

To: All holders of an electricity distribution licence, electricity system operator licence, gas system planner licence, Part D of the standard special licence conditions of the gas transporter licence, and interested parties

**Electricity Act 1989
Section 11A(2)**

Notice of statutory consultation on a proposal to modify the standard conditions of all electricity distribution licences and the electricity system operator licence.

1. The Gas and Electricity Markets Authority ('the Authority')¹ proposes to modify the standard conditions of all electricity distribution licences granted or treated as granted under section 6(1)(c) of the Electricity Act 1989, and the conditions of the Electricity System Operator licence granted or treated as granted under section 6(1)(da) of the Electricity Act 1989, by adding:
 - a. Electricity Distribution Standard Licence Conditions
 - i. Condition 54: Regional Energy Strategic Plan
 1. Part A: Participation
 2. Part B: Provision of RESP Information
 3. Part C: Procedure for issuing and revising the RESP Guidance
 4. Part D: Interpretations and definitions (to be added to Condition 1. Definitions for the standard conditions)
 - b. Electricity System Operator Licence
 - i. Condition C19: Regional Energy Strategic Plan
 1. Interpretations and definitions (to be added to Condition A1 Definitions)
 2. Part A: Requirement to create RESPs and a RESP Methodology
 3. Part B: Regional Energy Strategic Plan Guidance
 4. Part C: Development and Approval of the RESP Methodology
 5. Part D: Approval of the Regional Energy Strategic Plans
 6. Part E: Publication of the RESPs

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

Notice of statutory consultation on a proposal to modify Part D of the standard special licence conditions of the gas transporter licence and the gas system planner licence

2. The Gas and Electricity Markets Authority ('the Authority') proposes to modify the standard conditions of the Gas Transporter licence granted or treated as granted under section 7 of the Gas Act 1986, and conditions of the Gas System Planner licence granted or treated as granted under section 7AA of the Gas Act 1986, by adding:
 - a. Part D of the Standard Special Licence Conditions of the Gas Transporter Licence
 - i. Standard Special Condition D23. Regional Energy Strategic Plan

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

1. Part A: Participation
 2. Part B: Provision of RESP Information
 3. Part C: Procedure for issuing and revising the RESP Guidance
 4. Part D: Interpretations and definitions (to be added to Standard Special Condition A3: Definitions and Interpretation)
- b. Gas System Planner Licence
- i. Condition C13: Regional Energy Strategic Plan
 1. Interpretations and definitions (to be added to Condition A1 Definitions)
 2. Part A: Requirement to create RESPs and a RESP Methodology
 3. Part B: Regional Energy Strategic Plan Guidance
 4. Part C: Development and Approval of the RESP Methodology
 5. Part D: Approval of the RESPs
 6. Part E: Publication of the RESPs
3. We are proposing these modifications to support the implementation and operation of the Regional Energy Strategic Plan (RESP).
 4. The effect of these proposed modifications is to:
 - a. require the licensee of the electricity system operator licence and gas system planner licence to create each of the RESPs;
 - b. require the licensee of a Part D of the standard special licence conditions of the gas transporter licence to participate in the RESP and to provide RESP Information to NESO;
 - c. require the licensee of an electricity distribution licence to participate in the RESP and to provide RESP Information to NESO.
 5. A copy of the proposed modification/modifications and other documents referred to in this Notice, including the full text of the proposed modifications, have been published on our website (www.ofgem.gov.uk). Alternatively, they are available from information.rights@ofgem.gov.uk.
 6. Any representations with respect to the proposed licence modification/modifications must be made on or before 28 November 2025 to: resp@ofgem.gov.uk, Office of Gas and Electricity Markets, 10 South Colonnade, Canary Wharf, London, E14 4PU or by email to resp@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.



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Tessa Hall
Head of Regional Energy Strategic Planning
Duly authorised on behalf of the
Gas and Electricity Markets Authority

18 Mar 2026

Schedule 1 – Draft of proposed modifications to the standard conditions (SLCs) of the Electricity Distribution Licence

New text is double underlined

Condition 54. Regional Energy Strategic Plan

Introduction

54.1

The purpose of this condition is to set out the obligation of the licensee to support the ISOP to meet its obligation under the ISOP's Electricity System Operator Licence and Gas System Planner Licence to develop the RESP Methodology and a RESP for each of the RESP nations and regions.

Part A: Participation

54.2

The licensee must use its best endeavours and in accordance with the RESP Guidance to:

(a) Participate in the development of the RESP Methodology;

(b) Subject to paragraph 54.3:

(i) Participate in the development of the RESP for the RESP nations and regions for the licensee specified in Appendix 1.

