





Modification	At what stage is this document in the process?
<h1>0600S:</h1> <h2>Amend obligation for the acceptance of EPDQD revisions made after D+5</h2>	<div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; gap: 5px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid green; background-color: #00a651; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; display: inline-block;">01 Modification</div> <div style="border: 1px solid blue; background-color: #e6f2ff; padding: 2px 5px; display: inline-block;">02 Workgroup Report</div> <div style="border: 1px solid purple; background-color: #e6e6ff; padding: 2px 5px; display: inline-block;">03 Draft Modification Report</div> <div style="border: 1px solid orange; background-color: #ffe4c4; padding: 2px 5px; display: inline-block;">04 Final Modification Report</div> </div>
<p>Purpose of Modification:</p> <p>This proposal seeks to amend the requirement in UNC that no revisions can be made to the Entry Point Daily Quantity Delivered (EPDQD) after D+5. The amended text will allow revisions to be made after this date, but any revisions submitted after D+5 will be accepted at National Grid’s discretion.</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 20 October 2016. 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: All parties</p>

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Timetable			
The Proposer recommends the following timetable:			
Initial consideration by Workgroup	3 November 2016		
Workgroup Report presented to Panel	17 November 2016		
Draft Modification Report issued for consultation	17 November 2016		
Consultation Close-out for representations	14 December 2016		
Final Modification Report available for Panel	15 December 2016		
Modification Panel decision	15 December 2016		

1 Summary

What

UNC TPD Section E 1.4.2 states that no revisions to the Entry Point Daily Quantity Delivered (EPDQD) will be made after the 5th day after the gas flow day. National Grid NTS proposes the revision of this obligation, so that EPDQD amendments can be accepted after this timescale, but at the discretion of National Grid.

Why

National Grid NTS has been accepting late revisions to the EPDQD to ensure shippers are accurately allocated. If National Grid NTS continues to accept these late revisions without amending code, we risk enforcement action from the regulator. If National Grid no longer accepts these late revisions and enforces the D+5 timescale, this will have an adverse impact on the market because shippers will not receive accurate allocations. National Grid believes it is in the best interest of the market to continue accepting these late revisions; therefore UNC needs to be aligned to reflect current practice.

How

This modification proposes to amend paragraph E 1.4.2 of UNC, so the obligation in code for amendments after D+5 to not be accepted will be revised, and will be modified with a requirement for amendments submitted after this timescale to be subject to National Grid's discretion.

2 Governance

Justification for Self-Governance

This modification is proposed as self-governance as it is unlikely to have a material effect on competition in the shipping, transportation or supply of gas conveyed through pipes because it is likely to formally enable only a small subset of the overall EPDQD revisions received. *[Details of the number of revisions made will be provided at the workgroup]*

Requested Next Steps

This modification should be:

- subject to self-governance
- assessed by a Workgroup

Although this modification proposes a UNC change which is simple – a line of text is removed – and National Grid is granted discretion to accept post-D+5 revisions, the pre-modification discussion concluded that this modification should be assessed by a Workgroup. Questions were raised regarding the frequency of late amendments to understand the scale of the issue, how we are managing the issue outside of UNC with parties who are not signatories to code, and the impact that this proposal may have on the shipper community.

Only one Workgroup should be required because the main parties impacted by this change are sub-terminals and other entry-points submitting late amendments, who are not party to the UNC, and who have already been offered the opportunity to provide feedback through a questionnaire or telephone interview, with responses received from 11 sites (see Appendix 1).

This modification has also been discussed at Transmission Workgroup over several months and these views have been taken on board.

3 Why Change?

UNC TPD Section E 1.4.2 states that the EPDQD shall not be revised after the 5th Day after the Gas Flow Day. Through National Grid's involvement in the DECC Gas Day Industry Workgroup, the entry allocation process was scrutinised which uncovered that National Grid have been making revisions to the EPDQD after D+5.

