



# GD23 - Gas Distribution Price Control 2023-2028

Draft Determination Annex P  
Glossary  
March 2022



## About the Utility Regulator

Utility Regulator is the independent non-ministerial government department responsible for regulating Northern Ireland's electricity, gas, water and sewerage industries, to promote the short and long-term interests of consumers.

We are not a policy-making department of government, but we make sure that the energy and water utility industries in Northern Ireland are regulated and developed within ministerial policy as set out in our statutory duties.

We are governed by a Board of Directors and are accountable to the Northern Ireland Assembly through financial and annual reporting obligations.

We are based at Queens House in the centre of Belfast. The Chief Executive leads a management team of directors representing each of the key functional areas in the organisation: Corporate Affairs, Markets and Networks. The staff team includes economists, engineers, accountants, utility specialists, legal advisors and administration professionals.



### Our mission

To protect the short- and long-term interests of consumers of electricity, gas and water.



### Our vision

To ensure value and sustainability in energy and water.



### Our values

- Be a best practice regulator: transparent, consistent, proportionate, accountable and targeted.
- Be professional – listening, explaining and acting with integrity.
- Be a collaborative, co-operative and learning team.
- Be motivated and empowered to make a difference.



## Abstract

This document includes the acronyms and glossary of terms used in the GD23 Draft Determination with their definitions outlined in Table 1.1 below.

## Audience

Industry, consumers & statutory bodies.

## Consumer impact

No consumer impact.



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# 1. Glossary

- 1.1 Acronyms and glossary of terms used in the GD23 determination with their definitions is shown in **Error! Reference source not found.** below.

Term	Description
BCIS	Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors Building Cost Information Service
BIS	BIS Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
CAPM	Capital Asset Pricing Model. A model that describes the relationship between risk and expected return.
Capex	Capital Expenditure
CBA	Cost Benefit Analysis
CAWG	Cost Assessment Working Group – partnership working group tasked with developing an agreed, common dataset to facilitate cost benchmarking.
CCNI	Consumer Council NI
CEPA	Cambridge Economic Policy Associates Consultancy
CEWG	Consumer Engagement Working Group – partnership group advancing consumer and stakeholder engagement for GD23 and beyond (modelled on similar working groups for the other sector network companies, plus relevant Departments and CCNI).
CMA	Competition and Markets Authority - The statutory body to deal with referalls in price controls and makes a new decision after listening to the evidence from all related parties. Formally the Competition Commission (CC).
CPI & CPIH	Consumer Price Index and Consumer Price Index including Housing, which is a recognised and international inflation measure.
DAV	Depreciated Asset Value
DD	Draft Determination
DECC	Department for Energy and Climate Change
DETI	Department for Enterprise, Trade and Investment
DfE	Department for the Economy
DfI	Department for Infrastructure
DNO	Distribution Network Operator
Domestic Premises	Premises where the supply of gas is taken wholly or mainly for domestic purposes
FD	Final Determination
FE	firmus Energy Distribution Limited
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
G2W	Gas to the West
GD14	The name for the Gas Distribution price controls. GD14 covers the calendar years (ie January –December) 2014 – 2016.
GD17	GD17 covers the calendar years 2017 – 2022.
GD23	GD23 covers the calendar years 2023 - 2028.
GD29	GD29 will start Jan 2029 and duration will be consulted upon at the next approach document.

Term	Description
GDN	Gas distribution network company – FE, PNGL and SGN
GNI	Gas Networks Ireland
I&C	Industrial and commercial
LPS	Land & Property Services
MSA	Managed Service Agreements
NERA	National Economic Research Associates
NIEN	Northern Ireland Electricity Networks. RP6 price control runs from 1st October 2017- 31st March 2023. RP7 price control will commence from 1st April 2023.
NIHE	Northern Ireland Housing Executive
NIW	Northern Ireland Water. PC21 price control runs from 2021-2027
OBR	Office of Budget Responsibility
Ofgem	Office of Gas and Electricity Markets. Regulates the electricity and gas markets in Great Britain.
Ofwat	The economic regulator of the water sector in England and Wales.
ONS	Office for National Statistics
OO (Owner Occupied)	Domestic Premises which do not fall into the definition of: Domestic New Build; or NIHE/Housing Association.
Opex	Operating expenditure
Pi model	Model used for the calculation of conveyance charges for the GDNs.
PNGL	Phoenix Natural Gas Limited
PRE	Public Reported Escapes
RAB	Regulatory Asset Base
RIGS	Regulatory Instructions and Guidance
RIIO	Revenue = Incentives + Innovation + Outputs Price control framework used by Ofgem
RIIO-GD1	This is the first gas distribution price control by Ofgem under the new RIIO (Revenue = Incentives + Innovation + Outputs) model. The price control is set for an eight-year period from 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2021.
RIIO-GD2	This is the second gas distribution price control by Ofgem under the new RIIO (Revenue = Incentives + Innovation + Outputs) model. The price control is set for a 5 year period, to take effect on 1 April 2021- 31 March 2026.
RPE	Real Price Effects
RPI	Retail Price Index - a measure of inflation
SGN	Scotia Gas Networks Northern Ireland Limited
SGN NG	Scotia Gas Networks Natural Gas
SoLR	Supplier of Last Resort

Term	Description
TFP	Total Factor Productivity
TMA	Traffic Management Act. The objective of the TMA is to tackle congestion and disruption on the road network. This has yet to come into force in Northern Ireland, at time of writing.
Totex	Total expenditure, i.e. the sum of capex and opex.
TRV	Total Regulatory Value: the Depreciated Asset Value plus any incentive adjustments including the profile adjustment.
TSO	Transmission System Operator
UKRN	United Kingdom Regulators Network
UKSA	UK Statistics Authority
UM	Uncertainty Mechanism
UR	Utility Regulator
WACC	Weighted average cost of capital