



Making a positive difference  
for energy consumers

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4 May 2016

Dear Les,

### **Approval of a Term Extension for the Independent UNC Panel Chairperson**

Thank you for your letter of 21 April informing us of the Joint Governance Arrangements Committee (JGAC)'s recommendation to extend the existing term of Alex Plant as independent Uniform Network Code (UNC) Panel Chairperson until 31 December 2017.

Having considered the assessment and recommendation made by the JGAC, I can confirm that we approve this extension to the appointment in accordance with Standard Special Condition A11 6(d)(i) of the gas transporter licence.

In approving this extension to the appointment, we note that the JGAC has unanimously endorsed this and that JGAC received input from the UNC Panel who also supported the proposed extension.

We noted in our original approval letter of 22 July 2014 that Mr Plant had no links with any parties to the UNC. We would welcome a further assurance from Mr Plant to the effect that during the period of his extended tenure, he will not act on behalf of any organisation on any matter related to the UK gas industry which may conflict with his role as independent UNC Panel Chair.

Yours sincerely

Rob Salter-Church  
**Partner**  
**Consumers and Competition**

Cc JGAC representatives:  
Paul Rogers - National Grid Distribution  
Andrew Musgrave - Scotia Gas Networks  
Chris Logue - National Grid Gas Transmission  
Stephen Parker - Northern Gas Networks  
Steven Edwards - Wales & West Utilities