NETWORK CODE MODIFICATION PROPOSAL No: 0443

"Meter Reading Unbundling – Non Daily Read Meters"
Version 1.0

Date: 12/12/2000

Proposed Implementation Date: 01/05/2001

Urgency: Non-Urgent

Justification

During the first quarter of 2001 Transco's Non Daily Meter Reading (NDM) systems will be separated from UK-Link in order to facilitate the competitive environment in NDM meter reading. Network Code Section M currently contains provisions and references that require amendment to fully reflect these changes in the unbundled NDM meter reading environment.

The SPA/Metering Workstream sub-group for NDM meter reading unbundling has identified the core provisions within Section M which require modification so that the Network Code meets the requirements of an unbundled (NDM) meter reading regime. The sub-group also identified further enhancements to the regime which further facilitate competition.

Nature of Proposal

To further facilitate competition in NDM meter reading a SPA/Metering Workstream sub-group recommended that the Network Code be modified to incorporate the following requirements:

To amend the definition of valid reads so that validated Customer Reads can be used as Valid Meter Reads in all cases.

To introduce a 6 month Meter Reading Frequency for meters installed at a Supply Meter Point comprised in a Supply Point component whose AQ is greater than 73,200kWh but less than or equal to 293,000kWh.

To remove the current monthly portfolio constraint on Meter Reads submitted to Transco.

To remove references to Transco as being a 'Meter Reader' as appropriate.

Purpose of Proposal

The purpose of this Modification Proposal is to support the further development of competition in the provision of NDM meter reading services.

Consequence of not making this change

The Network Code may not fully support the unbundled NDM meter reading environment.

Area of the Network Code concerned

Principal Document, Section M. See drafting attached.

Proposers Representative

Christopher J Warner (Transco)

Proposer

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Signature

Proposed Network Code (Principal Document) drafting

Section E

Paragraph 8

Paragraph 8.1.1 Delete ", or where Transco otherwise secured meter readings.":

Section G

Paragraph 2.3.2(f)(ii) to read:

"(ii) Where the Annual Quantity of the NDM Supply Point Component is less than 293,000 kWh (*10,000 therms*), whether the relevant Supply Meters are proposed to be a Monthly Read Meter or a Six Monthly Read Meter (for the purposes of Section M3.4);"

Section M

Paragraph 2.3

Paragraph 2.3(ii) delete "(other than Transco where it is engaged as Meter Reader)"

Paragraph 3

Paragraph 3.1.4(d) delete:

"(except where Transco is appointed as Meter Reader)"

Paragraph 3.1.6 Amend to read:

"A Customer Read obtained in any calendar month will (subject to the requirements of paragraph 3.1.4) be a Valid Meter Reading."

Paragraph 3.1.7(b) Amend to read:

"(b) Subject to paragraph (d) the Meter Reading Frequency of a Non-Daily Read Supply Meter is:

(i) monthly where it is installed at a Supply Meter Point comprised in a Supply Point Component whose Annual Quantity is 293,000kWh (*10,000 therms*) or greater, or the Registered User has (in accordance with Section G2.3.2(f)(ii)) so elected (a Monthly Read Meter");

(ii) six monthly where it is installed at a Supply Meter Point comprised in a Supply Point Component whose Annual Quantity is greater than 73,200 kWh (*2,500 therms*) and less than 293,000 kWh (*10,000 therms*), or the Registered User has (in accordance with Section G2.3.2(f)(ii)) so elected (a "Six Monthly Read Meter");"

3.1.7(c) Amend to read:

"(c) Subject to paragraph (d) the Meter Reading Frequency of a Non-Daily Read Supply Meter other than a Monthly Read Meter or Six Monthly Read Meter (an "Annual Read Meter") is annual;

Paragraph 3.2.2 – delete:

"Where Transco is not to be the Meter Reader" so text reads:
"In respect of a Supply Meter Point . . . . before the Proposed Supply Point Registration Date."

Paragraph 3.3.1 delete:

"(but where Transco is appointed as Meter Reader this requirement shall be deemed to be satisfied in respect of any Meter Reading obtained by Transco as Meter Reader)"

Paragraph 3.4 Amend to read:

"3.4 **Cyclic reading**: Monthly Read Meters and Six Monthly Read Meters

3.4.1 Each User shall secure

(a) in relation to Monthly Read Meters, that a Valid Meter Reading is obtained:

(i) for each Relevant Monthly Read Meter, not less frequently than once every 4 calendar months;

(ii) in each calendar month, in accordance with paragraph 3.4.2, for not less than 90% of the number of Monthly Read Meters which are Relevant Supply Meters for the whole of the month);

(b) in relation to Six Monthly Read Meters that a Valid Meter Reading is obtained:

(i) for each Relevant Six Monthly Read Meter, not less frequently than once every 12 calendar months;

(ii) in each period of 6 calendar months, in accordance with paragraph 3.4.2, for not less than 90% of Six Monthly Read Meters which are Relevant Supply Meters for the whole period of 6 calendar months)."

3.4.2 For the purposes of paragraph 3.4.1(a)(ii) the Meter Read Date in respect of a Monthly Read Meter is required to be not less than 23 Days (or in the month of December 16 Days) and not more than 37 Days (or in the month of January 44 Days) and not more than 37 Days (or in the month of January 44 Days) after the Meter Read Date of the preceding Meter Read under paragraph

3.4.1(a)."

Add new paragraph 3.4.3 to read:

"3.4.3 In respect of a New Supply Meter Point, the Meter Read Date of the first Meter Read obtained pursuant to Paragraph 3.4.1(b)(i) shall be not less than one nor more than 6 months after the First Supply Point Registration Date."

Paragraph 3.5.3 delete text and replace with "Not used."

Paragraph 3.7, add paragraph 3.7.2(iii) to read:

"(iii) in the case of a Six Monthly Read Meter, the Meter Read Date is less than three months,"