer or an appropriate person to the extent designated by the authority within Standard Special Condition 31 of the Transporter's Licence and a supplier shall be an appropriate person pursuant to Standard Special Condition 31((2)(d)(ii) where its application is for the receipt of data for change of supplier purposes;
- (h) to another Transporter to the extent such disclosure is required for the purposes of the Code or the Transporter's Licence;
- (i) to a contractor or agent of the Transporter where the contractor or agent has entered into a confidentiality agreement with the Transporter on terms no less onerous than those of this paragraph 5; or
- (j) to any person pursuant to an application made in accordance with paragraph 7.3 ('Other User Access') of Schedule 23, version dated 7 November 2008, contained in the Supply Point Administration Agreement ('SPAA') 11<sup>th</sup> June 2004 made between the parties listed in Schedule 1 of the SPAA.

5.5.4 Where:

- (a) the Disclosing Party has complied with the requirements of Section U1.8; and
- (b) notwithstanding such compliance a person obtains any Protected Information by unauthorised access to any element of UK Link for the security of which the Disclosing Party is (in accordance with Section U) responsible

the Disclosing Party shall not be in breach of paragraph 5.1 or 5.2 by virtue of such person having so obtained such Protected Information.

**5.6 Survival**

The provisions of paragraphs 5.1 to 5.5 shall continue, for a period of 3 years after the User Discontinuance Date, to bind a Discontinuing User and (as respects the Discontinuing User) the Transporter and each other User, notwithstanding that the Discontinuing User has ceased to be a User and irrespective of the reason for such cessation.

**5.7 Transporter's Licence**

Nothing in the Code, a Framework Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement shall be construed as requiring the Transporter to disclose or use any information in breach of any requirement of the Transporter's Licence.

## 5.8 Data ownership

- 5.8.1 Subject to paragraph 5.8.2(a), the data, including metering data, which is processed by or recorded or maintained on the UK Link System (including all intellectual property rights in such data) shall belong for the purposes of the Code to the Transporter which owns or operates the System to which such data relates; and subject to paragraph 5.8.2(b) the Transporter may, but without prejudice to paragraph 5.1 or any other requirement of the Code, use and deal with such data as it thinks fit.
- 5.8.2 Where pursuant to the Code a User provides or arranges for the provision of data to a Transporter:
- (a) such data (as provided to the Transporter by the User) shall belong to the User;
  - (b) the User hereby grants to the Transporter (its successors, assigns, agents and contractors) a perpetual, non-exclusive, royalty-free licence (which shall survive the User Discontinuance Date) in respect of such data and all intellectual rights therein to use, copy, adapt and deal with such data for the purposes of performance and implementation of the Code and for other purposes contemplated by the Code, but not otherwise;
  - (c) paragraph 5.8.1 shall apply in respect of data derived (pursuant to any process) by the Transporter from such data and in all compilations created by or on behalf of the Transporter of such data.
- 5.8.3 Where pursuant to the Code the Transporter provides data to a User or data which is recorded or maintained on the UK Link System is available to a User, the User shall (but without prejudice to paragraph 5.2) be entitled without charge to use such data for the purposes of performance and implementation of the Code, and for other purposes contemplated by the Code, but not otherwise.

## 5.9 Operational and Market Data

- 5.9.1 Subject to the provisions of paragraph 5.9.2 and the other provisions of the Code, National Grid NTS shall arrange for the data referred to in Annex V-1, ("**Operational and Market Data**") to be published or made available in the manner specified in Annex V-1.
- 5.9.2 National Grid NTS shall not be obliged to publish or make available operational and market data pursuant to paragraph 5.9.1 where that data is not available to National Grid NTS.
- 5.9.3 National Grid NTS shall issue (by means of publication on its website) an alert (a "**Gas Balancing Alert**") where, after forecasting demand for a Gas Flow Day in accordance with Section H 5.2.3 and Section H5.2.4 on the Preceding Day, the Forecast Total System Demand for the Gas Flow Day in question is greater than or equal to the Forecast Total System Supply for such Gas Flow Day.
- 5.9.4 National Grid NTS may issue (by means of publication on its website) a Gas Balancing Alert where during a Gas Flow Day, an incident is notified to National Grid NTS that would (in the reasonable opinion of National Grid NTS) reduce the Forecast Total System Supply for that Gas Flow Day by at least twenty five (25) MCM per Day and the remaining Forecast Total System Supply for that Gas Flow Day is less than or equal

to the Forecast Total System Demand.

5.9.5 Where a Gas Balancing Alert is issued, it shall remain in force until the end of the Gas Flow Day to which it applies.

5.9.6 For the purposes of the Code:

(a) **“Forecast Total System Supply”** means the anticipated maximum daily supply to the Total System for the Gas Flow Day in question incorporating only the sum of the quantity of gas that could be withdrawn in aggregate from relevant Storage Facilities and delivered to the Total System on such Gas Flow Day without breaching the Two Day Ahead Minimum Storage Deliverability Amount; and

(b) **“Two Day Ahead Minimum Storage Deliverability Amount”** means, a quantity of gas from the Safety Monitor for all Storage Facility Types that could be withdrawn from all relevant Storage Facility Types in two (2) Days at their respective maximum withdrawal rates.

For the purposes of this paragraph a Storage Facility will be a **“relevant”** Storage Facility if (i) it is a Storage Facility whose deliverability and/or storage space National Grid NTS has used in the calculation of the Safety Monitor and (ii) the quantity of gas stored in that Storage Facility and available for withdrawal is greater than or equal to the quantity of gas that could be withdrawn from that Storage Facility in two (2) Days at its maximum withdrawal rate.

## **5.10 System Operator Commodity Charge Information**

5.10.1 National Grid NTS shall arrange for the information referred to in Annex V-2 (**“SO Commodity Charge Information”**) to be published in the manner and frequency specified in Annex V-2.

5.10.2 Where National Grid NTS is not reasonably able to publish SO Commodity Charge Information in the manner and frequency set out in Annex V-2, the requirements of paragraph V5.10.1 shall not apply, and National Grid NTS shall publish the SO Commodity Charge Information as soon as is reasonably practicable.

## **5.11 Disclosure of Supply Meter Point Information (Annex V-5)**

5.11.1 Where in respect of any Supply Point the Transporter is requested by a Registered Metering Applicant to disclose to such Registered Metering Applicant the information detailed in Annex V-5 (**“Supply Meter Point Information”**) then the Registered User of such Supply Point agrees that any such request will be regarded as made on behalf of such Registered User and accordingly the Transporter is authorised by such Registered User to disclose such Supply Meter Point Information to the Registered Metering Applicant in accordance with such request.

5.11.2 For the purposes of paragraph 5.11.1, **“Registered Metering Applicant”** is any person who is registered to request and receive Supply Meter Point Information from the Transporter or any person who is not currently registered to request and receive Supply Meter Point Information but such request relates to a period when they were previously registered to request and receive Supply Meter Point Information pursuant to an appropriate registration scheme administered by the Transporter.

5.11.3 Where in respect of any Supply Point for which details of the relevant Meter Asset Manager are not populated in the Supply Point Register the Transporter is requested by an Accredited Meter Asset Manager to disclose information in relation thereto to such Accredited Meter Asset Manager, then provided the Accredited Meter Asset Manager notifies the relevant meter point reference number for each relevant Supply Meter Point comprised within such Supply Point to the Transporter the Registered User of such Supply Point agrees that any such request will be regarded as made on behalf of such Registered User and accordingly the Transporter is authorised by such Registered User to disclose the following items of information in respect of each Supply Meter Point comprised in the Supply Point Registration for such Supply Point to the Accredited Meter Asset Manager in accordance with such request:

- (a) meter serial number;
- (b) supplier; and
- (c) model (meter).

5.11.4 For the purposes of paragraph 5.11.3, “**Accredited Meter Asset Manager**” is a Meter Asset Manager that is listed on the Supply Point Administration Agreement MAM Registration Scheme listing of accredited Meter Asset Managers published by Lloyds Register.

## 5.12 Transportation Revenue Information

In each calendar month the NTS Operator shall (subject to any confidentiality obligations to which it may from time to time be subject) arrange for the relevant information referred to in Annex V-3 (for the purposes of this paragraph 5.12 and Annex V-3, “**transportation revenue information**”) to be published on such website as may be notified by the NTS Operator to Users from time to time, within 15 Business Days following the end of the immediately preceding calendar month (for the purposes of this paragraph 5.12 and Annex V-3, the “**immediately preceding month**”).

## 5.13 DN Operator Cost Information

5.13.1 For the purposes of this paragraph 5.13 and Annex V4.

- (a) “**Quarter**” shall mean a three month period ending on November, February, May and August (inclusive) in any year;
- (b) “**Forecast Collected Revenue**” shall mean the DN Operator’s reasonable estimate of the revenue to be recovered in respect of the relevant Formula Year referred to using such criteria as the DN Operator shall consider reasonably appropriate and having regard to the provisions of the DN Operator’s Transportation Statement and any revenue or price control restrictions to which it may be subject from time to time (it being acknowledged that such estimate may be subject to revision from time to time);
- (c) “**Final Allowed Revenue**” shall mean an amount reasonably determined by the DN Operator on an accruals basis (based on such information as is reasonably available to it at the relevant time) of revenue recovered or to be recovered in respect of a relevant Formula Year (it being acknowledged that such amount may be subject to a re-determination from time to time);

- (d) The terms **“Z, F and K”** shall have the meanings attributed to them in the relevant DN Operator’s Gas Transporters' Licence in respect of the relevant Formula Year;
- (e) references to incentives, payments and adjustments are to be construed in aggregate in the context of a Distribution Network;
- (f) **“Cost Information”** shall mean the information in respect of the relevant Formula Year set out in Annex V4 in the format prescribed from time to time, including any commentary as appropriate;
- (g) **“Required Date”** shall mean the 10<sup>th</sup> Business Day of the second calendar month following the end of the Quarter for which the information prescribed in Annex V4 is being provided.

5.13.2 A DN Operator shall arrange for the publication each Quarter of the Cost Information by the Required Date on the website of the Joint Office of Gas Transporters.

5.13.3 Cost Information beyond the expiry of the DN Operator price control period ending 31 March 2013 will be based on assumptions to be subject to further agreement between the DN Operators and Shippers.

#### **5.14 Incident Communications**

5.14.1 The Transporter shall, as soon as reasonably practicable after the occurrence of any of the incidents referred to in paragraph 5.14.2 below (subject always to any obligations of confidentiality and to any obligations (whether pursuant to any Legal Requirement or otherwise) which the Transporter may reasonably determine have a higher priority in the event of an incident) provide to relevant Users such information regarding the incident as is set out in the document entitled ‘Schedule for Shipper Communications in Incidents of CO Poisoning, Gas Fire/ Explosions and Local Gas Supply Emergency’ as such document may from time to time be amended by the Transporters upon notice to Users (the **“Shipper Incident Communication Procedure”**).

5.14.2 The incidents referred to in paragraph 5.14.1 above are:

- (a) explosions or fires due to an escape of gas;
- (b) incidents involving death or major injury due to carbon monoxide poisoning from gas; and
- (c) incidents resulting in a failure to supply more than 250 System Exit Points at any one time,

in each case as more particularly described and defined in the Shipper Incident Communication Procedure.

