

UNC Modification	At what stage is this document in the process?
<h1 data-bbox="134 322 699 414">UNC 0875S</h1> <h2 data-bbox="129 452 1173 665">Minor amendment to the Vacant Site exit process &amp; 0819 Legal Text re-numbering</h2>	<div data-bbox="1209 309 1469 629"> <div data-bbox="1209 309 1469 383">01 Modification</div> <div data-bbox="1209 394 1469 468">02 Workgroup Report</div> <div data-bbox="1209 479 1469 553">03 Draft Modification Report</div> <div data-bbox="1209 564 1469 638">04 Final Modification Report</div> </div>
<p data-bbox="129 712 507 745"><b>Purpose of Modification:</b></p> <p data-bbox="129 777 507 810">This Modification seeks to:</p> <ol data-bbox="129 842 1469 987" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) make a minor amendment to the Vacant Site exit process when the exit criteria trigger is ‘Class Change is submitted’ or ‘Isolation request’.</li> <li>b) revise the 0819 Legal Text numbering post Modification 0816 implementation.</li> </ol>	
<p data-bbox="129 1086 308 1120"><b>Next Steps:</b></p> <p data-bbox="129 1144 978 1178">The Proposer recommends that this Modification should be:</p> <ul data-bbox="177 1198 614 1285" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• subject to Self-Governance</li> <li>• assessed by a Workgroup</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="129 1305 1469 1375">This Modification will be presented by the Proposer to the Panel on 18 April 2024. The Panel will consider the Proposer’s recommendation and determine the appropriate route.</p>	
<p data-bbox="129 1659 397 1693"><b>Impacted Parties:</b></p> <p data-bbox="129 1713 547 1747">High: Shippers and Suppliers</p> <p data-bbox="129 1767 1337 1800">Low: Distribution Network Operators, Independent Gas Transporters and Consumers</p> <p data-bbox="129 1821 288 1854">None: NTS</p>	
<p data-bbox="129 1901 387 1935"><b>Impacted Codes:</b></p> <p data-bbox="129 1962 553 1995">Uniform Network Code (UNC)</p>	

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Timetable		
<b>Modification timetable:</b>		
Pre-Modification Discussed	28 March 2024	
Date Modification Raised	05 April 2024	
New Modification to be considered by Panel	18 April 2024	
First Workgroup Meeting	25 April 2024	
Workgroup Report to be presented to Panel	18 July 2024	
Draft Modification Report issued for consultation	19 July 2024	
Consultation Close-out for representations	08 August 2024	
Final Modification Report available for Panel	13 August 2024	
Modification Panel decision	19 September 2024	

The above is a proposed timeline based on a three-month workgroup but to reviewed and confirmed by Joint Office.

 Any questions?

Contact:  
**Joint Office of Gas Transporters**

 [enquiries@gasgovernance.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@gasgovernance.co.uk)

 0121 288 2107

Proposer:  
**Oorlagh Chapman Centrica**

 [Oorlagh.Chapman@centrica.com](mailto:Oorlagh.Chapman@centrica.com)

 07557 614769

Transporter:  
**Andy Clasper Cadent Gas**

 [Andy.Clasper@cadentgas.com](mailto:Andy.Clasper@cadentgas.com)

 07884 113385

Systems Provider:  
**Xoserve**

 [UKLink@xoserve.com](mailto:UKLink@xoserve.com)

# 1 Summary

## What

Following the Ofgem approval of [Modification 0819 - Establishing/Amending a Gas Vacant Site Process](#), the design work to implement the Vacant Site process under the DSC has been progressing. As a result of the detailed design work, a couple of scenarios have been identified within the current legal text for Modification 0819 which we believe need to be amended slightly to ensure the intention of Modification 0819 is met.

As a result, this Modification proposes a minor amendment to the Vacant Site exit process when the exit criteria trigger 'Class Change is submitted' or 'Isolation request' is made.

It also seeks to update the legal text numbering for Modification 0819 post [Modification 0816 - Update to AQ Correction Processes](#) implementation which impacts the same part of UNC.

## Why

### Modification 0819 highlighted 'Business Rules' below:

**Business Rule 1:** A Vacant Site must be 'Product Class 4 Non-Daily Metered (NDM)' ~~supply~~ Supply meter ~~Meter point~~ Point.

**Business Rule 5 - Exit Criteria:** A site will trigger the removal from Vacant for several reasons, including a 'Class Change' being submitted and a 'Isolation request being submitted'.

