

Gas Transmission

0771: Removal of the absolute requirement to include a Remotely Operable Valve (ROV) Installation for all new NTS Entry connections

Transmission workgroup
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nationalgrid



Track changed changes to the modification

Changes have been made to the UNC modification. These include:

- Proposed legal text inserted; can be updated based on discussions
- Amended the sentence which appears twice in the modification ‘Savings are estimated at circa £250,000’ to ‘Savings are estimated **up to** £250,000’. This reflects that different ROV models cost different amounts, for example a DN site may have differing costs to an NTS connection for a ROV

0771 - Solution

This Modification will remove the absolute requirement for a ROV to be included in new Entry connections and will state that new Entry connections may include a ROV.

Implementation of this Modification will require TPD Section Y, Part A-II Section 3 CONNECTION CHARGING METHODOLOGY, paragraph 26.

Current Legal Text

Remotely Operable Valve (ROV) Installations

26A. Subject to paragraph 26B and any determination by National Grid under paragraph 27 that an ROV installation is not required, all new connections will include an ROV Installation which may be situated either:

- a) at a point on the NTS, where the customer wishes to:
 - i. construct and connect a pipeline with a view to owning and operating the pipeline (such pipeline would not be a System Extension as it would not be owned and operated by National Grid), or
 - ii. construct and connect a pipeline with the intention that it will transfer to National Grid under a Taking Ownership Agreement (in which case it would become a System Extension); or
- b) at the termination point of a System Extension constructed by National Grid.

26B. If a new connection comprises a New Exit Point, National Grid may determine that a manually operated valve installation shall be installed rather than an ROV installation.

26C. The costs of the ROV Installation, or manually operated valve installation, will form a part of the connection charge irrespective of whether the connection is for Exit, Entry or Bidirectional purposes.

27. Where a connection is requested at or adjacent to an existing National Grid site, National Grid will at its sole discretion determine the most appropriate point and design of the connection taking into account potential costs of connection, future operational costs, security of supply and operational flexibility.

28. National Grid does not provide gas flow and energy measurement equipment for transmission connections.

29. In addition to the equipment provided by National Grid, there are several technical requirements that a customer must fulfil if it is to have a connection to the NTS. These relate principally to the customer's metering and telemetry equipment and, where relevant, Gas Quality Instrumentation.

Proposed Legal Text (subject to confirmation)

Remotely Operable Valve (ROV) Installations

26A. Subject to paragraph 27 and unless National Grid determines that a manually operated valve installation shall be installed rather than an ROV installation all new connections will include an ROV Installation which may be situated either:

- a) at a point on the NTS, where the customer wishes to:
 - i. construct and connect a pipeline with a view to owning and operating the pipeline (such pipeline would not be a System Extension as it would not be owned and operated by National Grid), or
 - ii. construct and connect a pipeline with the intention that it will transfer to National Grid under a Taking Ownership Agreement (in which case it would become a System Extension); or
- b) at the termination point of a System Extension constructed by National Grid.

26B. The costs of the ROV Installation, or manually operated valve installation, will form a part of the connection charge irrespective of whether the connection is for Exit, Entry or Bidirectional purposes.

27. Where a connection is requested at or adjacent to an existing National Grid site, National Grid will at its sole discretion determine the most appropriate point and design of the connection taking into account potential costs of connection, future operational costs, security of supply and operational flexibility.

Legal Text commentary

- This has removed 26B and captured the point in 26A.
- 26C becomes 26B.

Proposal for 0771 Next Steps

Changes are required to National Grid's Safety Case to implement this change. We have assessed this to be a none material change where the wording is amended from 'will' to 'may' for connections having a ROV.

We are ensuring all the governance has been fulfilled – via a safety case change with the HSE and contractual changes through the UNC. Therefore, we are proposing:

- Submit the change to the HSE prior to the closure of the workgroup (depending on the timeline we may require an extension from Panel)
- Receive the response from the HSE; if this is none material it will be a noted change, not an approval
- Retain self-governance status on the basis that it is a none material change
- Development of the workgroup report
- Submit the workgroup report to Panel for approval with a recommendation to Panel to retain self-governance status

This avoids delays that may be caused awaiting an Ofgem decision and will ensure consumers receive the benefit of the modification at the earliest opportunity.

Discussion: Does workgroup agree with this proposal of how to proceed?

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