5.14.3 The Shipper Incident Communication Procedure shall contain the methods by which a User may obtain the information set out therein.

#### **5.15 Disclosure of Historic Supply Meter Point Asset and Read Information (Annex V-8)**

- 5.15.1 Where in respect of any Supply Point, the Transporter is requested by the Registered User to disclose such historic Supply Meter Point Asset and Read data (the information detailed in Annex V-8 "**Historic Supply Meter Point Asset and Read information**") then the Registered User of such Supply Points agree that any such request will be regarded as made on behalf of such Registered User and accordingly the Transporter is authorised to disclose such Information in accordance with such request.
- 5.15.2 Upon a request by any Registered User, the Transporter shall as soon as reasonably practicable provide the Registered User with the details specified in paragraph Annex V-8 in respect of each Supply Point (other than an NTS Supply Point) for which the User is the Registered User (relevant Supply Point) at the date on which the Transporter is in receipt of the User's Request.
- 5.15.3 For the purposes of paragraph V5.15.1 and V5.15.2 the period of data provision is three (3) years historical data.

## **6 USER AGENTS AND TRANSPORTER AGENCY**

### **6.1 User Agents general**

- 6.1.1 A User may, subject to and in accordance with this paragraph 6, appoint another person to be the agent of the User for the purposes of making and receiving Code Communications or particular Code Communications on behalf of the User.
- 6.1.2 For the purposes of the Code, a "**User Agent**" is a person who has been appointed as agent of a User in accordance with paragraph 6.1.1.
- 6.1.3 Subject to paragraph 6.4.3, a User may appoint more than one person as User Agent.
- 6.1.4 A person may be appointed as User Agent by more than one User.
- 6.1.5 In paragraph 6 references to Users, except in paragraph 6.5, include DNO Users.

### **6.2 User Agent for UK Link Communications**

- 6.2.1 A person who is a User or another UK Link User (in accordance with Section U) may be appointed as User Agent (a "**UK Link User Agent**") for the purposes of making and receiving Code Communications as UK Link Communications.
- 6.2.2 A UK Link User Agent may be appointed for the purposes of making and receiving on behalf of the appointing User Code Communications within all or any of the categories specified (for the purposes of this paragraph 6.2) in the UK Link Manual.
- 6.2.3 The scope of a UK Link User Agent's authority may not be limited other than by reference to the categories referred to in paragraph 6.2.2; and a UK Link User Agent will at all times be authorised to make and receive any Code Communication on behalf of the appointing User within the category(ies) for which he is appointed.
- 6.2.4 The appointing User may change the categories of Code Communication for which a UK Link User Agent is appointed by giving notice to the Transporters to that effect specifying the changed categories in accordance with paragraph 6.2.2 and the date in accordance with paragraph 6.3.4 with effect from which such change is to take effect.

6.2.5 A User shall terminate (in accordance with paragraph 6.3.3) the appointment of a UK Link User Agent if the agent ceases to be a UK Link User.

### **6.3 User Agent appointment**

6.3.1 A User wishing to appoint a User Agent shall give notice to the Transporters:

- (a) specifying the identity of the appointing User and the proposed User Agent;
- (b) specifying the categories of Code Communication (in the case of UK Link Communications, in accordance with paragraph 6.2.2) for which the User Agent is to be appointed, or specifying that the User Agent is appointed for all such categories; and
- (c) specifying the Day in accordance with paragraph 6.3.4 with effect from which the appointment is to take effect.

6.3.2 The appointment of the User Agent shall be effective from the Day specified in accordance with paragraph 6.3.1(c), and shall continue, subject to any change under paragraph 6.2.4, until terminated in accordance with paragraph 6.3.3.

6.3.3 The appointing User may terminate the appointment of a User Agent by giving notice to the Transporters to that effect specifying the date in accordance with paragraph 6.3.4 with effect from which such termination is to take effect.

6.3.4 The date with effect from which a User Agent is appointed, or the categories of Code Communication for which a UK Link User Agent is appointed may be changed, or the appointment of a User Agent may be terminated, shall be not less than 5 Business Days after the User's notice to the Transporters thereof; provided that upon the User's request in exceptional circumstances the Transporters will endeavour to accommodate notice (of any such matter) of a lesser period.

### **6.4 User Agent effect of appointment**

6.4.1 A Code Communication given by a User Agent shall identify the appointing User on whose behalf the Code Communication is given, and (subject to paragraph 6.4.2) shall not be effective unless it does so.

6.4.2 Where a User Agent who is itself a User gives any Code Communication which does not state that it is given on behalf of an appointing User and identify that User, such Code Communication shall be treated as given by the User Agent on its own account in its capacity as User.

6.4.3 Any Code Communication given by a User Agent within the categories for which such agent is appointed shall be deemed to have been given by and shall be binding on the appointing User, and the Transporters shall be entitled without enquiry as to the agent's authority to rely on such Code Communication for all purposes of the Code.

6.4.4 A User who has appointed a User Agent may continue itself to give Code Communications.

6.4.5 Where a User has appointed one or more User Agents:



- (a) the User shall be responsible for ensuring that the actions of the User and each such agent are not in conflict;
  - (b) where any Code Communication is given by the User or any such agent:
    - (i) to the extent any further Code Communication is subsequently given by any of them which (in accordance with the Code) is effective to modify or revoke the earlier Code Communication, the earlier Code Communication shall be so modified or revoked;
    - (ii) except as provided in paragraph (i), any Code Communication subsequently given by any of them which conflicts with the earlier Code Communication will be disregarded.
- 6.4.6 No Transporter shall be responsible for any unauthorised use or disclosure by a User Agent of information relating to the appointing User (whether or not obtained, in the case of a UK Link User Agent, in its capacity as UK Link User).

## **6.5 Transporter Agency**

- 6.5.1 The Transporters have engaged a person ("**Transporter Agency**") to undertake the Transporter Agency Activities.
- 6.5.2 The "Transporter Agency Activities" are:
- (a) those activities necessary for:
    - (i) the determination for each Gas Year of the Annual Quantity in respect of Supply Meter Points in accordance with Section G;
    - (ii) the maintenance of the Supply Point Register and the performance of the Transporter's obligations in relation thereto in accordance with Section G;
    - (iii) the generation of Supply Meter Point Reference Numbers;
    - (iv) the performance of the Transporter's obligations in relation to demand estimation in accordance with Section H, including the derivation of the Composite Weather Variable, the development of Demand Models and End User Categories, the determination of NDM Supply Meter Point Demand and NDM Annual Quantities in respect of a Gas Year and daily demand forecasting;
    - (v) the validation of Meter Readings in accordance with Section M;
    - (vi) the notification by a Transporter of the failure to obtain a Valid Meter Reading in accordance with Section M3;
    - (vii) the calculation of Invoice Amounts, the submission of Invoice Documents and the resolution of Invoice Queries in accordance with Section S;
    - (viii) the implementation by the Transporters of Section U;

- (ix) the admission and termination of Shipper Users in accordance with Sections V2 and V4;
- (x) the implementation by National Grid NTS of Section X;
- (b) the performance of the Transporter's obligations in Code in relation to:
  - (i) the illegal taking of gas;
  - (ii) the receiving and processing data to enable quantities of gas to be allocated to Users at NExA Supply Meter Points and Connected System Exit Points;
- (c) the transmission and receipt of Code Communications for the purposes referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b); and
- (d) the performance of the Transporters' functions in relation to the engagement of the AUG Expert under Section E9;
- (e) the provision, operation, maintenance and development of computer systems;
- (f) to support the implementation of Sections B, C, D, E, F, G, H, M, S, U and X;
  - (i) to the extent not covered in paragraph (i), for the purposes of supporting the implementation of the matters referred to in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c).

6.5.3 Where the agreement between the Transporters for the purposes of this paragraph 6.5 so provides, the Transporter Agency will act on behalf of the Transporters in respect of the exercise of any discretion or rights conferred on the Transporters, the performance of the Transporters' obligations and the giving and receiving of Code Communications in each case for the purposes of and in connection with the Transporter Agency Activities.

6.5.4 Any Code Communication given by the Transporter Agency in relation to the Transporter Agency Activities shall be deemed to have been given by and be binding on the Transporter and Users shall be entitled without enquiry as to the authority of the Transporter Agency to rely on such Code Communication.

6.5.5 Where there is a requirement in the Code that a User give for the purposes of the Transporter Agency Activities a Code Communication to the Transporters collectively, the User shall be treated as having complied with any such requirement where the User gives the Code Communication to the Transporter Agency.

6.5.6 Where for the purposes of Section U:

- (a) there is a requirement that the Transporters provide or make available to a User computer hardware, other equipment or computer software the Transporters shall be treated as having complied with the requirement where the computer hardware, other equipment or computer software is provided or made available by the Transporter Agency;
- (b) there is a requirement that a User returns computer hardware, other equipment or computer software to the Transporters the User shall be treated as having complied with the requirement where the computer hardware, other equipment

or computer software is returned to the Transporter Agency.

- 6.5.7 Nothing in this paragraph 6.5 shall prevent or restrict a Transporter from appointing another person to be the agent of the Transporter for the purposes of the Code other than in respect of or in relation to Transporter Agency Activities and where a Transporter wishes to appoint an agent it shall give notice to each User specifying the identity of the proposed agent and the purposes in respect of which the agent is to be appointed.
- 6.5.8 Where a Transporter terminates the appointment of an agent it shall give notice to each User specifying the date from which the termination is to take effect.

## **7 TRANSPORTER AS USER**

### **7.1 User Capacities**

7.1.1 This paragraph 7 applies where:

- (a) under any provision of the Code a Transporter (the "**relevant Transporter**") is referred to as a User;
- (b) the Transporter who owns or operates the System(s) in respect of which the relevant Transporter is such User, is the same person as that Transporter.

7.1.2 The provisions referred to in paragraph 7.1.1, and the capacities ("**Transporter User Capacities**") in which the Transporter is referred to as User thereunder, are:

- (a) in relation to the NTS, as follows:
  - (i) the provisions of Section B and J under which the Transporter is the holder of NTS Offtake Capacity and in connection with the offtake of gas at NTS/LDZ Offtakes;
  - (ii) the provisions of Section K under which the Transporter for Operating Margins Purposes is a User in respect of relevant System and Storage Facilities;
  - (iii) the provisions of Section N under which the Transporter as NTS Shrinkage Provider and as LDZ Shrinkage Provider is a User of the NTS;
  - (iv) the provisions of Section R under which National Grid LNG Storage may be a User in respect of the NTS;
  - (v) the provisions of Section R under which the Transporter is a User (for the purposes of Section Z) in respect of National Grid LNG Storage Facilities for the purposes of provisioning the Scottish Independent Networks with LNG;
- (b) in relation to an LDZ, under the provisions of Section J under which the DNO User is a User of the relevant System in connection with the offtake of gas at LDZ/LDZ Offtakes;
- (c) in relation to any System, the provisions of paragraph 1.2.2.

7.1.3 Where a User becomes a Discontinuing User following a Termination Notice under paragraph 4.3, the Transporter shall not be taken to be acting as User by reason of the fact that it may, for administrative or other purposes (including any purposes in connection with such an undertaking as is referred to in Section F4.5.6) establish particular arrangements (including any arrangements within UK Link) to account for gas offtaken at Supply Meter Points of which the User was Registered User.

