

UNC Modification	At what stage is this document in the process?
<h1>UNC 0712:</h1> <h2>Amending the oxygen content limit in the Network Entry Agreement (NEA) at the St Fergus SAGE plant</h2>	<div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; gap: 5px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid green; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 2px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> 01 Modification </div> <div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 2px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> 02 Workgroup Report </div> <div style="border: 1px solid purple; padding: 2px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> 03 Draft Modification Report </div> <div style="border: 1px solid orange; padding: 2px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> 04 Final Modification Report </div> </div>
<p>Purpose of Modification:</p> <p>This enabling Modification will facilitate an increase to the current oxygen content limit at the St Fergus SAGE System Entry Point through modification of the SAGE Network Entry Agreement / Provision</p>	
	<p>The Proposer recommends that this Modification should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> subject to self-governance assessed by a Workgroup. <p>This Modification will be presented by the Proposer to the Panel on 21 November 2019. The Panel will consider the Proposer's recommendation and determine the appropriate route.</p>
	<p>High Impact: None</p>
	<p>Medium Impact: None</p>
	<p>Low Impact: Transporters, Consumers</p>

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Timetable		
The Proposer recommends the following timetable:		
Pre-Modification Discussion	07 November 2019	
Modification consider by Panel	21 November 2019	
Initial consideration by Workgroup	05 December 2019	
Workgroup Report presented to Panel	21 May 2020	
Draft Modification Report issued for consultation	22 May 2020	
Consultation Close-out for representations	11 June 2020	
Final Modification Report available for Panel	15 June 2020	
Modification Panel decision	16 July 2020	
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		 N/A

1 Summary

What

This is an enabling Modification that seeks to facilitate an increase in oxygen limit in the Network Entry Agreement at the SAGE Terminal between National Grid Gas Plc and SAGE North Sea Limited (SNSL). It is proposed to increase the limit from 0.001 mol% (10 ppm) to 0.01 mol% (100 ppm).

In Great Britain, there are two oxygen limits that are pertinent to network entry requirements. The first, 2000ppm (0.2mol%) is a safety limit specified in Schedule 3 Part 1 (regulation 8) of the Gas Safety (Management) Regulations. The second is a guideline limit of 10ppm (0.001mol%) contained in National Grid's Gas Ten Year Statement, which is currently in place in the SAGE Network Entry Agreement, which governs gas export specification from the St Fergus SAGE Terminal.

Why

SNSL is seeking to bring new Norwegian gas volumes into the National Grid via the St Fergus SAGE gas terminal. OMV Gas Marketing and Trading GmbH's Norwegian affiliate is co-owner of these gas volumes. OMV Gas Marketing and Trading GmbH, as a UNC shipper, is therefore seeking the Modification while SNSL's gas licence application progresses. Processing this gas to meet the current GS(M)R (1996) defined Incomplete Combustion Factor ("ICF") specification will require ballasting with nitrogen gas. Available Pressure Swing Absorption ("PSA") nitrogen generation units produce nitrogen with a minimum 99.5% vol. purity. Analysis of SAGE Terminal export composition shows that this will result in an Oxygen content range of 50 to 70 ppm (0.005 to 0.007 mol%) in gas exported to the NTS.

The 10ppm limit as currently applied will prevent the SAGE terminal from being able to process these new gas volumes. The Proposer believes this limit is unnecessary and restrictive to the SAGE terminal's ability to access new gas supplies for the UK.

How

The Proposal is to increase the limit for oxygen, as defined within in the SAGE Network Entry Agreement from the current limit of 0.001 mol% (10 ppm), to 0.01 mol% (100ppm). The proposed value falls well within the Gas Safety (Management) Regulation limit of 0.2 mol% (2000ppm). Pursuant to UNC TPD Section I paragraph 2.2 (Amendment of Network Entry Provisions) this Modification, if approved, will enable a change to the St Fergus SAGE Terminal export specifications.

It should be noted that three similar enabling Modifications (0561S, 0581S and 0645S) were approved by the UNC Modification Panel in 2015, 2016 and 2018.

2 Governance

Justification for Self-Governance

Based on three previous Modifications enabling a change to the same oxygen limit, (0561S, 0581S and 0645S) the Proposer believes this proposed change is not likely to have a material effect on the self-governance criteria.

In particular, the Proposer considers that this Modification will not result in discrimination between parties because an equivalent change could be sought in respect of any other NTS System Entry Point. Gas quality limits vary at different entry points and given the above mentioned Modifications have been approved, this Proposal isn't expected to materially change the current position in relation to discrimination between parties.

Requested Next Steps

This Modification should:

- be subject to self-governance
- be assessed by a Workgroup.

3 Why Change?

Security of supply

The ability of a Delivery Facility Operator ("DFO") to deliver gas to the NTS at an entry point (or subterminal) is limited by the Network Entry Provisions contained in the relevant bilateral Network Entry Agreement between the DFO and National Grid NTS. Amongst other things, the NEA currently sets a limit on the oxygen content of the gas to be delivered to the gas transporter's system, which is currently set at 0.001 mol% in the SAGE Terminal's Network Entry Agreement.

As illustrated in National Grid FES scenarios (which can be found here: <http://fes.nationalgrid.com/>), import dependency is expected to increase and with this, GB can expect greater diversity in the gas composition brought in by or for future new Shippers. The current limit at SAGE is at risk of being too restrictive to allow processing of future Norwegian gas sources to meet existing regulatory ICF limits with available technology. Therefore, it is in the interest of the GB gas market to better facilitate the delivery of Norwegian gas sources via SAGE.

