

**To: All holders of a gas shipper licence**

**Gas Act 1986  
Section 23(2)**

**Notice of statutory consultation on a proposal to modify the standard conditions of all gas shipper licences**

1. The Gas and Electricity Markets Authority ('the Authority')<sup>1</sup> proposes to modify the standard conditions of all gas shipper licences granted or treated as granted under section 7A of the Gas Act 1986 by amending the following standard licence conditions (SLCs) under section 23(1) of the Gas Act 1986:

- Condition 8: Information as Respects Premises Served
- Condition 13: Meter Point Information Furnished by a Gas Transporter
- Condition 14. Provisions Relating to Transfer of Customers

The proposed modifications are set out in Schedule 1 to this Notice.

2. Pursuant to the Authority's Switching Significant Code Review (SCR), version 3.0 of the dual-fuel Retail Energy Code (REC) will introduce the necessary code requirements to enable faster, more reliable switching of energy supplier by consumers (the Switching Programme). Version 3.0 of the REC builds on version 2.0, which came into effect on 1 September 2021.

3. The reason why the Authority is proposing to make this SLC modification is in order that changes arising out of the new policy arrangements aimed at making the customer switching process more reliable, and requiring suppliers to complete switches within five working days, are properly reflected in the gas shipper SLCs.

4. In summary, the effect of these proposed modifications is that licensees will have various obligations in relation to the current customer switching process removed in time for the "Go Live" date of the new Central Switching Service.

5. A more detailed description of the reasons for, and effects of, these proposed licence modifications can be found in our accompanying statutory consultation document, as well as in our policy consultation, 'Switching Programme and Retail Code Consolidation: Proposed licence modifications', published in November 2020.<sup>2</sup>

6. Any representations with respect to the proposed licence modifications must be made on or before **5pm on Monday 21st March** by email to: [switching.programme@ofgem.gov.uk](mailto:switching.programme@ofgem.gov.uk).

7. We normally publish all responses on our website. However, if you do not wish your response to be made public then please clearly mark it as not for publication. We prefer to receive responses in an electronic form so they can be placed easily on our website.

8. If we decide to make the proposed modifications, they will take effect not less than 56 days after the decision is published.

<sup>1</sup> The terms "the Authority", "we" and "us" are used interchangeably in this document.

<sup>2</sup> Link to the [policy consultation document](#) on the Ofgem website here



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**Nicola Garland,  
Head of Delivery, Switching Programme**

**Duly authorised on behalf of the  
Gas and Electricity Markets Authority**

**17th February 2022**

## Schedule 1 to Notice – Draft of proposed modifications to the standard conditions of all Gas Shipper Licences

We have included the sections of the gas shipper SLCs we have proposed to remove or amend below. Deletions are shown in ~~strike through~~ and new text is double underlined. We have only shown those licence conditions where modifications are proposed.

### GAS SHIPPER LICENCE: STANDARD CONDITIONS

#### Condition 8. Information as Respects Premises Served

2. The licensee shall keep the relevant transporter conveying gas to those premises informed, in such manner and at such times as are provided in its Network Code or, in default of such provision or where paragraph 3, paragraph 5 or paragraphs 6 to 9 of standard condition 6 (Conveyance of Gas Otherwise than on Network Code or Similar Terms) apply, as may be designated by the Authority for the purposes of this condition -
  - (a) ~~of the name of the gas supplier, if any, from time to time supplying gas to the premises in question (not used);~~
  - (b) if from time to time there is no gas supplier supplying gas to the premises in question such supplier, as to the circumstances which render it unnecessary that the gas supplied to the premises in question be supplied by such a supplier; and
  - (c) of such information as the licensee may from time to time obtain as to the volumes or amounts of gas conveyed to the premises in question.
  
4. ~~The licensee shall transmit the relevant transporter's meter point reference number or code to the relevant supplier (unless the holder of this licence is that supplier). (Not used).~~
  
5. ~~(Not used). The licensee shall, in each case where it proposes to become the relevant shipper in respect of particular premises, give the relevant transporter confirmation that it will so become, in such manner as the transporter may reasonably require, not less than 14 business days (or any lesser period which may be permitted in the particular circumstances by or under the relevant transporter's Network Code) in advance of the date on which it is to become the relevant shipper and, for the purposes hereof, "business day" means a day other than one beginning -~~
  - (a) ~~on a Saturday or Sunday;~~
  - (b) ~~on a day which is a bank holiday in England and Wales; or~~
  - (c) ~~on the first day after the New Year bank holiday which (this sub-paragraph apart) would be a business day.~~

### **Condition 13. ~~Meter Point Information Furnished by a Gas Transporter~~Not Used**

- ~~1. Where, in pursuance of a request for the purposes of paragraph 2(c) of standard condition 31 (Supply Point Information Service) of the standard conditions of gas transporters' licences, as incorporated in a gas transporter's licence, that transporter has furnished the licensee with a copy of a part of, or information contained in, the register kept by the transporter in pursuance of the said standard condition 31 (Supply Point Information Service), the licensee shall restrict the use or disclosure it makes of the copy or information furnished in such manner, and to such extent, as may be designated, for the purposes of this condition generally, by the Authority so, however, that such designation may make different provision in relation to copies of part of the register, or information, furnished by different gas transporters.~~

### **Condition 14. Provisions Relating to Transfer of Customers**

1. Subject to paragraph 3, the licensee shall permit a proposed supplier transfer in relation to any premises in respect of which it is the relevant shipper if, and only if –
  - (a) it has not been requested, in the particular case, to prevent the proposed supplier transfer –
    - (i) ~~by the relevant supplier (or a person who would, if licensed as a gas supplier, be the relevant supplier but is not required to be so licensed), or~~
    - (ii) ~~except where another supplier has become the relevant supplier, by a gas supplier which has cut off the supply of gas to the premises in pursuance of paragraph 7 of Schedule 2B to the Act or, where the premises are secondary sub deduct premises, in pursuance of any like right of that supplier to cut off that supply(not used); or~~
  - (b) it has been so requested, in the particular case, to prevent the proposed supplier transfer, but knows, or has reasonable cause to believe –
    - (i) ~~that the request was made in breach of paragraph 1 of standard condition 30 ( Debt Blocking ) of the standard conditions of gas suppliers' licences as incorporated in the supplier's licence(not used), or~~
    - (ii) ~~if the person making the request was not- a gas supplier, that the request would have been made in breach of paragraph 1 of sStandard condition Condition 30 14 (-DebtCustomer Transfer Blocking-) of the standard conditions of gas suppliers' licences had the person in question been a gas supplier bound thereby.~~
2. Where the holder of this licence is, in respect of any premises, not only the relevant shipper but also ~~the relevant supplier (or a person who would, if licensed as a gas supplier, be the relevant supplier but is not required to be so licensed),~~ subject to paragraph 3, it shall not prevent a proposed supplier transfer in relation to any such premises except for so long as the

circumstances are such as are mentioned in ~~paragraph 1 of standard~~  
Standard condition Condition 30 14 (Debt Customer Transfer Blocking) of the  
standard conditions of gas suppliers' licences.