## **7.2 Effect of relevant provisions**

7.2.1 For the purposes of giving effect to the provisions referred to in paragraph 7.1, the Transporter will:

- (a) account for payments to be made to and by it pursuant to the Code in each Transporter User Capacity;
- (b) account (in particular in applying the provisions of Section E as to the determination of quantities delivered to and offtaken from the Total System) for the quantities of gas delivered and offtaken from the Total System by it in each Transporter User Capacity;
- (c) in particular, in determining the amounts of Market Balancing Action Charges, other amounts payable in respect of Eligible Balancing Actions taken pursuant to Contingency Balancing Arrangements, Balancing Charges payable and quantities of gas delivered to the Total System by National Grid NTS in each Transporter User Capacity;
- (d) secure that accounting records are maintained sufficient to allow separate identification of the payments referred to in paragraph (a) and the calculation of the amounts of such payments;
- (e) nominate personnel in respect of each relevant Transporter User Capacity, each of which shall be treated as the Authorised Representative(s) of a separate UK Link User for the purposes of Section U, and conduct operations under the Code in accordance with that Section separately in respect of each such capacity.

7.2.2 Nothing in the Code shall require the Transporter to establish separate subsidiaries, or (other than as provided in paragraph 7.2.1) to prepare separate accounts, or to maintain separate bank accounts, in respect of the Transporter User Capacities; nor to give any Code Communication (other than under Contingency Procedures) which is not to be given as a UK Link Communication.

7.2.3 The Code shall, to the extent of any reference to the Transporter (including National Grid LNG Storage) as User, be construed in accordance with this paragraph 7.

## **8 LIABILITY AND RELATED ISSUES**

### **8.1 Limitation of liability**

8.1.1 Subject to the further provisions of this paragraph 8, each Party agrees and acknowledges that:

- (a) no Party shall be liable to any other Party for loss arising from any breach of the

Code, a Framework Agreement or an Ancillary Agreement, other than (but without prejudice to any other provision of the Code or an Ancillary Agreement which excludes or limits liability in respect of any breach) for loss directly resulting from such breach and which at the relevant date was reasonably foreseeable as not unlikely to occur in the ordinary course of events from such breach in respect of:

- (i) physical damage to the property of any other Party; and/or
  - (ii) the liability (in law) of any other such Party to any other person for loss in respect of physical damage to the property of such person;
- (b) no Party shall in any circumstances be liable in respect of any breach of the Code, a Framework Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement to any other Party for:
- (i) any loss of profit, loss of revenue, loss of use, loss of contract, loss of goodwill, or increased cost of working; or
  - (ii) any indirect or consequential loss; or
  - (iii) except as provided in paragraphs 8.1.1(a)(ii) and 8.1.5, loss resulting from the liability of any other Party to any other person howsoever and whensoever arising.

8.1.2 For the purposes of paragraph 8.1.1(a) the "**relevant date**" is the date of the relevant Framework Agreement or as the case may be of an Ancillary Agreement, except that where the breach in question would not have been a breach of the Code but for a modification (pursuant to the Modification Rules or the Transporter's Licence) of the Code, the relevant date shall be the date of such modification.

8.1.3 The amount or amounts for which a Party may be liable to any other Party or Parties pursuant to paragraph 8.1.1(a) in respect of any one event or circumstance constituting or resulting in the first Party's breach of a provision of the Code, a Framework Agreement and/or any Ancillary Agreement shall not exceed:

- (a) as respects the liability of the Transporter to any one User or of any one User to the Transporter, £1,000,000;
- (b) as respects the liability in aggregate of the Transporter to Users collectively or of Users collectively to the Transporter, £10,000,000.

8.1.4 Paragraph 8.1.1 is without prejudice to any provision of the Code or any Ancillary Agreement which provides for an indemnity, or which provides for any Party to make a payment to another.

8.1.5 Nothing in the Code or any Ancillary Agreement shall exclude or limit the liability of any Party for death or personal injury resulting from the negligence of such Party.

8.1.6 In this paragraph 8 references to Users include DNO Users.

## **8.2 Exclusion of certain rights and remedies**

8.2.1 The rights and remedies of the Parties pursuant to the Code, a Framework Agreement and any Ancillary Agreement exclude and are in place of any rights or remedies of any Party in tort (including negligence and nuisance) or misrepresentation in respect of the subject matter of the Code, a Framework Agreement or such Ancillary Agreement; and accordingly, but without prejudice to paragraphs 8.1.5 and 8.2.4, each Party (to the fullest extent permitted by law):

- (a) waives any rights or remedies; and
- (b) releases each other Party from any duties or liabilities

arising in tort or misrepresentation in respect of the subject matter of the Code, a Framework Agreement or such Ancillary Agreement.

8.2.2 Without prejudice to paragraph 8.2.1, where any provision of the Code or any Ancillary Agreement provides for any amount to be payable by a Party upon or in respect of that Party's breach of any provision of the Code, a Framework Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement, each Party agrees and acknowledges that the remedy conferred by such provision is exclusive of and is in substitution for any remedy in damages in respect of such breach or the event or circumstance giving rise thereto.

8.2.3 For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this paragraph 8 shall prevent any Party from or restrict it in enforcing any obligation (including suing for a debt) owed to it under or pursuant to the Code, a Framework Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement.

8.2.4 Nothing in this paragraph 8 shall constitute a waiver by any Party of any right or remedy it may have (other than pursuant to the Code) in respect of a breach by any other Party of any Legal Requirement.

8.2.5 Subject to any provision of the Code pursuant to which the Transporters collectively assume any obligation or liability:

- (a) only the relevant Transporter owes any obligation pursuant to the Code to any Shipper User; and
- (b) each Shipper User:
  - (i) waives any rights or remedies against any Transporter other than the relevant Transporter; and
  - (ii) releases each other Transporter from any duties or liabilities arising in tort (including negligence and nuisance) or misrepresentation in respect of the subject matter of the Code, a Framework Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement

in relation to a System Point on a particular System.

8.2.6 GT Section B6.4.1 shall not apply in relation to the terms in paragraph 8.2.5(b) which may accordingly be enforced by a Transporter other than the relevant Transporter, but without prejudice to GT Section B6.4.2.

**8.3 Effect of this paragraph**

- 8.3.1 Each provision of this paragraph 8 shall be construed as a separate and severable contract term, and shall as respects any Discontinuing User survive that User's ceasing to be a User.
- 8.3.2 Each Party acknowledges and agrees that the provisions of this paragraph 8 have been the subject of discussion and negotiation and are fair and reasonable having regard to the circumstances as at the date of the Framework Agreement.

#### **8.4 Liquidated damages**

Where any provision of the Code provides for any amount to be payable by a Party upon or in respect of that Party's breach of any provision of the Code, each Party agrees and acknowledges that such provision has been the subject of discussion and negotiation, and that the amount provided to be payable represents no more than a genuine pre-estimate of the loss of the Party to which such amount is payable.

#### **8.5 Indemnities**

The amount or amounts for which a Party may be liable to any other Party or Parties pursuant to any indemnity provided for in the Code in respect of any one event or circumstance giving rise to liability under such indemnity shall not exceed:

- (a) as respects the liability of the Transporter to any one User or of any one User to the Transporter, £1,000,000;
- (b) as respects the liability in aggregate of the Transporter to Users collectively or of Users collectively to the Transporter, £20,000,000.

### **9 NEUTRALITY AND AGGREGATE NDM RECONCILIATION AUDITOR; OPERATIONS REPORTING**

#### **9.1 Neutrality Auditor**

- 9.1.1 National Grid NTS will, subject to paragraphs 9.1.3 and 9.1.4, appoint in accordance with paragraph 9.2.1 a person eligible for appointment as a company auditor (within the meaning of Part II of the Companies Act 1989) to conduct a review (after the relevant period) of whether, in the opinion of such person, in each relevant period, in calculating Neutrality Charges and Relevant Incentive Charges, National Grid NTS has complied in material respects with applicable provisions of the Code.
- 9.1.2 For the purposes of paragraphs 9.1 to 9.3:
- (a) "**Neutrality Charges**" means Balancing Neutrality Charges and Reconciliation Neutrality Charges;
  - (b) "**Relevant Incentive Charges**" are Capacity Neutrality Charges (under Section B2.11.9(a)) and User Daily Incentive Amounts (under Section D3.4.2(b));
  - (c) "**relevant period**" means each Gas Year or any other period (whether shorter or longer than a Gas Year) proposed by National Grid NTS after consultation with the Uniform Network Code Committee or any relevant Sub-committee where the Authority (upon National Grid NTS's application) gives Condition A11(18) Approval to National Grid NTS's implementing this paragraph 9.1 on the basis

of such other period;

- (d) the person appointed under paragraph 9.1.1 in respect of a relevant period is the "**Neutrality Auditor**".

9.1.3 A Neutrality Auditor may not be appointed for a relevant period:

- (a) where National Grid NTS proposes after consultation with the Uniform Network Code Committee or any relevant Sub-committee and where the Authority (upon National Grid NTS's application) gives Condition A11(18) Approval that such Neutrality Auditor not be appointed; or
- (b) where:
  - (i) pursuant to this paragraph 9.1.3 a Neutrality Auditor was not appointed for the immediately prior relevant period; and
  - (ii) National Grid NTS reasonably determines that such Neutrality Auditor should not be appointed after consultation with the Uniform Network Code Committee or any relevant Sub-committee, unless (upon the application of National Grid NTS or any User made within 10 Business Days after National Grid NTS notified to Users the decision of the Uniform Network Code Committee or Sub-committee) the Authority in any case shall give Condition A11(18) Disapproval.

9.1.4 In the event that a Neutrality Auditor is appointed for a relevant period following relevant period(s) where (pursuant to paragraph 9.1.3) the Neutrality Auditor was not appointed, he may not review any prior relevant period unless expressly instructed by the Uniform Network Code Committee in accordance with paragraph 9.2.1.

9.1.5 In this paragraph 9 references to Users exclude DNO Users.

## **9.2 Basis and terms of appointment**

9.2.1 The person appointed as Neutrality Auditor for each relevant period, and the period and (subject to the further provisions of this paragraph 9.2) the terms of his appointment, including the scope and objectives of the review under paragraph 9.1.1, shall be the person, period and terms from time to time agreed by the Uniform Network Code Committee or any relevant Sub-committee, unless (upon the application of National Grid NTS or any User made within 10 Business Days after National Grid NTS notified to Users the decision of the Uniform Network Committee or Sub-committee) the Authority in any case shall give Condition A11(18) Disapproval to National Grid NTS's making an appointment of the Neutrality Auditor on such basis (in which case National Grid NTS will arrange for an alternative proposal to be considered by the Uniform Network Code Committee or any relevant Sub-committee).