The short-term solution to achieving this is to allow a relatively modest increase to 0.01mol% in the oxygen limit at the St Fergus SAGE Terminal. The second step, removal of the ICF specification, is currently being addressed in the current IGEM Gas Quality Standard Working Group (which can be found here: <https://www.igem.org.uk/technical-services/gas-quality-working-group/>)

Consistency with other entry points O2 limit

The table below is a summary taken from Ofgem's letter to industry titled Establishing a gas quality Review Group dated 20 September 2004 (which can be found here:

https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/sites/default/files/docs/2004/09/8395-21904_0.pdf

The proposed new limit of 0.01mol% for the St Fergus SAGE Terminal sits towards the lower end of the of the total number of 21 entry points cited in 2004.

O ₂ Content Limit (mol%)	# Entry Points	Cumulative # Entry Points
0.001	7	7
0.100	9	16
0.200	4	20

It should be noted that similar enabling Modifications 0561S, 0581S and 0645S were approved by the UNC Modification Panel in November 2015, July 2016, and April 2018 respectively and were all implemented under self-governance arrangements. A higher 0.02 mol% oxygen content limit was agreed for all three. Therefore, this Modification Proposal is consistent with similar change requests to NEAs in the past and in accordance with UNC Transportation Principal Document Section I paragraph 2.2.3 (a), a Code Modification has been chosen as the means by which to effect the changes to the oxygen content limits for the St Fergus SAGE terminal.

What the effects are, should the change not be made

If the change is not made, the SAGE Terminal will not be able to provide the required service to bring the new Norwegian gas volumes into NTS. This will be detrimental to future security of supply to the GB gas market. SAGE may also be disadvantaged in effective competition between other shippers and suppliers that are not subject to such a strict oxygen content limit.

4 Code Specific Matters

Reference Documents

The following links direct to similar enabling Modifications seeking increase to the Oxygen limit.

- Modification 0561S: *Amendment to the oxygen limit within the BBL / NTS Interconnection Agreement:*

<http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0561>

- Modification 0581S: *Amending the Oxygen content limit specified in the Network Entry Agreements at Grain LNG:*

<http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0581>

- Modification 0645: *Amending the oxygen content limit in the Network Entry Agreement at South Hook LNG:*

<http://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0645>

Knowledge/Skills

No additional knowledge/skills required

5 Solution

Increase the maximum oxygen limit in the SAGE Network Entry Agreement.

The solution to the issue raised in this proposal is to increase the permitted oxygen content of the gas in the SAGE Network Entry Agreement from 0.001 mol% to 0.01 mol%. This increased level would remain well within the level of 0.2 mol% allowable under the Gas Safety (Management) Regulations. It would also appear to be significantly lower than the limits permitted at several other NTS entry points.

6 Impacts & Other Considerations

Does this modification impact a Significant Code Review (SCR) or other significant industry change projects, if so, how?

Not applicable.

Consumer Impacts

NTS offtakes in the vicinity of St Fergus include Peterhead power station and the Shell “Backhaul” facility located downstream of the mixing point within the St Fergus NTS terminal. Whilst information is not available to predict the future effect of the proposed O₂ content increase at SAGE, the following table illustrates the effect of blending between the three sub-terminals at St Fergus based on export volumes at the current date assuming the maximum proposed O₂ content from SAGE and the maximum 10ppm limit at the Shell and NSMP plants.

Plant	Rate (mcmd)	Assumed O2 content (ppm)	Comment
SAGE	14.2	100.0	Flowrate from entry zone graphs @ 24/10/19 but assuming maximum proposed O2 content
Shell	20.2	10.0	Flowrate from entry zone graphs @ 24/10/19
NSMP	24.0	10.0	Flowrate from entry zone graphs @ 24/10/19
Blended effect	58.7	31.7	

Impact (if any) on Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Installation of the Pressure Swing Adsorption devices (PSAs) will not generate additional greenhouse gas emissions. Electricity from the National Grid will be used to power the PSAs. Electricity utilisation is estimated to be one (1) megawatt per day.

Cross Code Impacts

None

EU Code Impacts

None

Central Systems Impacts

None

7 Relevant Objectives

Impact of the modification on the Relevant Objectives:

Relevant Objective	Identified impact
a) Efficient and economic operation of the pipeline system.	None
b) Coordinated, efficient and economic operation of (i) the combined pipe-line system, and/ or (ii) the pipe-line system of one or more other relevant gas transporters.	None
c) Efficient discharge of the licensee's obligations.	None
d) Securing of effective competition: (i) between relevant shippers; (ii) between relevant suppliers; and/or (iii) between DN operators (who have entered into transportation arrangements with other relevant gas transporters) and relevant shippers.	Positive
e) Provision of reasonable economic incentives for relevant suppliers to secure that the domestic customer supply security standards... are satisfied as respects the availability of gas to their domestic customers.	None
f) Promotion of efficiency in the implementation and administration of the Code.	None
g) Compliance with the Regulation and any relevant legally binding decisions of the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Co-operation of Energy Regulators.	None

Positive Impact of Increasing Oxygen Limits

The Proposer believes positive impacts can be identified for Relevant Objective *d) securing of effective competition between various parties*.

Removing the restriction will allow more Norwegian gas to be processed by SAGE and enter the GB market, improve liquidity, and will therefore help to promote competition between gas shippers and gas suppliers.

8 Implementation

As self-governance procedures are proposed, implementation could be sixteen business days after a Modification Panel decision to implement, subject to no Appeal being raised.

No implementation costs for other industry parties are anticipated.

9 Legal Text

As this is an enabling Modification (in accordance with UNC Transportation Principal Document Section I paragraph 2.2.3 (a)), no UNC text changes are required.

10 Recommendations

Proposer's Recommendation to Panel

Panel is asked to:

- Agree that self-governance procedures should apply
- Refer this proposal to a Workgroup for assessment.