**Business Rule 7 - Vacant status removal:** In the event that the SMP has an AQ of 1, Business Rule 7 will apply, and the Vacant Status will be removed by the CDSP in line with the updated AQ. (For the avoidance of doubt, the Shipper is obligated to update the AQ by M-15 supply point system business days the following month of the exit trigger)

### Based on the points above outlining part of the Business Rule Criteria as a result of Modification 0819 the following contradictions of the Business Rules have been highlighted as being possible:

- If the SMP has an AQ of more than 1, the SMP will immediately cease to be vacant. In this scenario, the Business Rules work as expected.
- In the scenario where the AQ of a Vacant Site has been reduced to 1, the extended exit process outlined in Business Rule 7 applies.
- The extended exit process means a couple of temporary scenarios can occur:
  - An SMP is at Vacant Status but is no longer Class 4;
  - An SMP is at Vacant Status whilst also simultaneously being Isolated.
- Both of these temporary scenarios contradict the original intent of Modification 0819 and need to be rectified.

### Re-numbering of Legal Text:

Modification 0819 amends TPD Section G: Clause 2.3.21, Clause 2.3.23 and Clause 2.3.27. These sections of the Uniform Network Code were updated when Modification 0816 went live on the 24 February 2024. As a result, the legal text numbering for Modification 0819 needs to be updated to reflect the latest version of UNC post Modification 0816 implementation.

## How

### How to resolve the Temporary Scenarios:

To prevent an instance where a Vacant Site is anything other than Class 4, this Modification seeks to amend 0819 legal text to state that the 'Class Change Effective Date' will also be the 'Vacant Status Removal Date'.

To prevent an instance where a Vacant Site is also Isolated, this Modification seeks to amend 0819 legal text to state that the date the Supply Meter-Point Register is amended to record the Supply Meter Point is Isolated will also be the 'Vacant Status Removal Date'.

These minor amendments avoid a contradiction in UNC where an SMP is at Vacant Status but not in Class 4 or an SMP is at Vacant Status and Isolated.

To confirm, the Shipper will **retain** the 'extended exit period' – for both of the above exit criteria – in order to raise the AQ correction required to increase the AQ from 1.

### Re-numbering of Legal Text:

The legal text for Modification 0819 (as published on 28 September 2023) requires updating post the UNC changes made to facilitate Modification 0816 (which went live on 24 February 2024).

Modification 0819 legal text must be revised using the latest published version of TPD Section G Clause 2.3.21, Clause 2.3.23 and Clause 2.3.27.

The amended legal text requested under this Modification will be required prior to the implementation of Modification 0819.

## 2 Governance

### Justification for Self-Governance

Self-Governance is proposed for this Modification, as the amendments are not material changes and have been raised to ensure Modification 0819 is implemented and delivered as intended.

To confirm, this Modification:

(i) is unlikely to have a material effect on:

- (aa) existing or future gas consumers; and
- (bb) competition in the shipping, transportation or supply of gas conveyed through pipes or any commercial activities connected with the shipping, transportation or supply of gas conveyed through pipes; and
- (cc) the operation of one or more pipe-line system(s); and
- (dd) matters relating to sustainable development, safety or security of supply, or the management of market or network emergencies; and
- (ee) the uniform network code governance procedures or the network code modification procedures; and

(ii) is unlikely to discriminate between different classes of parties to the uniform network code/relevant gas transporters, gas shippers or DN operators.

### Requested Next Steps

This Modification should:

- be considered a non-material change and subject to Self-Governance.
- be assessed by a Workgroup for 3 months.

Approval of this Modification is required ahead of Modification 0819 implementation which is currently scoped for the November 2024 UK Link release (exact date to be confirmed).

## 3 Why Change?

### First case for change:

It has been identified that the Business Rules and draft legal text for Modification 0819 which was published on 28 September 2023, contains obligations which cannot both be in place concurrently.

To indicate what this Modification thinks needs to change in the Modification 0819 legal text, the below tables have been created:

Vacant Site	<b>must be</b> Class 4 (non-operational Smart Meter or non-operational Advanced Meter)	<b>as per</b> TPD G 10.1.1 and 10.1.2
	<b>must exit immediately</b> if AQ has not be corrected to 1	<b>as per</b> TPD G 10.4.2
	<b>has a longer exit period based on the 'relevant date'</b> if AQ has been corrected to 1	<b>as per</b> TPD G 10.4.3
	<b>the 'relevant date'</b> means Class Change <b>may be</b> effective BEFORE the AQ is corrected by the owning Shipper. And the AQ Effective Date is also the Vacant Status Removal Date. <b>Temporary scenario where a non-Class 4 site is at Vacant Status.</b>	<b>as per</b> TPD G 10.4.4 a) & b)