9.2.2 The terms of appointment will require that:

- (a) the Neutrality Auditor shall present to and discuss with National Grid NTS its draft findings before reporting under paragraph (b);
- (b) the Neutrality Auditor shall report his findings to National Grid NTS and the Uniform Network Code Committee or any relevant Sub-committee;



- (c) without prejudice to paragraph (b), the Neutrality Auditor shall agree to permit a representative of each User to attend a meeting of the Uniform Network Code Committee or any relevant Sub-committee at which the Neutrality Auditor's report is presented;
  - (d) the Neutrality Auditor shall undertake, in reasonable terms, to keep confidential the information disclosed to the Neutrality Auditor in the course of its review.
- 9.2.3 A copy of the Neutrality Auditor's full report will be provided by National Grid NTS to each User and to the Authority.
- 9.2.4 The fees and costs of the Neutrality Auditor will be paid by National Grid NTS and recovered from Users as follows:
- (a) before each relevant period the fees and costs of the Neutrality Auditor will be estimated by National Grid NTS and the amount of such estimate, divided by the number of months in the relevant period will be an additional Monthly Adjustment Neutrality Cost under Section F4.5.3(a)(v) for each month in the relevant period;
  - (b) when the Neutrality Auditor's final account for the relevant period is rendered, the amount of the difference between the amount thereof and the estimate under paragraph (a) will be an additional Monthly Adjustment Neutrality Cost under Section F4.5.3(a)(v) or (as the case may be) an additional Monthly Adjustment Neutrality Revenue under Section F4.5.3(b)(iv) for the month following that in which it is rendered.

**9.3 Effect of Neutrality Auditor's report**

- 9.3.1 Where the report of the Neutrality Auditor contains a recommendation to the effect that the provisions of the Code as to the calculation of Neutrality Charges and Relevant Incentive Charges would be materially better implemented by a change in the procedures and controls adopted by National Grid NTS for such calculation, National Grid NTS will take all reasonable steps to comply with such recommendations, unless the Authority shall upon the application of National Grid NTS give Condition A11(18) Approval to its not doing so.
- 9.3.2 Nothing in the report of the Neutrality Auditor shall entitle any User or National Grid NTS to require any recalculation of, or to any adjustment in respect of, or to withhold payment or require repayment of, any Neutrality Charges and Relevant Incentive Charges, nor give rise to any liability of National Grid NTS to any User in respect thereof.

**9.4 Operations reporting**

- 9.4.1 National Grid NTS will, in accordance with the Uniform Network Code Operations Reporting Manual, and subject to paragraph 9.4.3, publish each month and at such other intervals as may be specified in such manual, information relating to:
- (a) the implementation by National Grid NTS of certain provisions of the Code, including the Operational Balancing Steps taken by National Grid NTS;
  - (b) the operations of Users pursuant to certain provisions of the Code.

- 9.4.2 For the purposes of the Code the "**Uniform Network Code Operations Reporting Manual**" is the document so entitled prepared and (subject to paragraph 9.4.5) governed in accordance with [Section V12 of the UNC TPD].
- 9.4.3 In accordance with the Uniform Network Code Operations Reporting Manual, the form in which information under paragraph 9.4.1(b) is provided:
- (a) to a User, will identify that User in the context of the information which relates to that User, but will not identify any other User in the context of the information which relates to such other User;
  - (b) to the Authority, will identify each User in the context of the information which relates to such User;
  - (c) to any other person, will not identify any User in the context of the information which relates to such User.
- 9.4.4 Each User hereby authorises National Grid NTS to publish in accordance with paragraph 9.4.1 such information relating to such User, in such form, as is provided for in the Uniform Network Code Operations Reporting Manual.
- 9.4.5 If National Grid NTS proposes to revise the Uniform Network Code Operations Reporting Manual, it shall obtain prior approval by Panel Majority of the Uniform Network Code Committee, and if such revision materially increases the extent of the information relating to Users to be published pursuant thereto:
- (a) National Grid NTS will notify Users of its proposal not less than one month before implementing such proposal;
  - (b) any User may, within 14 Days after National Grid NTS's notification under paragraph (a), notify National Grid NTS that the User objects to such revision, providing reasonable details of the grounds for the User's objection;
  - (c) if a User so notifies an objection to National Grid NTS, National Grid NTS will not implement the revision unless the Authority shall (upon National Grid NTS's application) give Condition A11(18) Approval to its doing so.

## **9.5 Aggregate NDM Reconciliation Auditor**

- 9.5.1 Subject to paragraphs 9.5.3 and 9.5.4 the Transporters will appoint in accordance with paragraph 9.6 a person eligible for appointment as a company auditor (within the meaning of Part II of the Companies Act 1989) to conduct a review (after the relevant period) of whether, in the opinion of such person, in each relevant period, the Transporter has complied in all material respects with applicable provisions of the Code.
- 9.5.2 For the purposes of these paragraphs 9.5 to 9.7:
- (a) "**Aggregate NDM Reconciliation Charges**" means User Aggregate Reconciliation Clearing Values and User Aggregate Transportation Charge Adjustments; and
  - (b) the person appointed under paragraph 9.5.1 in respect of the relevant period

shall be the "**RbD Auditor**"; and

- (c) "**relevant period**" means each Gas Year or any other period (whether shorter or longer than a Gas Year) proposed by the Transporters after consultation with the Uniform Network Code Committee or any relevant Sub-committee where the Authority (upon the Transporters' application) gives condition A11(18) Approval to the Transporters implementing paragraphs 9.5 to 9.7 on the basis of such other period.

9.5.3 An RbD Auditor may not be appointed for a relevant period where the Uniform Network Code Committee determines by Panel Majority in respect of any relevant period that such RbD Auditor not be appointed.

9.5.4 In the event that an RbD Auditor is appointed for a relevant period following relevant period(s) where (pursuant to paragraph 9.5.3) the RbD Auditor was not appointed, he may not review any prior relevant period unless expressly instructed by the Uniform Network Code Committee in accordance with paragraph 9.6.1.

## **9.6 Basis and terms of appointment**

9.6.1 The person appointed as RbD Auditor for each relevant period, and the period and (subject to the further provisions of this paragraph 9.6) the terms of his appointment, including the scope and objectives of the review under paragraph 9.5.1, shall be the person, period and terms from time to time agreed by the Uniform Network Code Committee or any relevant Sub-committee, unless (upon the application of the Transporters) or any User made within 10 Business Days after the Transporters notify to Users the decision of the Uniform Network Code Committee or relevant Sub-committee) the Authority in any case shall give Condition A11(18) Disapproval to the Transporters making an appointment of the RbD Auditor on such basis (in which case the Transporters will arrange for an alternative proposal to be considered by the Uniform Network Code Committee or any relevant Sub-committee).

9.6.2 The terms of the appointment will require that:

- (a) the RbD Auditor shall present to and discuss with the Transporters its draft findings before reporting under paragraph (b);
- (b) the RbD Auditor shall report his findings to the Transporters and the Uniform Network Code Committee or any relevant Sub-committee;
- (c) without prejudice to paragraph (b), the RbD Auditor shall agree to permit a representative of each User to attend a meeting of the Uniform Network Code Committee or any relevant Sub-committee at which the RbD Auditor's report is presented;
- (d) the RbD Auditor shall undertake, in reasonable terms, to keep confidential the information disclosed to the RbD auditor in the course of its review.

9.6.3 A copy of the RbD auditor's report shall be provided by the Transporters to each "**relevant User**" (which for the purpose of this paragraph 9.6.3 and 9.7.2 shall mean a User who during the relevant period was the Registered User of a Smaller Supply Point on a relevant System) and the Authority.

9.6.4 The fees and costs of the RbD Auditor shall be paid by the Transporters.

## 9.7 Effect of the RbD Auditor's Report

9.7.1 Where the report of the RbD Auditor contains a recommendation to the effect that the provisions of the Code as to the calculation of Aggregate NDM Reconciliation Charges would be materially better implemented by a change in the procedures and controls adopted by the Transporters for such calculation, the Transporters will take all reasonable steps to comply with such recommendations, unless the Authority shall upon application of the Transporters give Condition A11(18) Approval to its not doing so.

9.7.2 Nothing in the report of the RbD Auditor shall entitle any User or the Transporters to require any recalculation of, or to any adjustment in respect of, or to withhold payment or require repayment of, any Aggregate NDM Reconciliation Charge, nor give rise to any liability of the Transporters to any relevant User in respect thereof except where such entitlement is provided for in the terms of the Code.

## 10 COMPENSATION

### 10.1 Introduction

10.1.1 For the purposes of this paragraph 10:

- (a) "**Compensation Rule**" means a rule pursuant to the Code, identified as such and providing for the Transporter or Transporters to pay an amount by way of compensation to Users;
- (b) "**Compensation Year**" means a period of 12 months expiring 31 March in any year;
- (c) "**Compensation Provisions**" means the provisions of the Code which establish a Compensation Rule;
- (d) "**Compensation Group**" means a group of Compensation Rules, such groups being designated as Groups A to L inclusive, and the Compensation Group to which each Compensation Rule belongs being specified in the relevant Compensation Provisions;
- (e) the "**Group Limit**" in respect of each Compensation Group is as follows:
  - (i) for each of Groups A, B, C, D, F and K: £5,000,000;
  - (ii) for Group E: £2,500,000 in respect of Larger Supply Points and £2,500,000 in respect of Smaller Supply Points;
  - (iii) for Group G: £4,000,000 in respect of Larger Supply Points and £1,000,000 in respect of Smaller Supply Points;
  - (iv) for Group H: £1,000,000 in respect of Larger Supply Points and £1,000,000 in respect of Smaller Supply Points;
  - (v) for Group I: £3,000,000;

- (vi) for Group J: £2,500,000 in respect of Larger Supply Points; and
- (vii) for Group L: £5,000,000 in respect of Larger Supply Points and £5,000,000 in respect of Smaller Supply Points;
- (f) an amount is "**adjusted**" where it has been adjusted pursuant to paragraph 10.2.2 and/or 10.2.3, and otherwise is "**unadjusted**".
- (g) 10.1.2 In this paragraph 10 references to Users exclude DNO Users.

## 10.2 Aggregate payment caps

10.2.1 The aggregate amount payable pursuant to all of the Compensation Rules in any Compensation Group (excluding amounts in respect of interest) by the Transporters to all Users in respect of any month (month 'n', where n is 1 for the first month in the Compensation Year, 2 for the second such month, and so on) in any Compensation Year shall not exceed an amount (the "**Monthly Available Compensation Amount**") determined as the lesser of:

$$(CML - PP) * SF$$

or

$$GLI * SF$$

where:

CML is the cumulative monthly limit for that Group calculated as:

$$GL * n / 12$$

where GL is the amount of the Group Limit;

PP is zero (0) in relation to month 1, and otherwise is the aggregate amount (adjusted pursuant to paragraphs 10.2.2 and 10.2.3) payable pursuant to all of the Compensation Rules in the relevant Compensation Group in respect of months 1 to n-1 inclusive;

GLI the aggregate unadjusted amount payable pursuant to all of the Compensating Rules in the Compensation Group in respect of month n;

SF is a scaling factor which shall be the lesser of one (1) and a factor determined as:

$$\frac{(50,000,000 * n) / 12 - APP}{AMC}$$

where:

APP is the sum, for all Compensation Groups, of the amounts PP in relation to months 1 to n-1;

AMC is the sum, for all Compensation Groups, of the lesser of:

- (1) GLI;
- or
- (2) the cumulative monthly limit CML for the Compensation Group in relation to month n less PP.