National Grid NTS has been making these late revisions for the benefit of the wider shipping community, to ensure shippers are allocated accurately at entry points by the CVA. Initial investigations indicated that the majority of the changes occur due to late amendments sent to National Grid by sub-terminals. Therefore, the UNC is not consistent with current industry practice.

Feedback on this issue has been received from a number of sub-terminals and entry points, their feedback supports the D+5 timescale and the acceptance of late revisions. Shippers have provided feedback through Transmission Workgroup that they do not want to be exposed to inaccurate EPDQD data. Currently the wording of UNC exposes shippers to this inaccurate data, and by extension also exposes consumers to inaccurate costs, if National Grid were to implement the process of accepting these revisions as set out in code. Therefore we recognise that we should codify current industry practice to ensure National Grid NTS could continue to provide this service that is valued by industry participants.

4 Code Specific Matters

Reference Documents

None

Knowledge/Skills

None

5 Solution

The following changes are proposed to UNC TPD Section E 1.4.2:

- Retain the D+5 deadline for EPDQD amendments
- Amendments submitted after D+5 will now be permitted up to 10:00 on M+15, prior to month end close out

- However, any amendments submitted between D+5 and 10:00 on M+15 will only be accepted at the discretion of National Grid, and this discretion will be exercised in a way, which avoids any undue preference or undue discrimination.
- National Grid may also investigate or enquire as to why any revision is submitted after D+5, and may use the results of this investigation to propose improvements to the timely and accurate revision for EPDQD amendments in future

The main parties impacted by this code change are sub-terminals, and other system entry points, which are not signatories to UNC. For this reason we are also making changes beyond UNC to ensure the ambitions outlined in this modification are successful.

National Grid NTS holds 'Network Entry Agreements' (NEAs) with these parties, so we will be taking the following steps to support this modification:

- Updating the generic NEA template to ensure any new system entry point contract includes the D+5 timescale,
- When existing contracts are opened for amendments, we will endeavour to include the D+5 timescale
- We will write to all system entry points to inform them of the change to code and the future NEA changes.

6 Impacts & Other Considerations

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

There is no impact on any other industry change.

Consumer Impacts

There will be a positive consumer impact because this change will incentivise sub-terminals to submit accurate data in a timely manner. Accurate and timely data submission will ensure accurate shipper allocations, which will ensure accurate costs, and this will ultimately lead to a more competitive environment to the benefit of consumers.

Cross Code Impacts

There is no impact on any other energy code.

EU Code Impacts

There is no impact on any EU energy code.

Central Systems Impacts

There is no impact on any central systems because the functionality to implement this process is already available.

User Pays

User Pays	
Classification of the modification as User Pays, or not, and the justification for such classification.	No User Pays service would be created or amended by implementation of this modification and it is not, therefore, classified as a User Pays Modification.
Identification of Users of the service, the proposed split of the recovery between Gas Transporters and Users for User Pays costs and the justification for such view.	n/a
Proposed charge(s) for application of User Pays charges to Shippers.	n/a
Proposed charge for inclusion in the Agency Charging Statement (ACS) – to be completed upon receipt of a cost estimate from Xoserve.	n/a

7 Relevant Objectives

Impact of the modification on the 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.	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	None

of the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Co-operation of Energy Regulators.

d) Securing of effective competition:

This objective is furthered by the modification because it will incentivise the provision of accurate data in a timely manner, this will ensure accurate cost allocations, which will lead to more effective competition.

This modification also recognises and addresses the operational reality that not all system entry points are meeting the D+5 requirement. Aligning code to this reality will give shippers greater confidence that they will receive accurate allocations.

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.

