

To licensees:

Electricity North West Limited
Northern Powergrid (Northeast) plc
Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc
SP Distribution plc
SP Manweb plc
Scottish and Southern Energy Power Distribution: Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution plc
Scottish and Southern Energy Power Distribution: Southern Electric Power Distribution plc
UK Power Networks: London Power Networks plc
UK Power Networks: South Eastern Power Networks plc
UK Power Networks: Eastern Power Networks plc
National Grid Electricity Distribution (West Midlands) plc
National Grid Electricity Distribution (East Midlands) plc
National Grid Electricity Distribution (South Wales) plc
National Grid Electricity Distribution (South West) plc
National Gas Transmission plc (NTS)
Cadent Gas Limited
Northern Gas Networks Limited
Scotland Gas Networks plc
Southern Gas Networks plc
Wales & West Utilities Limited
National Grid Electricity Transmission plc
SP Transmission plc
Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc
National Energy System Operator Limited

Date: 8 October 2024

Direction under Special Condition 9.5 (Digitalisation) of the Electricity Distribution Licence, Electricity Transmission Licence and Gas Transporter Licence and Condition C3 of the Electricity System Operator Licence and Gas System Planner Licence to amend and issue the Data Best Practice Guidance and Digitalisation Strategy and Action Plan Guidance

1. The Gas and Electricity Markets Authority (the Authority)¹ issues this direction, under the following Licence Conditions to put into effect amendments to the Data Best Practice Guidance under the Licences listed below.

Licence Condition	Associated Document	Industry Sector
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¹ The terms “the Authority”, “we” and “us” are used interchangeably in this document.

Special Licence Condition (SpC) 9.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data Best Practice Guidance 	Electricity Transmission
SpC 9.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data Best Practice Guidance 	Electricity Distribution
SpC 9.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data Best Practice Guidance 	Gas Transmission
SpC 9.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data Best Practice Guidance 	Gas Distribution
C3 (Digitalisation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data Best Practice Guidance 	Electricity System Operator & Gas System Planner

1. Each of the companies to whom this direction is addressed is the holder of a licence granted or treated as granted under section 6(1)(b), 6(1)(c) or 6(1)(da) of the Electricity Act 1989, or section 7 or section 7AA of the Gas Act 1986.
2. On 22 April 2024, as part of the consultation on a change to the definition of Energy Systems Data in the Data Best Practice (DBP) Guidance, the Authority published on its website the text of the proposed revised definition of Energy Systems Data and stated that representations must be made on or before 13 June 2024.
3. We received nine representations, which we have carefully considered. We have published all non-confidential representations received on our website. Our response to these representations is set out in our decision document which can be found in the zip file located alongside the [published documents](#).
4. We have made changes to the proposed text of the Energy System Data definition in the DBP Guidance as a result of the consultation responses, which are detailed in full in our decision document and can be found alongside the [published document](#). The full text of the DBP Guidance, with a track change version compared with those published on 7 August 2023 can be found alongside the [published document](#).
5. The reason for this direction is to expand and clarify how we define Energy System Data in light of the changes coming into force through the Energy Act 2023. The change to the definition of Energy System Data will align the DBP Guidance with the changes to regulated entities already established by, or to be established by virtue of the Energy Act 2023.

6. Our reasons for the amendments to the Energy System Data definition in the DBP Guidance are set out in our consultation document² and decision document.³
7. This direction is our notice of reasons for the purposes of section 49A of the Electricity Act 1989 and section 38A of the Gas Act 1986.
8. Now the Authority, pursuant to the provisions of the licence conditions set out in paragraph 1, hereby directs that the change to the definition of Energy System Data in the Data Best Practice Guidance are issued and will have effect from 8 October 2024.

Name: Marzia Zafar

Job title: Deputy Director

Duly authorised for and on behalf of the Authority:

Date: 08/10/2024

² [Consultation on changing the definition of Energy Systems Data in Data Best Practice | Ofgem](#)

³ [Decision on definition of Energy System Data in data best practice guidance | Ofgem](#)