10.2.2 Where in respect of any month the aggregate unadjusted amount payable by the Transporters pursuant to all of the Compensation Rules in any Compensation Group would exceed the applicable Monthly Available Compensation Amount, determined in accordance with paragraph 10.2.1 but on the basis of a scaling factor SF equal to one, the amounts payable by the Transporters to Users pursuant to each Compensation Rule in respect of that month shall be reduced pro rata so that the aggregate of such reduced amounts is equal to the Monthly Available Compensation Amount.

10.2.3 The amounts, adjusted in accordance with paragraph 10.2.2, payable by the Transporters to Users pursuant to each Compensation Rule in respect of that month shall be further adjusted by the scaling factor SF.

### 10.3 Invoicing and payment

10.3.1 Subject to paragraphs 10.3.2 and 10.3.3, amounts payable by the Transporters pursuant to each Compensation Rule will be invoiced and are payable in accordance with Section S.

10.3.2 Any amount payable by the Transporters pursuant to a Compensation Rule will be payable not later than the 15th Day of the payment month (which date will be the Invoice issue date in respect of an Invoice Document in respect of any such amounts).

10.3.3 Where (whether or not by reason of the Invoice Document being submitted after such date) the Transporters make payment after the date referred to in paragraph 10.3.2, the Transporters will pay interest on the amount payable with effect from such date, provided that until the last Day of the payment month the Applicable Interest Rate shall be the rate under Section S3.6.4(b).

10.3.4 The Transporters will provide by way of supporting data with each relevant Invoice Document reasonable details of the basis on which the Invoice Amounts (pursuant to a Compensation Rule) are calculated (not for the avoidance of doubt including details of the calculations of any Compensation Relevant Value).

10.3.5 For the purposes of this paragraph 10.3 (as it applies for the purposes of any Compensation Rule), the "**payment month**" is the month specified in the relevant Compensation Provisions.

10.3.6 Where pursuant to any Compensation Rule any amount is payable by the Transporters (rather than by a Transporter individually):

- (a) the Transporters will notify each User of the amount payable by each Transporter to the User for a month (which amounts shall in aggregate be equal to the amount determined as payable to the User under the Compensation Rule);
- (b) each Transporter shall pay such User the amount so notified.

### 10.4 Force Majeure

Where by reason of Force Majeure a Transporter is unable to comply in any case with any requirement by reference to which a Compensation Rule applies, the Transporter(s) shall not be treated as having failed to comply with such requirement in such case for the purposes of the Compensation Provision (and for the purposes of any relevant aggregate requirement) including whether the Transporter(s) have complied with the requirement in a given percentage of cases.

## 10.5 Audit

For the purposes of paragraphs 10.7 to 10.9 (providing for the review by the Compensation Value Auditor of the determination of Compensation Relevant Values):

- (a) in relation to each Compensation Group, the maximum aggregate amount payable in a month pursuant to paragraph 10.2 is a Compensation Relevant Value;
- (b) in relation to each Compensation Rule referred to in paragraph 10.1, the relevant percentage is a Compensation Relevant Value.

## 10.6 Disapplication

10.6.1 If at any time the Transporters shall have delivered a dis-application request pursuant to paragraph 4 of Special Condition C8B, C8C or paragraph 11 of Special Condition E2B of the Transporter's Licence, or the equivalent provision in any condition of that licence which may apply following any modification of that licence, then if the Transporters shall give notice to the Authority not less (except with the consent of the Authority) than 9 months before the dis-application date (as defined in that condition), all Compensation Rules and the related Compensation Provisions shall cease to have effect with effect from the dis-application date.

10.6.2 If the Transporters give notice under paragraph 10.6.1 they will so inform Users as soon as reasonably practicable after doing so.

## 10.7 Compensation Value Auditor

10.7.1 The Transporters will, subject to paragraphs 10.7.3 and 10.7.4, appoint a person eligible for appointment as a company auditor (within the meaning of Part II of the Companies Act 1989) to conduct a review (after the relevant period) of whether, in the opinion of such person, in each relevant period, in determining the values of Compensation Relevant Values, each Transporter has complied in material respects with applicable provisions of the Code.

10.7.2 For the purposes of this paragraph 10:

- (a) a "**Compensation Relevant Value**" is the value of any amount or percentage, by reference to which (pursuant to particular provisions of the Code) the amount or maximum amount payable by the Transporters by way of compensation to Users is determined, specified as being such in any provision of the Code;
- (b) "**relevant period**" means:
  - (i) the period from the UNC Implementation Date until 30 September

2005; and

- (ii) thereafter, each Gas Year or any other period (whether shorter or longer than a Gas Year, but not shorter than 3 months) proposed by the Transporters after consultation with the Uniform Network Code Committee or any relevant Sub-committee where the Authority (upon the Transporters' application) gives Condition A11(18) Approval to the Transporters implementing this paragraph 10 on the basis of such other period;
- (c) the person appointed under paragraph 10.7.1 in respect of a relevant period is the "**Compensation Value Auditor**".

10.7.3 A Compensation Value Auditor may not be appointed for a relevant period:

- (a) where the Transporters propose after consultation with the Uniform Network Code Committee or any relevant Sub-committee and where the Authority (upon the Transporters application) gives Condition A11(18) Approval that such Compensation Value Auditor not be appointed; or
- (b) where:
  - (i) pursuant to this paragraph 10.7.3 a Compensation Value Auditor was not appointed for the immediately prior relevant period; and
  - (ii) the Transporters reasonably determine that such Compensation Value Auditor should not be appointed after consultation with the Uniform Network Code Committee or any relevant Sub-committee, unless (upon the application of the Transporters or any User made within 10 Business Days after the Transporters notified to Users the decision of the Uniform Network Code Committee or Sub-committee) the Authority in any case shall give Condition A11(18) Disapproval.

10.7.4 In the event that a Compensation Value Auditor is appointed for a relevant period following relevant period(s) where (pursuant to paragraph 9.1.3) the Compensation Value Auditor was not appointed, he may not review any prior relevant period unless expressly instructed by the Uniform Network Code Committee in accordance with paragraph 10.8.1.

## **10.8 Basis and terms of appointment**

10.8.1 The person appointed as Compensation Value Auditor for each relevant period, and the period and (subject to the further provisions of this paragraph 10.8) the terms of his appointment, including the scope and objectives of the review under paragraph 10.7.1, shall be the person, period and terms agreed by the Uniform Network Code Committee or any relevant Sub-committee, unless (upon the application of the Transporters or any User made within 10 Business Days after the Transporters notify to Users the decision of the Uniform Network Code Committee or Sub-committee) the Authority in any case shall give Condition A11(18) Disapproval to the Transporters making an appointment on such basis (in which case the Transporters will arrange for an alternative proposal to be considered by the Network Code Committee of any relevant sub-committee).

10.8.2 The terms of appointment will require that:



- (a) the Compensation Value Auditor shall present to and discuss with the Transporters its draft findings before reporting under paragraph (b);
- (b) the Compensation Value Auditor shall report his findings to the Transporters and the Uniform Network Code Committee or any relevant Sub-committee;
- (c) without prejudice to paragraph (b), the Compensation Value Auditor shall agree to permit a representative of each User to attend a meeting of the Uniform Network Code Committee or any relevant Sub-committee at which the Compensation Value Auditor's report is presented;
- (d) the Compensation Value Auditor shall undertake, in reasonable terms, to keep confidential the information disclosed to the Compensation Value Auditor in the course of its review.

10.8.3 A copy of the Compensation Value Auditor's full report will be provided by the Transporters to each User and to the Authority.

10.8.4 The fees and costs of the Compensation Value Auditor will be paid by the Transporters and (subject to paragraph 10.8.5) recovered from Users as follows:

- (a) before each relevant period the fees and costs of the Compensation Value Auditor will be estimated by the Transporters and the amount of such estimate, divided by the number of months in the relevant period will be an additional Monthly Adjustment Neutrality Cost under Section F4.5.3(a)(v) for each month in the relevant period;
- (b) when the Compensation Value Auditor's final account for the relevant period is rendered, the amount of the difference between the amount thereof and the estimate under paragraph (a) will be an additional Monthly Adjustment Neutrality Cost under Section F4.5.3(a)(v) or (as the case may be) an additional Monthly Adjustment Neutrality Revenue under Section F4.5.3(b)(iv) for the month following that in which it is rendered.

10.8.5 Where a report of the Compensation Value Auditor contains a finding that the Transporter (or the Transporters) failed in a material respect to determine a Compensation Relevant Value in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Code, that part of the fees and costs of the Compensation Value Auditor certified by the auditor as relating to the review (under paragraph 10.7.1) in respect of that Compensation Relevant Value shall be borne by the Transporters and not recovered from Users pursuant to paragraph 10.8.4.

## **10.9 Effect of Compensation Value Auditor's report**

Where the report of the Compensation Value Auditor contains a recommendation to the effect that the provisions of the Code as to the determination of Compensation Relevant Values would be materially better implemented by a change in the procedures adopted by the Transporters for such determination, the Transporters will take all reasonable steps to comply with such recommendation, unless the Authority shall upon the application of the Transporters give Condition A11(18) Approval to its not doing so.

## **11 GENERAL**

## **11.1 Suppliers and Consumers**

### 11.1.1 Where:

- (a) the Code provides for the Transporter to do anything at or affecting any Supply Point Premises or the offtake of gas from the Total System at any Supply Point;
- (b) in doing that thing the Transporter complies with the requirements of the Code and any other agreement with the User, supplier or consumer in relation thereto, does not act unlawfully, and is not negligent; and
- (c) by reason of the Transporter doing that thing the consumer or supplier suffers loss or damage or claims to have done so or otherwise makes any claim or complaint or brings any action or proceeding against the Transporter (other than pursuant to a contract between the Transporter and such consumer or supplier)

the User or each User which is (at the time at which the Transporter does such thing) the Registered User in respect of the relevant Supply Point shall indemnify the Transporter and hold it harmless against any liability to such consumer or supplier in respect of any such loss damage, claim, complaint, action or proceeding, and all costs and expenses incurred in connection therewith.

11.1.2 Nothing in the Code or a Framework Agreement or (except as may be expressly provided therein) an Ancillary Agreement shall be construed as imposing upon the Transporter any obligation or duty to or enforceable by a consumer or a supplier; and no User shall make any commitment to any supplier or consumer binding on or purporting to bind the Transporter.

11.1.3 Nothing in the Code, a Framework Agreement or any Ancillary Agreement shall prevent the Transporter from exercising any right or remedy which it may have against a consumer or supplier at law or pursuant to the Act or otherwise.

## **11.2 Transporter performance**

11.2.1 In relation to exercising its discretions and performing obligations under the Code the Transporter shall at all times:

- (a) act in a reasonable and prudent manner in relation to the management and operation of each of its Systems and, in the case of National Grid NTS, the National Grid LNG Storage Facilities; and
- (b) act reasonably and in good faith in its dealings with Users;

save that the foregoing shall not apply to the extent that:

- (i) there is any standard of performance already provided for by any statute, regulation or licence condition to which the Transporter is subject; or
- (ii) the Transporter would thereby be required to act in a manner which would conflict with any Legal Requirement.

