iGT UNC / iGT INC Draft Modification Report

Date	29 February 2008
Reference	iGT013V
Title	Inspection Notification File Format and Response File
Proposer	Marie Clark – ScottishPower Energy Management Limited
iGT UNC / Pipeline Operator	iGT UNC
Modification Proposal Dates	*Circulation: 18/01/2008* *Response: 08/02/2008* *Circulation of DMR:29/02/2008* *Response to DMR: 25/03/2008* *DFMR Published: 15/04/2008* *DFMR Presented to Panel: 16/04/2008* *FMR sent to authority: 23/04/2008*

The Proposal

In October 2003, a document "Operator Meter Reading (Cyclical Reads Only) & Meter Inspection File Formats" was produced following work undertaken by the Gas Forum Operator Workgroup recommending for Operator purposes that Users adopt the unbundled meter reading file formats for transmitting meter reads and inspection notifications to Operators. In addition, Operators would adopt unbundled meter read responses files. Representatives of Operators and Users actively engaged in the development of this document and the resulting recommended approach.

Details of the unbundled Meter Inspection file formats are noted below:

RT_N44_METER_INSPECTION_DATE
RT_N45_METER_INSPECTION_RESPONSE
RT_S72_REJECTION_DETAIL

A copy of the above file formats is attached for information. In addition, a working example of each file with populated data can be provided as supplementary information if required.

Variation

A variation was raised by the proposer on 15th January. The variation seeks to add further clarity by specifying the header, trailer and file naming convention of the file formats. No other changes have been made to the Modification. The variation iGT013V replaces iGT013.

Standard Header and Trailer

As recommended within the "Operator Meter Reading (Cyclical Reads Only) & Meter Inspection File Formats" it is proposed that a Header and Trailer is used for all files sent between Operators and Users. A copy of the header and trailer file formats is attached (HD_A00_Standard_Header and TR_Z99_Standard_Trailer).

File Naming Convention

The organisation sending the file should always use their 3-character organisation ID as set out in SPAA MDD. Also it should be for the relevant organisation within the group, for example, Users must use the reference organisation ID for the User licence that is

responsible for the supply point.

The generation number must always be sequential, per file type and per recipient. For example, User sends file, generation number xxxx(x).file type. The next file of the same type for the same recipient must therefore be sequential.

At present inspection notifications are provided to Operators utilising a modified version of the N44 file format. Confirmation of receipt and acceptance of these notifications are not presently received by the Proposer from all Operators. At present response files are received from only one Operator. The lack of governance regarding the formal notification of acceptance/rejection causes a number of difficulties for Users.

Users have no certainty that meter inspection notifications are being accurately recorded in Operator systems. When a Change of Supply takes place the Registering User may not be provided with the last meter inspection date by the Operator. This may result in the failure of the Meter Inspection taking place in line with statutory requirements.

This Modification seeks to mandate the use of the unbundled meter reading file formats for the submission by Users of Meter Inspections and for the acknowledgement of acceptance/rejection by Operators within prescribed timescales.

Suggested timescale for implementation

6 months from notice of implementation being received from the Authority.

Respondents' views

Individual responses can be viewed here.

Respondee	Response
RWE npower	Support

Facilitation of the relevant objectives

The Proposer believes that this modification proposal would further the relevant objectives as defined in Standard Condition 9 of the Gas Transporters Licence by ensuring that more valid Meter Readings are available for the calculation of AQ values and to allow for the undertaking of I&C reconciliations.

This will ensure greater accuracy of energy and cost allocations and so far as is consistent with sub-paragraphs (a) to (c) of Condition 9 will secure effective competition between relevant shippers and relevant suppliers.

Implementation issues

One Pipeline Operator highlighted that, although not an issue for their company, other Operators may have to carry out system improvements to facilitate this Modification.

Proposed Legal Text

iGT UNC Section E – Meter Reading

Insert New Clause 3.6

3.6 Pipeline Users will submit notifications of meter inspections to Pipeline Operators using file formats as detailed in Appendix E1.

Create a new Appendix E1 to the iGT UNC

HD_A00_STANDARD_HEADER

Record/Field Name	OPT	DOM	LNG	DEC	DESCRIPTION
TRANSACTION_TYPE	M	T	3	0	A code identifying the type of request that this record represents. VALUE : A00
ORGANISATION_ID	M	N	10	0	An reference which uniquely identifies a System User / Organisation.
FILE_TYPE	M	T	3	0	An application specific code used to identify the structure and the usage of the file.
CREATION_DATE	M	D	8	0	The date on which the file was generated. FORMAT : YYYYMMDD
CREATION_TIME	M	M	6	0	The time at which the file was generated (within the Creation Date). FORMAT : HHMMSS
GENERATION_NUMBER	M	N	6	0	A sequence number which represents an issue of a file from the System User (indicated by the organisation id), and, of the file type (indicated by file type) e.g. The first Nominations file from an System User will have the number 1, the second, number 2 etc. Each file sent either from a System User to Transco or from Transco to a System User within one file type must have consecutive numbers.
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RT_S72_REJECTION_DETAIL
(Reasons for the rejection of the request)

Record/Field Name	OPT	DOM	LNG	DEC	DESCRIPTION
TRANSACTION_TYPE	M	T	3	0	A code identifying the type of request that this record represents. VALUE : S72
REJECTION_REASON	M	T	8	0	A reason for the rejection of the original input request.
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RT_N45_METER_INSPECTION_RESPONSE
(The record structure for the N45 record type sent in the **MIO file** is as given below.

Record/Field Name	OPT	DOM	LNG	DEC	DESCRIPTION
TRANSACTION_TYPE	M	T	3	0	DEFINITION: A Code identifying the type of transaction that this record represents. Value: N45
OUTCOME_CODE	M	T	2	0	Details whether the request has been accepted or rejected by Transco. VALUES: AC - Accepted, RJ - Rejected
METER_POINT_REFERENCE	M	N	10	0	DEFINITION: A unique identifier for the point at which a meter is, has been or will be connected to the gas network. These references are less volatile than meter or service identifiers and do not change if the meter is replaced or the service is relayed to the same position. New Meter Point References will only be created for new services or when a service is related to a different position.
LAST_INSPECTION DATE	M	D	8	0	DEFINITION: Date of last meter Inspection. FORMAT: YYYYMMDD

RT_N44_METER_INSPECTION_DATE
(The record structure for the N44 record type sent in the **MID file** is as given below.

Record/Field Name	OPT	DOM	LNG	DEC	DESCRIPTION
TRANSACTION_TYPE	M	T	3	0	DEFINITION: A Code identifying the type of transaction that this record

					represents. Value: N44
METER_POINT_REFERENCE	M	N	10	0	DEFINITION: A unique identifier for the point at which a meter is, has been or will be connected to the gas network. These references are less volatile than meter or service identifiers and do not change if the meter is replaced or the service is relayed to the same position. New Meter Point References will only be created for new services or when a service is related to a different position.
LAST_INSPECTION DATE	M	D	8	0	DEFINITION: Date of last meter Inspection. FORMAT: YYYYMMDD

TR_Z99_STANDARD_TRAILER

Record/Field Name	OPT	DOM	LNG	DEC	DESCRIPTION
TRANSACTION_TYPE	M	T	3	0	DEF:A code identifying the type of information that this record contains. VALUE:Z99
RECORD_COUNT	M	N	10	0	DEF:The number of detail records contained within the file. This should not include the standard header and the standard trailer but should include any file specific headers if specified for this File, i.e. only A00 and Z99 records excluded.
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			247		