9 Legal Text

Text Commentary

Paragraph of UNC TDP Section E	Commentary
Existing 1.4.2 and new 1.4.2(a)	This requires that any revision of the aggregate quantity of gas delivered at a System Entry Point is made before D+5. The principle is retained in new 1.4.2(a)
New 1.4.2(b)	National Grid now has discretion to allow revision of the aggregate quantity delivered to be made after D+5 but before M+15
New 1.4.2(c)	This requires that National Grid rejects submissions made after M+15
New 1.4.3	National Grid will avoid any preference or discrimination in the way it exercises its discretion in new 1.4.2(b)
New 1.4.4	National Grid may propose improvements to the process to facilitate timely submissions of data

Text

UNC TPD Section E

1.4 System Daily Quantities: Entry

Amend paragraph 1.4.2 to read as follows:

1.4.2 The ~~amount determined~~ Transporter shall:

- (a) accept any revision to be the Entry Point Daily Quantity Delivered in respect of any System Entry Point for the a Gas Flow Day may be revised which is received by it at any time up to and including the 5th Day following a Gas Flow Day, but no;
- (b) have discretion as whether it accepts any revision will be made to such quantity the Entry Point Daily Quantity Delivered for a Gas Flow Day which is received by it after the 5th Day after following the Gas Flow Day and before 10:00 hours on the 15th Business Day of the calendar month following the month in which the Gas Flow Day occurs; and
- (c) reject any revision to an Entry Point Daily Quantity Delivered which it does not accept in accordance with (a) or (b) above.

Insert new paragraphs 1.4.3 and 1.4.4, as follows:

1.4.3 The Transporter shall avoid any undue preference, or undue discrimination, in the way in which it exercises its discretion under paragraph 1.4.2(b).

1.4.4 The Transporter may make enquiries as to why any revision to an Entry Point Daily Quantity Delivered is made in accordance with paragraph 1.4.2 (b) (and not paragraph 1.4.2 (a)) and may use the results of its enquiries to propose improvements to the timely and accurate revision of any Entry Point Daily Quantity Delivered in future.

Renumber existing paragraph 1.4.3 as 1.4.5, as follows:

~~1.4.5~~1.4.3 In respect of the Total System the “**Total System Daily Quantity Delivered**” is the aggregate quantity of gas delivered to the Total System on a Day, determined as the aggregate of the Entry Point Daily Quantities Delivered for all System Entry Points.

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

11 Appendix 1: Analysis Undertaken

Previous analysis of EPDQD submissions received by National Grid after D+5 highlighted that late revisions are largely submitted by sub-terminals.

We gathered feedback from sub-terminals to understand whether they felt the D+5 timescale was challenging, and the reasons that they may need to submit a late revision.

Process

All sites that had submitted a revision after D+5 from 1st January 2016 to 31st March 2016 were contacted to inform them of a potential change to the EPDQD data submission process, and asked if they would be willing to provide feedback on the timescale and the reasons that they had made late revisions. For those sites which responded to this request, we organised a number of telephone interviews, and a few sites also provided feedback by email.

At the request of Transmission Workgroup we then contacted all other sub-terminals for their feedback, but we also included all other NTS entry points (i.e. storage, interconnectors). We provided them with a survey so they could give feedback on the D+5 timescale, and any hypothetical reason they may need to make a late revision.

Feedback

11 sites in total provided feedback on the EPDQD D+5 timescale, of these sites:

- 7 felt that D+5 is not a challenging timescale
- 1 was undecided
- 3 felt that it was challenging

The sites stated the following reasons a revision may be made after D+5:

- Human Error
 - One of the most common reasons for amendments
 - Related mostly to manual transposition issues
 - Also one error caused by individuals being on leave
- Complex mis-measurements
 - Could be due to something like an orifice plate being the wrong way round
- Meter errors
 - Sometimes not identified until a few weeks after the fact
 - Could result in many days or weeks of data being incorrect
 - Difficult to foresee or mitigate against
- System errors
 - Some sites had invested in software and systems to manage the calculation and submission of this data
 - There were rare occasions where there had been errors with these systems
- National Grid NTS error
 - Related to manual transposition

- National Grid NTS have proposed system changes to be implemented in 2017 – these changes will ensure our processes are more robust

We also received further feedback from the Claims Validation Agent (CVA) regarding any proposed changes to the D+5 timescale.