11.2.2 For the avoidance of doubt the operation of this paragraph 11.3 shall not prevent the

Transporter from performing any obligation under the Code.

## **12 GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO UNC RELATED DOCUMENTS**

### **12.1 Purpose**

The purpose of this Section is to establish generic governance arrangements in respect of the following UNC Related Documents (each a **“Document”** and collectively the **“Documents”**):

- (a) Network Code Operations Reporting Manual as referenced in Section V9.4;
- (b) Network Code Validation Rules referenced in Section M1.5.3;
- (c) ECQ Methodology as referenced in Section Q6.1.1(c); and
- (d) Measurement Error Notification Guidelines for NTS to LDZ and LDZ to LDZ Measurement Installations as referenced in OAD Section D3.1.5.
- (e) the Allocation of Unidentified Gas Document referenced in Section E9.1.1.

### **12.2 Publication Requirements**

Each Document shall be kept up to date and published by the Transporters on the Joint Office of Gas Transporters website.

### **12.3 Modifications**

Should a User or Transporter wish to propose modifications to any of the Documents, such proposed modifications shall be submitted to the Uniform Network Code Committee and considered by the Uniform Network Committee or any relevant sub-committee where the Uniform Network Committee so decide by majority vote.

### **12.4 Approved Modifications**

12.4.1 If the event that the a proposed modification is approved by a majority vote of the Uniform Network Code Committee, the modification shall be implemented. Where the Uniform Network Code Committee fails to achieve majority approval the proposed modification shall be considered in accordance with the provisions set out in Section 7 of the Uniform Network Code Modification Rules unless the Uniform Network Code Committee determines otherwise.

12.4.2 Each revised version of a Document shall be version controlled and retained by the Transporters. It shall be made available on the Joint Office of Gas Transporters website.

## **13 NTS CONNECTIONS**

### **13.1 Connection Applications**

13.1.1 If a User or any other person (the **“Connection Applicant”**) wishes to request:

- (a) a connection to the NTS at a new (as yet unbuilt) NTS System Point; or

- (b) the modification of an existing NTS System Point;

then the Connection Applicant shall complete and submit to National Grid NTS an application (in the form prescribed by National Grid NTS from time to time) (the “**Connection Application**”) and comply with the terms thereof. In addition, and at the same time, the Connection Applicant shall pay the relevant fee (the “**Connection Application Fee**”).

13.1.2 A Connection Application shall be a “Competent Connection Application” where:

- (a) the application form has been correctly and fully completed;
- (b) the requested technical data has been fully provided; and
- (c) the relevant Connection Application Fee has been paid in full and is available to National Grid NTS in cleared funds.

13.1.3 National Grid NTS shall:

- (a) as soon as reasonably practicable, and in any case no more than two (2) Business Days from the date of receipt of the Connection Application, acknowledge receipt of such Connection Application;
- (b) as soon as reasonably practicable;
  - (i) confirm that it is a Competent Connection Application (no more than five (5) Business Days after the date that the Connection Application is deemed to be a Competent Connection Application); or
  - (ii) advise the Connection Applicant that the offer is not a Competent Connection Application and specify the reasons that the Connection Application is not a Competent Connection Application; and
- (c) where it considers that further information or data is required in order for it to consider or progress the Connection Application, request such further information or data from the Connection Applicant. The Connection Applicant shall provide the requested information or data as soon as reasonably practicable and in any case no more than five (5) Business Days after the date of receipt of the request from National Grid NTS.

13.1.4 Where a submitted Connection Application is not a Competent Connection Application, the Connection Applicant may resubmit, amend or supplement the Connection Application and the provisions of paragraph 13.1.3 shall apply in relation to such resubmitted, amended or supplemented Connection Application.

13.1.5 The Connection Applicant may withdraw, by written notification to National Grid NTS, a Connection Application at any time before a Connection Offer is made. In relation to the withdrawal of a Full Connection Application only, the Connection Application Fee shall be refunded to the Connection Applicant less a deduction for actual costs (including reasonable overheads) reasonably incurred by National Grid NTS in progressing the Connection Application up to the date of withdrawal.

## 13.2 Connection Application Fees

- 13.2.1 The Connection Application Fee in relation to an Initial Connection Application shall be:
- (a) the same monetary value for all categories of NTS connections; and
  - (b) a fixed, full and final amount that shall not be subject to any adjustment by National Grid NTS once paid by the Connection Applicant (nor shall the Connection Applicant be entitled to any refund of part of the Connection Application Fee).
- 13.2.2 Following the issue of a Full Connection Offer or the withdrawal of a Full Connection Application by the Connection Applicant, or where National Grid NTS has not provided a Full Connection Offer as set out in paragraph 13.4.3; National Grid NTS shall calculate the total actual costs (including a reasonable overhead) reasonably incurred by National Grid NTS in progressing the Full Connection Application and preparing and issuing the Full Connection Offer, including undertaking all necessary design and engineering studies and preparing the relevant agreement for undertaking the detailed design of the connection and the associated physical construction works (“**Construction Agreement**”). Where these costs are less than the Connection Application Fee paid by the Connection Applicant, National Grid NTS shall refund such difference to the Connection Applicant. Where these costs are greater than the Connection Application Fee paid by the Connection Applicant, National Grid NTS shall invoice the Connection Applicant for the difference.
- 13.2.3 For the avoidance of doubt, no such reconciliation shall be undertaken in relation to an Initial Connection Offer or, an Initial Connection Application.
- 13.2.4 The Connection Application Fees will be reviewed, updated and published in accordance with Uniform Network Code Transportation Principal Document - Section Y, Connection Charging Methodology, Section 2, paragraphs 25A and 25B.

### 13.3 Types of Connection Offers

- 13.3.1 A “**Connection Offer**” shall be either an Initial Connection Offer or a Full Connection Offer, and the Connection Application shall identify the type of Connection Offer being applied for. For the purposes of the Code:
- (a) an “**Initial Connection Offer**” is an early estimate of the physical construction costs, programme of works and layout of the proposed Connection based only on a desktop exercise by National Grid NTS and will provide the Connection Applicant with the information as described at paragraph 13.4.1 and a draft Construction Agreement (unless waived by the Applicant at the point of Application). An Initial Connection Offer may only be applied for in relation to a single point of connection to the NTS, and not for the purposes of exploring multiple options or locations to connect to the NTS;
  - (b) a “**Full Connection Offer**” is a detailed estimate of the physical construction costs, programme of works and layout of the proposed Connection based on design and engineering studies and will provide the Connection Applicant with the information as described at paragraph 13.4.2 and a draft Construction Agreement. For the avoidance of doubt, there will still be a detailed design and build stage after the Full Connection Offer is provided;

- (c) an **“Initial Connection Application”** is a Connection Application in relation to an Initial Connection Offer; and
- (d) a **“Full Connection Application”** is a Connection Application in relation to a Full Connection Offer.

### 13.4 Content of Connection Offers

#### 13.4.1 An Initial Connection Offer shall comprise, as a minimum:

- (a) an estimate of the Connection Applicant’s financial liabilities in relation to construction works costs that would be incurred in providing the requested connection to the NTS, together with details of the indicative timing of payments in respect of such costs, including provision for reconciliation of actual costs post-construction, where reasonably incurred by National Grid NTS;
- (b) an indicative programme of the proposed construction works, including an indication of whether NTS reinforcement may be required, the indicative completion date and the key milestones;
- (c) the proposed indicative location of the proposed Connection and a draft connection layout drawing;
- (d) a draft Construction Agreement, unless the Connection Applicant has advised National Grid NTS that it does not require a draft Construction Agreement to be provided as part of the Initial Connection Offer;
- (e) an indication of the works required by National Grid NTS to produce a Full Connection Offer (should the Connection Applicant submit a Full Connection Application based on the Initial Connection Offer); and
- (f) details of the Connection Application Fee that would be payable by the Connection Applicant in relation to a Full Connection Application (should the Connection Applicant submit a Full Connection Application based on the Initial Connection Offer), which fee would be subject to reconciliation as set out in paragraph 13.2.2.

#### 13.4.2 A Full Connection Offer shall comprise, as a minimum:

- (a) a copy of any relevant design or engineering study report, as required by National Grid NTS to make the Full Connection Offer and paid for by the Applicant as part of the Application Fee;
- (b) a draft Construction Agreement in relation to the proposed construction works;
- (c) an indicative programme of the proposed construction works, including as a minimum:
  - (i) the anticipated dates on which the connection will be available to the Connection Applicant for testing and commissioning and commercial operation, with details as to how such dates are contingent on any relevant planning or other consents being obtained;

- (ii) details of the location of the proposed Connection, including Ordnance Survey (or equivalent) map with grid references and a site layout drawing;
- (iii) an indicative project plan containing:
  - (1) an indicative milestone date when National Grid NTS would expect to apply to the Authority to include or revise a revenue driver in its Gas Transporter's Licence (where applicable);
  - (2) an indicative earliest milestone date at which System Capacity could be applied for by a User in order for the Connection Applicant to align its capacity needs with the indicative connection completion date;
  - (3) an indicative milestone date by when the relevant Network Exit Agreement, Network Entry Agreement, Storage Connection Agreement or Supplemental Agreement has to be signed (as appropriate and where applicable); and
  - (4) an indicative programme of works to deliver the requested connection or modification including:
    - (aa) an overall project timeline and key milestone dates;
    - (bb) details of payment milestones;
    - (cc) any credit requirements;
    - (dd) indicative dates for purchase of long-lead items; and
    - (ee) details of any additional activities or studies required if the Connection Offer is accepted, including the indicative cost of such activities or studies.

For the avoidance of doubt, the indicative project plan is intended to be used as guidance only to assist the Connection Applicant with general project planning and in no way does it oblige National Grid NTS to make System Capacity available at the NTS System Point.

- (iv) any foreseeable planning and other consent milestone dates;
  - (v) where National Grid NTS is requested by the Connection Applicant to construct the connecting pipeline, an indication of the potential size and route corridor of any connecting pipeline to be constructed by National Grid NTS subject to the outcome of any planning application National Grid NTS may have to submit in relation to such pipeline; and
  - (vi) an indicative draft of any relevant Network Exit Agreement, Network Entry Agreement, Storage Connection Agreement or Supplemental Agreement (or amendment thereto) (as appropriate and where applicable) that has to be signed in relation to the relevant NTS System Point, which shall include the relevant technical parameters;
- (d) the Full Connection Offer shall contain an estimate of the construction works costs to be paid by the Connection Applicant pursuant to the draft Construction Agreement, together with dates on which payments in respect of such amounts would be due to be made, if the Full Connection Offer is accepted.

13.4.3 Where a physical connection (as requested pursuant to the Full Connection Application) to the NTS is not deemed by National Grid NTS (acting reasonably) to be feasible for technical or engineering reasons, National Grid NTS shall not be required to produce the relevant Full Connection Offer and shall provide written notification to the

Connection Applicant and the Authority, with an explanation why physical connection (and therefore provision of a Full Connection Offer) is not possible.

