

MODIFICATION PROPOSAL No. 0369

Short title: Provision for Transco to be able to accept a supply point reconfirmation where the registered User remains the same but the supplier identification and the meter read agency status changes.

Date: 08 November 1999

Implementation Date: ASAP

Urgency: NON-URGENT

Justification:

At present, the Network Code states that a User must give two months notice should it decide to re-engage Transco (MR) as meter reader and two months notice if a User decides to transfer from Transco (MR) to an alternative meter read agency (reference from Network Code Transition Document Section V paragraph 1.3.3).

Where a registered User re-confirms a site, the confirmation will be rejected if it attempts to change the status of the meter read agency at that site. This rejection procedure was put in place to prevent a User reconfirming its entire portfolio to avoid the two-month notice period when transferring sites from Transco (MR) to an alternative meter read agency.

If a site transfers between suppliers and the registered User changes, the meter reading agency status can be changed within the confirmation file. However, where a site transfers between suppliers but the registered User stays the same, the User will re-confirm that site with the new supplier details. If this re-confirmation involves a change in the meter reading agency status, Transco will reject the confirmation.

Therefore, the confirmation rejection regime put in place to prevent gaming of the network code also hinders competition between suppliers that use, the same registered User but have different meter read agency status, and discriminates against shippers with multiple suppliers in favour of shippers with a single supplier.

Nature of the proposal:

The network code should provide for Transco to be able to accept a supply point reconfirmation where the registered User remains the same, but the supplier identification and the meter read agency status changes.

When a User submits a supply point reconfirmation it specifies the identity of the proposed supplier, informs Transco that the User is not changing and specifies the meter read agency of the proposed supplier (reference from Network Code Section G paragraphs 2.5.10, 2.6.1(d)). This gives Transco all the information needed for it to be able to distinguish between those Users reconfirming entire portfolios to avoid the two-month notice period

when transferring sites from Transco (MR) to an alternative meter read agency and User's that are reconfirming sites that have transferred between suppliers with different meter read agency status.

Furthering relevant objectives:

This proposal is intended to facilitate competition between suppliers that use the same registered User but have different meter read agency status and prevent discrimination against shippers with multiple suppliers in favour of shippers with a single supplier.

Area of the network code concerned:

Addition to Section G

Transition Document Section V

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Signature:

Modification Panel Secretary's Use only

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