They choose to accept all late EPDQD revisions up to M+15 to ensure that shippers are allocated accurately. However, they run their first shipper allocation process at D+7, so they must have the EPDQD data by this timescale. If data was not submitted before D+7, shipper allocations would be zero.

The CVA also stated that if any changes were made to the timescales in their process, they would need to invest in a new system to manage their data processes, and this new system would inflict a significant cost upon industry participants.

Conclusions

Based upon the feedback received from sites and the CVA we arrived at the following conclusions:

- With no clear opposition to the D+5 timescale, this should endure.
- Sub-terminals need to be incentivised to submit their EPDQD data by D+5 to ensure the first shipper allocation process is accurate
- Amendments submitted after D+5 should still be accepted to ensure shippers are not unnecessarily exposed to inaccurate allocations

Analysis of Options

We have applied the feedback received and our subsequent conclusions to clarify how we reached our final proposal.

1. Amending the D+5 timescale

We initially considered an extension to the D+5 timescale to one which might be more achievable for sub-terminals and other entry points.

However, this would have impacted the CVAs processes and was not supported by the majority of sub-terminals. During engagement with Ofgem, they also stated that they would not support a change to the timescale for EPDQD submissions in UNC, unless there was clear evidence to show that it was required.

Analysis of the late amendments has shown that in some instances revisions are not submitted until a few weeks after the original gas flow day. These appear to be rare occurrences caused by unforeseeable circumstances, but it is important to accept them to ensure shippers are allocated accurately.

For these reasons we concluded that there was not adequate support for amending the D+5 timescale.

2. Enforcing the D+5 timescale

Due to feedback from sub-terminals and other entry points that the majority do not find the D+5 timescale challenging, we assessed the option to no longer accept amendments submitted after D+5.

This option is not appropriate because a number of late amendments would be very difficult to mitigate against, and not accepting these revisions would impact the accuracy of shipper allocations, which would go on to impact the accuracy of costs for consumers.

We therefore concluded that enforcing the D+5 timescale would be unfair on shippers and consumers.

3. Retain D+5, but allow revisions after this timescale

Due to the CVA milestone at D+7 for the first shipper allocation process, we need to incentivise sub-terminals and other entry points to submit data which is as accurate as possible by D+5. However, as already described, we also need to allow revisions after this timescale.

We therefore considered options for how we could incentivise sub-terminals and other entry points to submit their data by D+5, and discussed the following sub-options:

a) *Retain D+5, but add a secondary deadline for revisions up until M+15*

This would reflect current practice, but would provide no incentive to submit EPDQD data by D+5. Therefore it is likely that the data submitted by D+5 would become increasingly inaccurate. This would impact shipper allocations and costs for consumers.

b) *Retain D+5, but add a financial incentive for revisions submitted after this timescale*

We felt that this option was not proportionate to the issue, because it would require changes to neutrality. We would also need to include this financial incentive in our contracts with sub-terminals, and the process of negotiating this change would be likely to be protracted and costly.

c) *Retain D+5, but add a reporting obligation for revisions submitted after this timescale*

Although this option was deemed to be proportionate to the issue, investigation highlighted that there are differences between the data for late revisions recorded by the CVA and National Grid. Feedback from sub-terminals also showed that some sites did not recognise the post-D+5 amendments, and would therefore be unable to provide a reason to report upon. Based upon this new information we determined that it was more important to carry out ongoing investigation into the post-D+5 revisions to ensure the quality of National Grid's data going forwards.

We also received feedback from a number of sub-terminals that they would be unwilling to provide the information required for the report without us making immediate changes to their NEAs.

d) *Retain D+5, but revisions will be accepted at National Grid's discretion after this timescale*

National Grid is already accepting post-D+5 revisions at its discretion, so this would accurately reflect current practice.

For this reason, we are proposing this as our solution.

This incentive is proportionate to the issue, and will allow current practice to continue with minimal changes to processes.