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Your Ref: UNC 0101

Dear Julian

Re: Modification Proposal UNC101 'Amendment to Demand Forecasting Timings in Relation to the Gas Balancing Alert': draft Modification Report

energywatch wishes to comment on the draft Modification Report as follows:

We agree that the modification allows National Grid Gas (NGG) to bring the UNC in line with operational practice regarding the issuing of a Gas Balancing Alert and will assist market participants, through as early notification as possible of an Alert, to react to this information and take any commercial actions as necessary to help NGG balance the pipeline system in a more efficient, economic and safe manner. This should reduce the costs of system operation and, ultimately, costs to the consumer. It should also allow more demand-side response to be provided to NGG to assist its balancing actions if market participants are able to do so.

Extent to which implementation of the proposed modification would better facilitate the relevant objectives

We agree that the modification meets the Relevant Objectives of improving the efficient and economic operation of the pipeline system, improving information to the market that may facilitate demand-side response to meet supply, and improving efficiency of the implementation and administration of the UNC by bringing it into line with operational practice. By raising the modification at this time, it should allow the new arrangements to be in place before the coming winter.

We agree that the draft text is fit for purpose.

If you do wish to discuss our response further please do not hesitate to contact me on 0191 2212072.

Yours sincerely

Carole Pitkeathley
Head of Regulatory Affairs