

Mr Stephen English
Gas Market Operator (NI),
Fourth Floor,
The Arena Building,
85 Ormeau Road,
Belfast,
BT7 1SH

Ref: NET/G/RML/611
30 November 2022

Dear Stephen,

RE : NI Network Gas Transmission Code Modification No 15

Thank you for your submission of the Final Modification Report (FMR) No 15 in respect of 'Introduction of Aggregate Balancing' dated 28 October 2022 and updated 21 November 2022. The purpose of the modification is to support and enable the injection of biomethane into the gas network in Northern Ireland by introducing Aggregate Balancing Arrangements.

UR consideration of the Modification Report

The Utility Regulator has considered the information provided in this FMR. We note that the Transporter received no responses to the Initial Modification Report (IMR), however, three minor changes were made to the Proposed Modification in the FMR following the consultation. These relate to:

1. Treatment of Scheduling Charges to split out the terms for DN Exit Points and Power Station Exit Points and then show the total scheduling difference as the sum of the individual differences for each Exit Point.
2. Removal of the terms associated with Shared Exit Point and Aggregate Exit Nominated Quantity. This was removed from the proposed legal text as it will no longer be needed, its deletion from the list of defined terms was not completed.
3. Amendment of the term for Final Exit Allocations the original group term of 'Final Exit Allocations' (which means both or either of these) was not updated. This term is used in a number of places within the Code. Therefore, the

Transporter intends to use an amended version of this group term so that it can still be used in the appropriate contexts in which it appears without more widespread amendments.

We also note that the proposed modification to the NI Network Gas Transmission Code seeks to enable biomethane injection on the distribution networks by introducing aggregate balancing arrangements. These arrangements will be complemented through a separate Information Sharing Agreement between the gas DNOs and the TSOs.

We are content that the proposed modification would better facilitate the 'relevant objective' as outlined in condition 2.4 of the applicable licences. We agree that these modifications should improve the economic and efficient operation of the NI Gas Transmission Network as described in the FMR.

Decision

As provided for in condition 2.4D.9(c) of the relevant licences we direct the Transporter to implement the modification as set out in FMR No 15 dated 21 November 2022. The modification shall become effective on 1 December 2022.

Yours sincerely,



Roisin McLaughlin
Head of Network Operations
For and on behalf of NIAUR