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value to customers*

Our Ref: Net/Cod/IPGT4
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23 August 2005

GTC Pipelines Ltd, Shippers and other parties.

Dear Colleague,

Modification Proposal GPL22: To allow the use of an Old Supplier Estimated Read (OSER) as a Change of Supplier Meter Reading.

Ofgem have considered the issues raised in this modification proposal and have decided to direct GTC Pipelines Ltd (GPL) to implement the proposal as we believe that it will better facilitate the relevant objectives of GPLs GT Licence.

Background to the Proposal

The Customer Transfer Programme (CTP) has identified a number of ways in which Change of Supplier Meter Readings can be processed as part of the customer transfer process. This modification proposal forms part of the end to end solutions put forward by the Customer Transfer Programme (CTP) and seeks to improve the efficiency, accuracy and robustness of the Change of Supplier Process by adding a new classification of meter read that can be accepted by the GT.

The Modification Proposal

This modification proposal seeks to codify a new category of acceptable meter read for the purposes of the Customer Transfer Process.

The CTP defines a process where the OSER will be sent by the Old Supplier to the New Supplier. The new supplier would then submit this meter read, via the confirming Shipper, to the GT to be used as a Change of Supplier Meter Reading.

Respondents' Views

GPL received two responses in relation to this modification proposal both of which supported its implementation. One respondent expressed the view that the proposal would help to improve the efficiency, accuracy and timeliness of the Change of Supplier process.

GPL's views

GPL supports the implementation of this modification proposal. GPL consider that allowing a new category of meter reading will contribute to a more proposal efficient, accurate and timely change of supplier process.

Ofgem's Views

This modification proposal forms part of the solutions suggested by the CTP as a means of improving the customer transfer process. Ofgem is supportive of changes that contribute to a more efficient customer transfer process.

Ofgem's decision

Having considered the issues raised by this modification proposal Ofgem has decided to direct GPL to implement modification proposal 22, as it will contribute to the efficient and economic operation of the pipe-line system and to the fulfilment of the relevant code objectives, particularly Standard Condition 9.1 (c).

In accordance with condition 9 (9) (b) of the standard conditions of the GTC Pipelines Ltd Gas Transporter's Licence, dated 9 September 1996, GTC Pipelines Ltd is directed to make the above proposal (as contained in GTC Pipelines Ltd Network Code Modification report 22 dated 26 July 2005) as a modification to the Network Code.

If you have any further queries regarding this decision letter please feel free to contact Samantha McEwen 020 7901 7032.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Simpson', with a horizontal line underneath.

Nick Simpson
Director, Modifications