

Modification proposal:	<b>Supply Point Administration Agreement (SPAA) Change Proposal (CP) 08/112 (CP08/112): Clarification of Clause 8.4 of Schedule 22 - SPAA Metering Schedule</b>		
Decision:	The Authority <sup>1</sup> directs that this proposal be made <sup>2</sup>		
Target audience:	SPAA Parties and other interested parties		
Date of publication:	3 September 2008	Implementation Date:	June 2009 scheduled release

## Background to the change proposal

On 4 May 2006 the Authority consented to SPAA Change Proposal 06/055, which introduced a new mandatory schedule into the SPAA, the '*SPAA Metering Schedule*'. This mandatory schedule builds upon the documentation produced as part of the Review of Gas Metering Arrangements (RGMA) project, setting out obligations upon parties which are considered necessary in order to ensure the RGMA processes work effectively. In particular, the schedule places specific obligations upon suppliers and their agents for the timely transfer of certain data items.

## The modification proposal

This change proposal was raised following a review of the SPAA Metering Schedule by the SPAA Expert Group<sup>3</sup>, which identified that there is currently some uncertainty around the appropriate trigger point to send a particular data transaction, namely the "K08" file. The recommendation of the Expert Group and subsequently the SPAA Executive Committee was that Schedule 22 be amended to clearly state that the trigger to send the K08 to the Transporter is the receipt of the "RNAGE" file from the Meter Asset Manager (MAM).

Clause 8.4 will therefore be amended to state:

"D) The K08 should be sent within two days of the acceptance by the MAM of their appointment. The trigger to send the K08 is the receipt of the MAM's acceptance of the appointment within the RNAGE.

## The Authority's decision

The Authority has considered the issues raised by the change proposal and has taken into account responses to the SPAA consultation and the views of the subsequent SPAA Change Board held on 17 July 2008. The Change Declaration form was submitted to the Authority on 8 August 2008 following the elapse of the SPAA appeal window. The Authority has concluded that:

<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> This document is notice of the reasons for this decision as required by section 38A of the Gas Act 1986.

<sup>3</sup> The Expert Group is a standing sub-group of the SPAA that provides an opportunity for industry participants to discuss SPAA issues, debate Draft Change Proposals and develop formal Change Proposals.

1. implementation of the change proposal will better facilitate the achievement of the relevant objectives of the SPAA<sup>4</sup>; and,
2. consenting to the change proposal being made is consistent with the Authority's principal objective and statutory duties<sup>5</sup>.

### **Reasons for the Authority's decision**

We note that this proposal received unanimous support both at the consultation stage and at the subsequent SPAA Change Board. The weighted voting results show that 100% of those parties able to vote support the implementation of this change proposal. The threshold for acceptance of change proposals is set at 65%.

Only one party provided comment on the proposal, recommending that the wording of the proposal be amended to state that the trigger to send the K08 file would be the receipt of the RNAGE file from the MAM, rather than the ONAGE file as stated in the original proposal. This party also stated that they would be unable to implement the change by the proposed February 2009 SPAA release, suggesting that it be delayed until November 2009. Following discussion of these points, the Change Board unanimously agreed to amend the proposal so that all references to ONAGE would be replaced with RNAGE. Taking on board the views on the respondent and the proposer, the Change Board also agreed to move the implementation date, but to June 2009 rather than November.

We were disappointed with the lack of detail in the change documentation, particularly the justification for the change. Although we understand the proposal was discussed at some length in the SPAA Expert Group and the subsequent Change Board, this is not reflected in the documentation which supports the request for consent. We recognise that this is a relatively minor change, but would encourage parties to provide further detail to support their views of future proposal, particularly in context of the relevant objectives of the SPAA.

However, we consider that the proposal is largely good housekeeping and to the extent it improves the clarity within the SPAA Metering Schedule, we agree with the proposer that it will better facilitate relevant objective c) of the SPAA '*the promotion of efficiency in the implementation and administration of the supply point administration arrangements*'.

### **Decision notice**

In accordance with Standard Condition 30 of the Gas Suppliers Licence, the Authority hereby consent that change proposal CP08/112: '*Clarification of Clause 8.4 of Schedule 22 - SPAA Metering Schedule*' be made.



**Mark Feather**  
**Director, Industry Codes and Licensing**

Signed on behalf of the Authority and authorised for that purpose.

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<sup>4</sup> As set out in Standard Condition 30 of the Gas Suppliers Licence, see:  
[http://epr.ofgem.gov.uk/document\\_fetch.php?documentid=13010](http://epr.ofgem.gov.uk/document_fetch.php?documentid=13010)

<sup>5</sup> The Authority's statutory duties are wider than the relevant objectives and are detailed mainly in the Gas Act 1986.