

Modification proposal:	<b>Independent Gas Transporter (iGT) Uniform Network Code (UNC): 'Panel Membership Rules' (iGT UNC 019)</b>		
Decision:	The Authority <sup>1</sup> directs that this proposal be made		
Target audience:	Gemserv, Parties to the iGT UNC and other interested parties		
Date of publication:	1 August 2008	Implementation Date:	To be confirmed by the Representative of the iGT UNC

## Background to the modification proposal

Following its review of the iGT UNC Modification Rules, the group set up for that purpose under iGT review proposal 001, concluded that amongst other things, there was currently a lack of clarity around the constitution of the iGT UNC Panel, particularly if the circumstances of any member were to change.

## The modification proposal

This modification seeks to introduce some additional points of clarity around the composition of the iGT UNC Panel, such that an individual will cease to be a member of the iGT UNC Panel if:

- They fail to attend, either in person or through an Alternate attendee, three consecutive meetings of the iGT UNC Panel;
- Their company ceases to be a Party to the iGT UNC; or
- They cease to be an employee of the iGT UNC Party.

## iGT UNC Panel<sup>2</sup> recommendation

At its meeting of 18 June 2008 the iGT UNC Panel unanimously recommended the implementation of iGT UNC 018.

## The Authority's decision

The Authority has considered the issues raised by the modification proposal and the Final Modification Report dated 27 June 2008. The Authority has concluded that:

1. implementation of the modification proposal would further the relevant objectives as defined in Standard Condition 9 of the Gas Transporters Licence<sup>3</sup>; and
2. directing that the modification be made and is consistent with the Authority's principal objective and statutory duties.

## Reasons for the Authority's decision

We note that this proposal received unanimous support, both from the respondents to the consultation and from the iGT UNC Panel, though there were few substantive comments. One respondent suggested that the modification would clarify what is

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

<sup>2</sup> The iGT UNC Panel is established and constituted from time to time pursuant to and in accordance with the iGT UNC Modification Rules.

<sup>3</sup> As set out in Standard Condition 9 of the Gas Transporters Licence, see: [http://epr.ofgem.gov.uk/document\\_fetch.php?documentid=13355](http://epr.ofgem.gov.uk/document_fetch.php?documentid=13355)

required of iGT UNC Panel members. Another suggested that the additional rules would ensure equality as no organisation could end up with more than one panel seat, presumably through their recruitment of an existing panel member.

Whilst we unaware of any problems with the existing panel membership rules, the fact that several Parties consider there is sufficient need for further clarity to raise and/or support this modification proposal suggests that there would be some benefits to this proposal. Although these benefits may be marginal, or least circumstantial, nor do we consider the costs to be significant. We consider that this improved clarity should better facilitate the achievement of relevant objective (f) *the promotion of efficiency in the implementation of the network code and/or the uniform network code* and have therefore decided to concur with the iGT UNC Panel recommendation.

### **Decision notice**

In accordance with Standard Condition 9 of the Gas Transporters Licence, the Authority, hereby directs that iGT UNC modification proposal 019: *'Panel Membership Rules'* be made.



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