

Mr Stephen English
Gas Market Operator (NI),
Fourth Floor,
The Arena Building,
85 Ormeau Road,
Belfast,
BT7 1SH

Ref: NET/G/TH/298

21 December 2020

Dear Stephen,

RE : NI Network Gas Transmission Code Modification No 7 – Section 26: South Section

Thank you for your submission of the Final Modification Report (FMR) in respect of the above named proposal. The report was initially submitted on 12 December 2019. It was later resubmitted with an update to the suggested implementation date on 20 December 2019, and again with proposed changes to numbering on 21 May 2020. We understand the numbering changes were made to retain consistency with the existing numbering format of the NI Network Gas Transmission Code.

The purpose of the proposed modification is to provide rules for the ‘South Section’ of the NI Gas Transmission Network. The South Section is the part of the GNI (UK) pipeline system which runs from Northern Ireland into the Republic of Ireland to the South North Interconnection Point at Gormanston.

Authority review and conclusions

The Utility Regulator has considered the information provided in this FMR. We note that no responses were received during the consultation period.

We note the consideration by the GMO NI of the impact of the modification on the networks of the Designated Pipeline Operators and Adjacent Transporters.

We also note that the modification has been drafted on the basis that there are joint emergency procedures in place between the Northern Ireland Network Emergency Coordinator (NINEC) and the National Gas Emergency Manager (NGEM) in respect of

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the South Section of the NI Gas Transmission Network and the South North Interconnection Point. You have confirmed that such joint emergency procedures have been agreed.

Additionally we note that the GMO NI has kept the Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU) informed about the consultation on the proposed modification, about the fact that no third party responses were received and that no changes have been made to the proposed text as a result of the consultation.

We are content that the proposed modification would better facilitate the 'Relevant Objective' as it will support the safe operation of the NI Gas Transmission Network by ensuring that the Code reflects the agreement between the Utility Regulator and the CRU in respect of the South Section.

Decision

As provided for in condition 2.4D.9(c) of the relevant licences we direct the Transporter to implement the modification as set out in FMR No 7 dated 21 May 2020. The modification shall become effective on 22 December 2020.

Yours sincerely,



Tanya Hedley
Director of Networks
For and on behalf of NIAUR

Copy to:

Karen Trant, CRU