### 13.5 Connection Offers

13.5.1 National Grid NTS shall issue a Connection Offer to the Connection Applicant as soon as reasonably practicable and in any event within:

- (a) in the case of an Initial Connection Offer, within two (2) months of the date on which National Grid NTS notifies the Connection Applicant that the relevant Initial Connection Application is a Competent Connection Application; and
- (b) in the case of a Full Connection Offer, within:
  - (i) six (6) months (where the connection point requested by the Connection Applicant is in a greenfield location (being a location that has not previously been the subject of development) and the Full Connection Offer is in respect of a minimum offtake connection to the NTS with a ramp rate of less than 50MW/minute); or
  - (ii) nine (9) months (in all other cases);(or such longer time as the Authority may agree, or be deemed to have agreed, pursuant to paragraph 13.5.2) of the date on which National Grid NTS has confirmed to the Connection Applicant that the Connection Application is a Competent Connection Application (the “**Connection Offer Deadline**”).

13.5.2 Where National Grid NTS reasonably believes that it will be unable to issue a Connection Offer to the Connection Applicant by the Connection Offer Deadline, National Grid NTS may apply to the Authority for an extension to the Connection Offer Deadline. The Connection Offer Deadline shall be extended as directed by the Authority in response to such application. Pending any decision by the Authority in response to such application, the Connection Offer Deadline shall remain as determined pursuant to paragraph 13.5.1.

13.5.3 To accept a Full Connection Offer, the Connection Applicant must sign and return the Construction Agreement contained within such Full Connection Offer, which will then be countersigned by National Grid NTS and a copy returned to the Connection Applicant.

13.5.4 An Initial Connection Offer is not an offer capable of acceptance and is not binding on National Grid NTS or the Connection Applicant and in order to proceed further, the Connection Applicant must submit a Full Connection Application.

13.5.5 A Connection Offer will be open for acceptance by the Connection Applicant for a period of three (3) months from the date of the Connection Offer. Failure by the Connection Applicant to accept the Connection Offer within such three (3) month period will cause the Connection Offer to lapse and any subsequent purported acceptance of the Connection Offer by the Connection Applicant may be treated as null and void by National Grid NTS.

13.5.6 A feasibility study will be required in order to be able to provide a Full Connection Offer to the Connection Applicant except where the connection point requested by the Connection Applicant is in a greenfield location (being a location that has not



previously been the subject of development) and the Full Connection Offer is in respect of a minimum offtake connection to the NTS with a ramp rate of less than 50MW/minute. Where a feasibility study is required in order to be able to provide a Full Connection Offer:

- (a) National Grid NTS shall undertake such feasibility study and shall provide the Connection Applicant with a copy of the resulting feasibility study report within three (3) months of the date on which National Grid NTS notifies the Connection Applicant that the Full Connection Application is a Competent Connection Application;
- (b) no later than three (3) months after receipt of the feasibility study report, the Connection Applicant may notify National Grid NTS that it wishes National Grid NTS to provide a Full Connection Offer based on the feasibility study report (provided that, where the feasibility study report contains specific questions for the Connection Applicant to answer, the Connection Applicant has provided sufficiently detailed answers to such questions within such three (3) month period;
- (c) the time between (i) National Grid NTS providing the feasibility study report to the Connection Applicant and (ii) the Connection Applicant notifying National Grid NTS that it wishes National Grid NTS to provide a Full Connection Offer based on the feasibility study report (and, where applicable, providing sufficiently detailed answers to any specific questions set out in the feasibility study report) shall be discounted when determining whether National Grid NTS has complied with its obligation under paragraph 13.5.1; and
- (d) if, by the date falling three (3) months after receipt of the feasibility study report, the Connection Applicant has not notified National Grid NTS that it wishes National Grid NTS to provide a Full Connection Offer based on the feasibility study report, then the Connection Applicant shall be deemed to have given notice to National Grid NTS to terminate work on the Full Connection Application.

### **13.6 Modification of a Full Connection Offer**

13.6.1 Where, after a Full Connection Offer has been made and accepted, the Connection Applicant wishes to request an amendment to the whole or part of the Full Connection Offer, a “**Connection Offer Modification Application**” (in the form prescribed by National Grid NTS) must be submitted by the Connection Applicant to National Grid NTS.

13.6.2 A Connection Offer Modification Application shall be deemed to be a Full Connection Application and the provisions of this paragraph 13 shall apply accordingly, provided that:

- (a) the Connection Application Fee in relation to a Connection Offer Modification Application shall be either:
  - (i) an amount as may be mutually agreed by the Applicant and National Grid NTS; or
  - (ii) in the absence of such agreement, 75% of the Connection Offer

Application Fee which was paid by the Connection Applicant for the relevant Full Connection Offer;

- (b) the Full Connection Offer shall be based on the original Full Connection Application as modified by the Connection Offer Modification Application (and so paragraph 13.4.2 shall be deemed to be amended accordingly); and
- (c) references in this paragraph 13 to the Construction Agreement shall be references to an agreement to amend the Construction Agreement signed by the Connection Applicant in accepting the original Full Connection Offer.

### **13.7 Information Publication Requirements**

13.7.1 For the purposes of the Connections Offer process, National Grid NTS shall publish the following information on its public website:

- (a) a draft standard form of Construction Agreement for different connection types;
- (b) a draft generic Advance Reservation of Capacity Agreement, Network Exit Agreement, Network Entry Agreement and Storage Connection Agreement;
- (c) generic technical specifications and standards associated with the Connection Offer processes which are not site-specific;
- (d) a generic Connection Offer template; and
- (e) Connection Application templates.

13.7.2 National Grid NTS shall publish the following information on a quarterly basis:

- (a) the number of Competent Connection Applications for Connection Offers (received in the previous quarter and the cumulative total for the calendar year in question);
- (b) the cumulative total for the calendar year in question of Full Connection Offers made in accordance with the timescales set out in paragraph 13.5.1; and
- (c) the cumulative total for the calendar year in question of Initial Connection Offers made in accordance with the timescales set out in paragraph 13.5.1.

### **13.8 Applicant Requested Pre-Connection Studies**

13.8.1 Where a potential Connection Applicant wishes to explore options for connecting to the NTS, a “**Pre-Connection Study**” may be requested. Such a Pre-Connection Study request shall not, for the avoidance of doubt, be a Connection Application for the purposes of the Code. Following receipt of such a request, National Grid NTS shall seek to agree the terms on which it will undertake any such study with the person submitting the request.

13.8.2 If such a Pre-Connection Study is undertaken by National Grid NTS pursuant to such a request and produces data or information which can be re-used for the purposes of a subsequent Connection Offer to the potential Connection Applicant, then the Application Fee and timescales for such a subsequent Connection Offer may, at

National Grid NTS' discretion, be reduced accordingly.

- 13.8.3 For the avoidance of doubt, the carrying out of a Pre-Connection Study is not a pre-requisite for submitting either an Initial Connection Application or a Full Connection Application.

## **14 THEFT OF GAS**

### **14.1 Reporting**

- 14.1.1 The Transporters shall publish a report (at the end of each reporting month) on theft of gas detection performance for Shippers containing the information referred to in Annex V-6 in respect of each Shipper (on an attributable basis) ("**Shipper TOG Report**").
- 14.1.2 The Transporters shall publish a report (at the end of each reporting month) on theft of gas detection performance for Transporters containing the information in Annex V-7 in respect of each Transporter (on an attributable basis) ("**Transporter TOG Report**").
- 14.1.3 For the purposes of this paragraph 14, "**reporting month**" shall mean each calendar month for which a report pursuant to paragraph 14.1.1 and 14.1.2 shall be published.

**Annex V-1**

**Operational and Market Data**

<b>Column</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Description</b>		
1	Data	data definition and indication of the time period to which the data corresponds		
2	Timing	initial publication timing and where appropriate, timing of updates if the data is subject to any change		
3	Format	tabular, graphical, other		
4	Presentation	downloadable, viewable or both		
5	Disclosure	public or restricted (and if restricted, list of entities to whom the data can be released)		
<b>Data</b>	<b>Timing</b>	<b>Format</b>	<b>Presentation</b>	<b>Disclosure</b>
The rate of flow of gas (in MSCM per Day) over a 2 minute period into the NTS from each National Grid LNG Storage Facility	Every 12 minutes, in respect of the six 2 minute periods commencing 24 minutes before the time of publication and ending 12 minutes before the time of publication	Tabular	Viewable	Public
The rate of flow of gas (in MSCM per Day) over a 2 minute period into the NTS at each Individual System Entry Point capable of flowing (in aggregate) more than 10 MSCM per Day of gas into the System.	Every 12 minutes, in respect of the six 2 minute periods commencing 24 minutes before the time of publication and ending 12 minutes before the time of publication.	Tabular	Viewable	Public
The rate of flow of gas (in MSCM per Day) over a 2 minute period into the NTS at each Aggregate System Entry Point capable of flowing (in aggregate) more than 10 MSCM per Day of gas into the System.	Every 12 minutes, in respect of the six 2 minute periods commencing 24 minutes before the time of publication and ending 12 minutes before the time of publication.	Tabular	Viewable	Public
The aggregate physical quantity of gas offtaken from the System in the Preceding Gas Flow Day at the Connected System Exit Point in respect of each	By 11:00 hours on each Day	Tabular	Viewable	Public

pipeline interconnector by which gas is transported to another country				
The aggregate physical quantity of gas offtaken from the System in the preceding Gas Flow Day at each NTS Exit Point, (not including the quantity of NTS own use gas).	By 12:00 hours on each Day	Tabular	Viewable	Public
The aggregate physical LNG in store (in kWh) at LNG Importation Facilities at 05:59 hours on the Preceding Gas Flow Day: provided that, where not all LNG Importation Facilities have provided such data to National Grid NTS by the time specified in the next column as being the time for publication, then National Grid NTS shall publish that such aggregate is unknown (and shall not be required to publish the information received from any LNG Importation Facility).	By 16:00 hours on each Day	Tabular	Viewable	Public
For each Aggregate System Entry Point capable of flowing (in aggregate) more than 10 MSCM per Day of gas into the System which does not have an associated System Exit Point, the aggregate prevailing Input Nominations for such Aggregate System Entry Point in respect of the following Day.	By 18:00 hours on each Day	Tabular	Viewable	Public
For each Aggregate	By 18:00 hours on	Tabular	Viewable	Public

<p>System Entry Point capable of flowing (in aggregate) more than 10 MSCM per Day of gas into the System which has one or more associated System Exit Points, the sum (including where negative) of aggregate prevailing Input Nominations for such Aggregate System Entry Point less aggregate prevailing Output Nominations for such associated System Exit Point(s), in each case in respect of the following Day.</p>	<p>each Day</p>			
<p>For each Day:                  (i) the total Trade Nomination Quantities (in TWh);                  (ii) the aggregate quantity (in TWh) of all Input Nominations for all Users prevailing at the end of the Gas Flow Day;                  (iii) the total number of Disposing Trade Nominations and corresponding Acquired Trade Nominations; and                  (iv) the total number of Users that have submitted a Trade Nomination.</p>	<p>On D+2 by 1300 hours each Day</p>	<p>Tabular and graphical</p>	<p>Viewable and downloadable</p>	<p>public</p>

