



# Consultation on new gas supply licence for Ceres Energy Limited

UR Consultation  
26 September 2023



## About the Utility Regulator

The 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 paper sets out the UR's intention to grant a gas supply licence to Ceres Energy Limited

## Audience

This document is likely to be of interest to regulated companies in the energy industry, government and other statutory bodies including consumer groups with an interest in the energy industry.

## Consumer impact

It is not anticipated that there will be any end-consumer impact as a result of granting this licence.



## **NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 8(4) OF THE GAS (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1996**

In exercise of its powers under Article 8(4) of The Gas (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 (“the Order”) the Northern Ireland Authority for Utility Regulation (“the Authority”), hereby gives notice as follows:

- 1) It proposes, in accordance with Article 8(1) (c) of the Order, to grant a licence to supply gas to Ceres Energy Limited a statutory corporation, established in England and having its principal place of business at The Old Grammar School, Hallgate, Hexham, NE46 1XD, England (the “Proposed Licensee”).
- 2) The Authority considers that the grant of the proposed licence would be an appropriate course of action for it to take as such grant is in keeping with the Authority’s principal statutory objective in that it promotes the development and maintenance of an efficient, economic and co-ordinated gas industry in Northern Ireland.
- 3) The Authority further considers that the application made by the Proposed Licensee has been made in the prescribed manner and confirms that the appropriate fee has been submitted.
- 4) The purpose of this notice is to bring to the attention of persons likely to be affected by the grant of the proposed licence referred to above, and to invite representations or objections in connection thereto. Any representations or objections with respect to the proposed licence may be made on or before 25 October 2023 to:

Daniel Squires  
Utility Regulator  
Queens House  
14 Queen Street  
Belfast, BT1 6ED

Email: [daniel.squires@uregni.gov.uk](mailto:daniel.squires@uregni.gov.uk)

- 5) A copy of the proposed Licence can be obtained in electronic form on the Authority’s website or in hard copy form. To request a hard copy, contact Daniel Squires at the details above or by telephone on 028 9031 6338.

Dated this 26<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023

John French  
Chief Executive  
**For and on behalf of the Authority**