iGT UNC / iGT INC Modification Proposal

Date	23rd March 2009
Urgency	Non-urgent
Reference	UGI035/GTC0344/GPL043
Status	For Consultation
Title	Mandatory Use of Defined CSV File Formats for Change of Supply and Change of Supply Meter Readings
Proposer	GTC, GPL, UGI (Paul Edwards)
iGT UNC / Pipeline Operator	iGT INCs of GTC, GPL and UGI
Modification Proposal Dates	*Circulation: 17/04/2009* *Response: 11/05/2009* *Circulation of DMR: 02/06/2009* *Response to DMR: 23/06/2009* *FMR sent to authority: 19/08/2009* *Suggested Implementation date: June 2010 Release*

Urgency

Non-urgent

Background

GTC, GPL and UGI currently operate two different mechanisms for the Smaller Supply Point Change of Supply and Change of Supply Meter Readings process:

1. Change of Supply and Change of Supply Meter Readings based upon faxed templates, (initially developed for very low volumes via fax, which have since been adapted for electronic transmission); and
2. Change of Supply and Change of Supply Meter Readings via CSV File Formats (developed in collaboration with gas Shippers) which allows for manual processing or for part or full system automation so as to be fully inclusive of all market participants.

Of the "big 6" gas Suppliers, 4 currently use csv file transmission and 2 continue to use the fax based templates communicated electronically via e-mail.

GTC, GPL and UGI successfully amended their respective Individual Network Codes to reflect these arrangements in June 2008 so as to ensure robust governance mechanisms around the change control process in particular.

It is not efficient or economic for GTC, GPL or UGI to operate the change of supply process in two different ways, it also negatively impacts competition between Suppliers as the associated complexity in administration introduces opportunities for errors.

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GTC, GPL and UGI therefore wish to move to a single method of operating the change of supplier process and associated meter readings for smaller supply points – that being via CSV file as contained in [Appendix 1]

GTC understand the desire for Shippers to be able to operate with iGTs in a uniform manner wherever possible and we are fully supportive of the current project being carried out under the auspices of SPAA to develop this but it should be noted that this work does not impact upon this modification.

The Proposal

GTC, GPL and UGI wish to mandate the use of the attached CSV File Formats only in the Change of Supply and Change of Supply Meter readings process. This allows the Shipper to operate this mechanism either manually or by automation. We would propose that the Fax Forms be reserved for emergency use only where email transfer is suspended for a sufficient period as to impact the Change of Supply and Change of Supply Meter Readings timescales.

Suggested timescale for implementation

GTC, GPL and UGI propose an implementation date of 6 months from Authority consent as use of this mechanism may require system changes by some Parties.

How will the proposal operate?

The attached CSV File Formats will be inserted into the individual Network Codes as an Appendix and future changes will be conducted in line with modification procedures of the iGT UNC Section L. The attached Fax Forms will remain in the Individual Network Codes for emergency purposes only, as outlined above.

Facilitation of the relevant objectives

a) This will facilitate the efficient and economic operation of the pipe-line system to which this licence relates by removing the complexity and associated cost of supporting 2 different processes for change of supply;

b) This will facilitate the co-ordinated, efficient and economic operation of the pipe-line system of one or more other relevant Transporters as this Modification Proposal consolidates the change of supply process for 3 gas transporters;

c) This will facilitate the efficient discharge of the licensees' obligations under these licences by allowing GTC, GPL and UGI to streamline their processes in order to comply with Standard Condition 31 – Supply Point Information Service and general obligations under the iGT UNC;

d) This will facilitate the securing of effective competition between relevant Shippers and between relevant Suppliers by reducing complexity in the administration of the change of supply process;

e) N/A;

f) This will facilitate efficiency in the implementation and administration of the individual network codes as future changes will be limited to one method of change of supply only.

Proposed Legal Text

Schedule 1

8. For Parts CI 13.1 to CI 13.6 (inclusive), Part CI 15 and Part E6 of the iGT UNC, System Communications for Existing Supply Points must be conducted solely in accordance with Appendix 1, unless email transfer is suspended for a sufficient period as to impact the Change of Supply and Change of Supply Meter Readings timescales, and as agreed between GTC/GPL/UGI and the relevant Shipper, when Appendix 2 may be used for that period of email suspension only.

Completed forms should be returned to the iGT UNC Representative, Gemserv Ltd at iGT-UNC@gemserv.com or faxed to 020 7090 1001

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