**Annex V-2**

**SO Commodity Charge Information**

<b>Annex V-2</b>	<b>SO Commodity Charge Information</b>			
<b>SO Commodity Charge Information description</b>	<b>Licence definition</b>	<b>period</b>	<b>reporting deadline</b>	<b>location</b>
forecast of annual System throughput for Formula Year t	N/A	Formula Year	On 1 April or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter in Formula Year t-1	www.nationalgrid.com/uk/gas
forecast of monthly System throughput for Formula Year t	N/A	Formula Year	On 1 April or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter in Formula Year t-1	www.nationalgrid.com/uk/gas
actual weekly System throughput	N/A	Formula Year to date	9 Days after week end	www.nationalgrid.com/uk/gas
annual target cost for each of the Relevant SO Incentive Schemes for Formula Year t	NTS SO exit capacity incentive targets (ExCITt) & (ExITt), system reserve incentive target (SRITt), cost incentive target (GCITt), internal cost incentive target (ICITt).	Formula Year	On 1 April or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter in Formula Year t-1	www.nationalgrid.com/uk/gas
forecast monthly target cost for each of the Relevant SO Incentive Schemes for Formula Year t	N/A	Formula Year	On 1 April or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter in Formula Year t-1	www.nationalgrid.com/uk/gas
sum of weekly outturn costs	The exit performance measure (ExCPt), The NTS SO system balancing costs (SBICt), The	Formula Year to date	62 Days after week end	www.nationalgrid.com/uk/gas

<b>Annex V-2</b>	<b>SO Commodity Charge Information</b>			
for the Relevant SO Incentive Schemes	internal cost performance measure (ICCpt)			
quarterly outturn costs for each of the Relevant SO Incentive Schemes	The exit performance measure (ExCPt), The NTS SO system balancing costs (SBICt), The internal cost performance measure (ICCpt)	Formula Year to date	62 Days after quarter end	<a href="http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/gas">www.nationalgrid.com/uk/gas</a>



Where:

t	means the relevant Formula Year;
t-1	means the Formula Year prior to the relevant Formula Year;
week	means the seven day period from 06:00 hours on a Monday until 06:00 hours on the following Monday;
throughput	means (actual inputs to the System + sum of UDQOs) / 2
Relevant SO Incentive Schemes	means exit capacity investment incentive, system balancing incentive and internal cost incentive schemes as defined by the Licence;
Licence	means the Transporter's Licence;
Formula Year	means a period of twelve months commencing on 1 April at 06:00 hours.

**Annex V-3**  
**Transportation Revenue Information**

1. For the purposes of paragraph 5.12 the transportation revenue information is forecast revenue and actual revenue, for the immediately preceding month and each calendar month prior thereto in the relevant Formula Year, in each case in respect of each of the categories of charges referred to in Table 1 below.
2. For the purposes of this Annex V-3:
  - (a) save as provided below, each of the categories of charges referred to in Table 1 below shall be consistent with those set out in the Transporter's Transportation Statement and shall include any charges subsequently introduced in substitution for any of the same;
  - (b) "**forecast revenue**" shall mean the NTS Operator's estimate of the revenue to be recovered in respect of each relevant calendar month, using such criteria as the NTS Operator shall reasonably consider appropriate and having regard to the provisions of the Transporter's Transportation Statement and any revenue or price control restrictions to which it may be subject from time to time (it being acknowledged that such estimate may be subject to revision from time to time);
  - (c) "**actual revenue**" shall mean such amount reasonably determined by the NTS Operator on an accruals basis (based on such information as is reasonably available to it at the relevant time) of revenue recovered or to be recovered in respect of each relevant calendar month (it being acknowledged that such amount may be subject to re-determination from time to time); and
  - (d) "**relevant Formula Year**" shall mean the Formula Year in which the immediately preceding month falls.

Table 1 – Categories of Charges

- NTS Entry Capacity charges
- NTS (TO) Exit Capacity Charges
- NTS (TO) Commodity Charges
- NTS (SO) Commodity Charges

Transportation activity charges in respect of each distribution network (being all LDZ related charges referred to in the Transportation Statement in so far as such charges are relevant to that distribution network).

**Annex V-4**

**Table of required information**

Revenue element	Annual target (projected forward for 5 years)*	Quarterly reforecast of annual outturn (difference)
Core allowed (Z) <sup>s</sup>		Not applicable
Cost pass through (F) <sup>s</sup>		
Incentive payments and adjustments, shrinkage, exit cap, IAE, MRA etc. <sup>s</sup>		
Inflation rate assumed		Update with latest RPI data
Over/under recovery (K) <sup>s</sup>	Not applicable	
Supplemental information derived from the above		
Final allowed revenue (MOD)	Not applicable	
Final allowed revenue forecast (MOD)	Not applicable	
Forecast collected revenue	Not applicable	
Arithmetical Price change required at next Charging year	Not applicable	
Commentary, definitions and assumptions <sup>#</sup>	To assist in the understanding of the data presented	To assist in the understanding of the data presented

**Annex V-5**

**Table of Supply Meter and Supply Meter Point data fields available (subject to verification) to the Registered Metering Applicant upon request**

<b>Data Field Name</b>
meter point reference number*
meter serial number
supply point address
meter status
confirmation effective date
supplier
LDZ identifier
device type (meter)
fitted date (meter)
Gas Act Owner (Meter)
number of dials (meter)
manufacturer (meter)
model (meter)
units (meter)
correction factor
year of manufacture (meter)
device status (meter)
meter capacity
serial number (corrector)
device type (corrector)
fitted date (corrector)
number of dials (corrector)

manufacturer (corrector)
model (corrector)
units (corrector)
year of manufacture (corrector)
device status (corrector)
link code (meter)
meter mechanism
meter point status

\* the meter point reference number will be that provided by the Registered Metering Applicant, and against which data is to be provided. Data will only be provided where the Registered Metering Applicant is the Registered Metering Applicant as recorded against the Supply Meter in UK Link.

**Annex V-6**

**Shipper TOG Report Data**

<b>Column</b>	<b>Data</b>
<b>Shipper Short Code / DNO Name</b>	The unique code which identifies each Shipper Licence or the DNO Name.
<b>Number of cases received</b>	The number of theft of gas cases received by the Transporter Agency during the reporting month.
<b>Number of cases cleared</b>	The number of theft of gas cases that have closed during the reporting month.
<b>Number of cases still outstanding</b>	The number of theft of gas cases that remain open at the end of the reporting month.
<b>Number of cases cleared as valid</b>	The number of theft of gas cases that have closed during the reporting month for which gas has been confirmed as being illegally taken.
<b>Number of cases cleared as invalid</b>	The number of theft of gas cases that have closed during the reporting month for which it has not been confirmed that gas was illegally taken.
<b>Number of cases cleared and kWh provided</b>	The number of theft of gas cases that have closed during the reporting month for which the kWh has been provided or calculated.
<b>Total kWh provided</b>	The total amount of kWh which has been reported to have been illegally taken for the closed cases for the Shipper in the reporting month.
<b>Number of cases cleared – Shipper actioned</b>	The number of theft of gas cases that have closed during the reporting month which have been investigated by the Shipper during the reporting month.
<b>Total outstanding awaiting Shipper action</b>	The number of theft of gas cases that remain open and which are awaiting a response from a Shipper at the end of the reporting month.
<b>%Cleared Cases Subject to eighty (80) day Closures</b>	The percentage of the total number of closed cases which have been subject to the eighty (80) day automatic closure.
<b>Number of cases outstanding at eighty (80) days following receipt</b>	The number of theft of gas cases that have closed during the reporting month because the Shipper has not responded to a request for information after eighty (80) days.
<b>%Cleared Shipper actioned</b>	The percentage of the total number of theft of gas cases that have closed which have been investigated by the Shipper during the reporting month.

<b>Number of cases sent to Shipper for action</b>	The number of theft of gas cases that have been passed to the Shipper for its investigation during the reporting month.
<b>Reasonable Endeavours Claims Received</b>	The number of reasonable endeavours claims that have been received by the Transporter Agency in the reporting month.
<b>Reasonable Endeavours Claims Cleared.</b>	The number of reasonable endeavours claims that have been processed by Transporter Agency in the reporting month.
<b>Reasonable Endeavours Claims Rejected</b>	The number of reasonable endeavours claims that have been rejected by Transporter Agency in the reporting month.
<b>Reasonable Endeavours Claims Accepted</b>	The number of reasonable endeavours claims that have been invoiced by Transporter Agency in the reporting month.

**Annex V-7**

**Transporter TOG Report Data**

<b>Column</b>	<b>Data</b>
<b>Shipper Short Code / DNO Name</b>	The unique code which identifies each Shipper Licence or the DNO Name.
<b>Number of cases received</b>	The number of theft of gas cases received by the Transporter Agency during the reporting month.
<b>Number of cases cleared</b>	The number of theft of gas cases that have closed during the reporting month.
<b>Number of cases still outstanding</b>	The number of theft of gas cases that remain open at the end of the reporting month.
<b>Number of cases cleared as valid</b>	The number of theft of gas cases that have closed during the reporting month for which a gas has been confirmed as being illegally taken.
<b>Number of cases cleared as invalid</b>	The number of theft of gas cases that have closed during the reporting month for which it has not been confirmed that gas was illegally taken.
<b>Number of cases cleared and kWh provided</b>	The number of theft of gas cases that have closed during the reporting month for which the kWh has been provided or calculated.
<b>Total kWh provided</b>	The total amount of kWh which has been reported to have been illegally taken for the closed cases for the DNO in the reporting month.
<b>Number of cases cleared – Shipper actioned</b>	The number of theft of gas cases that have closed during the reporting month which have been investigated by the Shipper during the reporting month.
<b>Number of cases cleared – DNO actioned</b>	The number of theft of gas cases that have closed during the reporting month which have been investigated by the DNO.
<b>Revenue recovered</b>	The amount of revenue recovered following confirmation that gas has been illegally taken pursuant to DNO Licence Condition 7(2).



**Annex V-8****Historic Supply Meter Point Asset and Read Information**

The Transporter will provide to the Registered User, in respect of any Supply Meter at a Supply Meter Point comprised in a relevant Supply Point during the relevant period, the following details:

- (a) each Meter Reading held by the Transporter and the date of the Meter Reading, including:
  - (i) in respect of each meter or convertor exchange at the Supply Meter Point during the relevant period, the date of the meter or convertor exchange, the closing meter reading for the old Supply Meter and the first meter reading for the new Supply Meter or convertor;
  - (ii) in respect of each Supply Point Registration in relation to the Supply Meter Point during the relevant period, the Opening Meter Reading provided to the Transporter (pursuant to TPD Section M3.8.2) or estimated Reading (determined pursuant to TPD Section M3.8.5) and any Meter Readings provided to the Transporter under TPD Section M3.3 and the date of such Meter Reading;
  - (iii) in respect of Opening Meter Readings, where installed, the converted and unconverted reading of the convertor;
  - (iv) whether the Meter Reading triggered a User Suppressed Reconciliation Value or a Suppressed Reconciliation Value; and
- (b) in relation to the Supply Meter:
  - (i) the model name;
  - (ii) meter serial number, dials and digits;
  - (iii) metric/imperial indicator;
  - (iv) the convertor number of dials;
  - (v) the applicable conversion factor; and
  - (vi) the meter/convertor round the clock count.

