

Modification proposal:	Independent Gas Transporter (iGT) Uniform Network Code (UNC): 'Alteration to Procedures for Modification Proposals to be discussed at iGT UNC Modification Panel' (iGT UNC 010)		
Decision:	The Authority ¹ directs that this proposal be made		
Target audience:	Gemserv, Parties to the iGT UNC and other interested parties		
Date of publication:	07 February 2008	Implementation Date:	To be confirmed by the Representative of the iGT UNC

Background to the modification proposal

The procedures for modifying the iGT UNC are set out in Section L – 'Modification rules', in accordance with Standard Condition 9, paragraphs 7 and 8 of the Gas Transporters Licence. These rules, amongst other things, govern the procedures of the iGT UNC Panel.

The modification proposal

This modification proposal seeks to remove a provision from the UNC modification rules which would currently require the panel to convene if the Representative² receives a modification proposal more than 15 Business Days ahead of its next scheduled meeting.

iGT UNC Panel³ recommendation

At its meeting of 19 December 2007 the iGT UNC Panel unanimously recommended implementation of iGT UNC 010.

The Authority's decision

The Authority has considered the issues raised by the modification proposal and the Final Modification Report (FMR) dated 2 January 2008. The Authority has considered and taken into account the responses to the Representatives consultation on the modification proposal, which are attached to the FMR⁴.

The Authority has concluded that implementation of the modification proposal will better facilitate the achievement of the relevant objectives of the iGT UNC⁵.

Reasons for the Authority's decision

We note that all of the respondents to the consultation supported the implementation of this proposal, though there were few substantive comments. Of those respondents who did provide comment, one suggested that the removal of this requirement will improve

¹ The terms 'the Authority', 'Ofgem' and 'we' are used interchangeably in this document. Ofgem is the Office of the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority.

² The Representative is the administrator of the iGT UNC, a role currently undertaken by Gemserv.

³ The iGT UNC Panel is established and constituted from time to time pursuant to and in accordance with the iGT UNC Modification Rules.

⁴ iGT UNC modification proposals, modification reports and representations can be viewed on the iGT UNC website at <http://www.igt-unc.co.uk/>

⁵ As set out in Standard Special Condition A11(1) of the Gas Transporters Licence, see: http://epr.ofgem.gov.uk/document_fetch.php?documentid=6547

clarity around the modification process, particularly the timescales by which they will be progressed. Another noted that the removal of the requirement will reduce the burden upon the iGT UNC panel, though it does not preclude ad hoc meetings if necessary.

We understand that this provision was originally intended to cover situations where there is a substantial period in between scheduled iGT UNC panel meetings. However, in practice the iGT UNC has met on a monthly basis and there is every indication that it will continue to do so. We therefore agree with those respondents who consider that the removal of this requirement will reduce the potential burden upon the iGT UNC panel members, whilst retaining their discretion to meet more frequently if appropriate, thereby better facilitating the achievement of relevant objective (f) *the promotion of efficiency in the implementation and administration of the Uniform Network Code*.

Decision notice

In accordance with Standard Condition 9 of the Gas Transporters Licence, the Authority, hereby directs that iGT UNC modification proposal 010: *'Alteration to Procedures for Modification Proposals to be discussed at iGT UNC Modification Panel'* be made.



Mark Feather,
Director of Industry Codes and Licensing, Corporate Affairs
Signed on behalf of the Authority and authorised for that purpose.