

Representation received by Email

UNC Independent Panel Chair

Date: 22nd January 2014

Organisation:

Winchester Gas

Abstract:

- 1) What criteria do you consider to constitute an independent Chair?

We would consider an independent chair who be someone who is not affiliated to any party that the chair oversees.

- 2.) Do you consider that the Joint Office Chief Executive, appointed from a Gas Transporter business, fulfils the Transporter's Licence obligation to appoint an independent chair, and why?

We don't believe that a chief executive appointed from a Gas Transporter business can be completely independent if they are appointed solely by the Gas Transporters. This could also influence the code administrator's obligation of remaining impartial.

- 3.) Do you have any views on the *process* of appointing the Independent Chair in this way?

We believe that the only way of appointing an Independent Chair would ensuring the appointee is not affiliated to any industry party. As possible solution to this would be a change in the license obligations to have the Chair appointed and funded by Ofgem. If this is not possible then an election process similar could be used with any industry party putting forward their choice of Chair.

- 4.) Are there any further examples or evidence you can provide to support the points made?