Vacant Site	<b>must not be</b> Isolated	<b>as per</b> TPD G 10.2.1 which references Vacant Site Guidance Document Vacant Criteria - Point 4 from above document.
	<b>must exit immediately</b> if AQ has not be corrected to 1	<b>as per</b> TPD G 10.4.2
	<b>has a longer exit period based on the 'relevant date'</b> if AQ has been corrected to 1	<b>as per</b> TPD G 10.4.3
	<b>the 'relevant date'</b> means Isolation Request <b>may be</b> effective BEFORE the AQ is corrected by the owning Shipper. And the AQ Effective Date is also the Vacant Status Removal Date. <b>Temporary scenario where an Isolated site is also a Vacant Site.</b>	<b>as per</b> TPD G 10.4.4 a) & b)

To rectify this, it is proposed that an additional 'relevant date' be added to TPD G 10.4.3 for the exit criteria: Class Change and Isolation request. This 'relevant date' would be the Class Change Effective Date and the date the Supply Meter-Point Register is amended to record the Supply Meter Point is Isolated.

The Shipper must still have the ability to raise an AQ correction until “the date which is fifteen (15) Supply Points System Business Days prior to the end of the month following the month in which the Cessation Event occurred” as called out in TPD G 10.4.5 b).

**Second case for change:**

The below table has been created as part of this Modification to indicate what needs to be re-numbered in the Modification 0819 legal text Section G due to Modification 0816 going live in February 2024.

	<b>Mod 0816 legal text</b>	<b>Mod 0819 legal text</b>
Legal text revision	TPD G 2.3.21 adds in two new 'eligible causes' under points d) and e)	TPD G 2.3.21 adds two further 'eligible causes' which would now be f) and g)
	TPD G 2.3.22 new clause.	TPD G 2.3.23 should now be listed as TPD G 2.3.24 due to new clause added under 0816. Amendment required for 0819 to be made to TPD G 2.3.24.
	Original TPD G 2.3.24 removed	So numbering of clauses is now in sync with the latest TPD G from clause 2.3.24 onwards.
	TPD G 2.3.27 references amended	TPD G 2.3.27 same reference amendments need to be reflected. Amendment required for 0819 to be made to TPD G 2.3.27 a)

## 4 Code Specific Matters

### Reference Documents

TPD Section G and Section V <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/TPD>

0819 Final Modification Report (18 December 2023) published [here](#).

Vacant Site Guidance Document (within Final Modification Report 0819 referenced above) published [here](#).

Draft Modification 0819 Legal Text (28 September 2023) published [here](#).

### Knowledge/Skills

Possible awareness of Modification 0819 discussions.

## 5 Solution

### Business Rule 1: Vacant status removal – Capacity Relief

*Proposed amendment to Business Rule 7 from Modification 0819*

- **Black text** original text from Mod 0819.
  - **Red text** is tracked changes for this Modification.
- a) Where the Registered User triggers the exit from the process via an AQ amendment (AQ correction), the Vacant status will be removed by the CDSP in line with the updated AQ (as per the correction request), becoming effective. For the avoidance of doubt this will be effective in line with the existing AQ amendment timelines. For the avoidance of doubt, this exit criteria could be triggered by submission of an “eligible cause” as per TPD G 2.3.21 and where a change in AQ is submitted due to read tolerance as per TPD G 2.3.22.
  - b) For the other exit triggers (CoS, SoLR, ~~Class Change~~, Read or .JOB submitted), the Registered User will have until M-15 Supply Point System Business Days (SPSBDs) the following month of the trigger, to amend the AQ (via the AQ amendment process) to the accurate usage. The Vacant status will be removed by the CDSP in line with the updated AQ (as per the correction request) becoming effective. For the avoidance of doubt, this will be effective in line with the existing AQ amendment timelines.
  - c) **For the other exit triggers (Class Change & Isolation request)**, the Registered User will have until M-15 Supply Point System Business Days (SPSBDs) the following month of the trigger, to amend the AQ (via the AQ amendment process) to the accurate usage. **The Vacant status will be removed by the CDSP in line with the Class Change Effective Date or the date the Supply MeterPoint Register is amended to record the Supply Meter Point is Isolated.**
  - d) In the absence of the Registered User amending the AQ as per the above timeline, the CDSP will reinstate the pre-Vacant Rolling and Formula Year AQ (FYAQ). The Vacant status will be removed by the CDSP in line with the pre-Vacant Rolling and FYAQ becoming effective. For the avoidance of doubt, where the CDSP reinstates the pre-Vacant Rolling and FYAQ between the months January – March, the reinstated value will be utilised to set the FYAQ for the next 12 months commencing in April. Further for the avoidance of doubt, the reinstated pre-vacant AQ will be subject to existing AQ correction backstop rules. This means following the point the CDSP reinstates the pre-Vacant AQ, the AQ should remain at this estimate and the next AQ Calculation Month shall be the first month in relation to which a

Qualification Meter Reading, with a Read Date not less than 9 months from the reinstated pre-Vacant AQ is submitted.

**Business Rule 2:**

- a) To renumber the legal text for Modification 0819 based on the latest version of TPD Section G since Modification 0816 was implemented on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2024. The anticipated amendments required are captured in the table created for this Modification below:

	<b>Mod 0816 legal text</b>	<b>Mod 0819 legal text</b>
<b>Legal text revision</b>	TPD G 2.3.21 adds in two new 'eligible causes' under points d) and e)	TPD G 2.3.21 adds two further 'eligible causes' which would now be f) and g)
	TPD G 2.3.22 new clause.	TPD G 2.3.23 should now be listed as TPD G 2.3.24 due to new clause added under 0816. Amendment required for 0819 to be made to TPD G 2.3.24.
	Original TPD G 2.3.24 removed	So numbering of clauses is now in sync with the latest TPD G from clause 2.3.24 onwards.
	TPD G 2.3.27 references amended	TPD G 2.3.27 same reference amendments need to be reflected. Amendment required for 0819 to be made to TPD G 2.3.27 a)

For the avoidance of doubt, the above amendments are the proposer’s understanding of the required changes that are needed to bring the Modification 0819 legal text in line with the live TPD Section G. The legal text provider may find other legal text revisions that are required, and these should also be incorporated.

**6 Impacts & Other Considerations**

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

There are no impacts identified.

**Consumer Impacts**

None identified.

This Modification is to ensure that Modification 0819 is implemented in line with intentions. Please note, this proposal does not change any of the agreed Consumer Impacts as discussed under Modification 0819.

**What is the current consumer experience and what would the new consumer experience be?**

**Impact of the change on Consumer Benefit Areas:**

Area	Identified impact
Improved safety and reliability	None

Lower bills than would otherwise be the case	None
Reduced environmental damage	None
Improved quality of service	None
Benefits for society as a whole	None

### Performance Assurance Considerations

None.

Modification 0819 has already covered the requirement for a new PARR report which will be available for PAC to monitor the Vacant Site process.

### Cross-Code Impacts

None.

The changes proposed in this Modification do not impact IGT 168 which was raised to ensure the Vacant Site Process can apply to IGT ~~supply~~ [Supply meter](#) ~~Meter points~~ [Points](#).

IGT 168 added a reference to the IGT UNC Section CI Supply Points which points to UNC TPD Section G10. Any amendments under this Modification to UNC TPD G10 will automatically apply to IGT sites because of this.

IGT UNC Section CI also contains a reference to the 'Vacant Site Guidance Document' which is a UNC-related document. A definition of the 'Vacant Site Guidance Document' is also found in IGT UNC Section M Definitions. Any changes to the 'Vacant Site Guidance Document' will automatically apply to IGT sites as this document is already referenced in IGT UNC.

Nothing in this Modification proposes changing anything already in IGT UNC Section CI or M.

### EU Code Impacts

None.

### Central Systems Impacts

There are Central Systems impacts as a result of this Modification. Business Rule 1 will need to be incorporated into the development and design of the Modification 0819 solution. To confirm, this will be captured under the DSC Change Proposal [XRN 5615](#) which has been raised to deliver Modification 0819.

Based on this, Modification 0819 and this Modification need to be implemented at the same time.

## 7 Relevant Objectives

### Impact of the Modification on the Transporters' Relevant Objectives:

Relevant Objective	Identified impact
a) Efficient and economic operation of the pipe-line 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.	None
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.	Positive
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

The Modification furthers Relevant Objective (f) as follows:

- F) Promotion of efficiency in the implementation and administration of the Code

As it will bring the legal text of Modification 0819 in line with revisions made due to Modification 0816 and ensure that 0819 can be implemented and delivered as intended.

## 8 Implementation

Modification 0819 implementation date is anticipated to be in line with the November 2024 UK Link release (exact date to be confirmed). As this Modification ensures 0819 legal text delivers the intent of the Modification, it is proposed that implementation aligns with Modification 0819.

## 9 Legal Text

### Text Commentary

To be provided.

**Text**

To be provided.

## 10 Recommendations

### Proposer's Recommendation to Panel

Panel is asked to:

- Agree that Self-Governance procedures should apply.
- Refer this proposal to Workgroup for assessment for 3 months.