(ii) Provide appropriate representation on the Strategic Board for the RESP nations and regions for the licensee specified in Appendix 1.

54.3

On receipt of a request made by the licensee, and where sufficient information is provided by the licensee to justify such a change in accordance with the RESP Guidance, the Authority may direct changes to the level of the licensee's participation in the development of relevant RESPs and representation on relevant Strategic Boards.

Part B: Provision of RESP Information

54.4

The licensee must use its best endeavours to provide the ISOP with RESP Information, as the ISOP may reasonably request, within a reasonable number of Working Days of receipt of a request from the ISOP, taking account of the complexity, volume and availability of the RESP Information sought.

54.5

The RESP Information provided under paragraph 54.4 must be of appropriate quality and format as the ISOP may reasonably request.

Part C: Procedure for issuing and revising the RESP Guidance

54.6

In satisfying the requirements of this condition the licensee must have due regard to the RESP Guidance.

54.7

The Authority may issue and amend the RESP Guidance by direction.

54.8

Before issuing or amending the RESP Guidance, the Authority must publish on its website:

(a) the text of the proposed or amended RESP Guidance;

(b) the date on which the Authority intends the RESP Guidance or amended RESP Guidance to come into effect; and

(c) a period during which representations may be made, which must not be less than 28 days.

54.9

After issuing or amending the RESP Guidance, the Authority must:

(a) Publish the RESP Guidance on the Authority’s website; and

(b) ensure that any amendments to the RESP Guidance are promptly incorporated into a consolidated version maintained on the Authority’s website.

54.10

The steps required to issue or amend the RESP Guidance may be satisfied by action taken before, as well as action taken after, this condition, comes into effect.

Part D: Interpretation and Definitions

For the purposes of this condition:

<u>Consistent Planning Assumptions</u>	<u>means a single set of assumptions developed by the ISOP which drive coherent derivation of network requirements resulting from the RESP Pathways.</u>
<u>RESP Information</u>	<u>means such information (other than information subject to legal privilege) to be provided by the licensee to the ISOP which:</u> <u>(a) Relates to the licensee’s Distribution System;</u>

	<p><u>(b) Is in the possession or control of the licensee; and</u></p> <p><u>(c) the ISOP considers necessary to develop the RESP Methodology or the RESPs.</u></p>
<u>RESP Pathway</u>	<u>means a component of each RESP which provides a spatially modelled projection of energy demand and supply over the RESP nations and regions developed by the ISOP in line with the RESP Guidance.</u>
<u>Nations and Regions Context</u>	<u>means a component of each RESP which provides a long-term view of regional conditions and priorities in the relevant RESP nation or region developed by the ISOP in line with the RESP Guidance.</u>
<u>Regional Energy Strategic Plan (RESP)</u>	<u>means a whole-system energy plan developed for RESP nations and regions by the ISOP comprised of a Nations and Regions Context, a single 10-year RESP Pathway and multiple longer-term RESP Pathways, a Spatial Context, a Specification of Strategic Investment Need, and Consistent Planning Assumptions. The plural acronym RESPs is used to refer to multiple Regional Energy Strategic Plans.</u>
<u>RESP Guidance</u>	<u>means the document of that name issued and amended by the Authority from time to time pursuant to Condition 54.7.</u>
<u>RESP Methodology</u>	<u>means the methodology of that name describing how the ISOP will develop RESPs, approved by the Authority and the Secretary of State, in accordance with condition C19 of the ISOP's Electricity System Operator Licence and condition C13 of the Gas System Planner Licence.</u>
<u>RESP nations and regions</u>	<u>means a geographic area, listed in Appendix 1 and described in more detail in the RESP Guidance, for which a RESP is developed.</u>
<u>Spatial Context</u>	<u>means a component of each RESP which provides a geospatial view of RESP Pathways against network data indicating network capacity requirements over the RESP nations and regions developed by the ISOP in line with the RESP Guidance.</u>

<u>Specification of Strategic Investment Need</u>	<u>means a component of each RESP developed by the ISOP in line with the RESP Guidance which identifies areas of investment need within the RESP nations and regions which are of high economic and/or system value and necessary to the delivery of regional priorities as set out in the Nations and Regions Context.</u>
<u>Strategic Board</u>	<u>means a governance body for the oversight of the delivery and approval of each RESP that involves Distribution Services Providers and relevant holders of a Gas Transporter Licence with Distribution Networks², devolved and local governments, and regional cross-sector bodies to provide oversight and steer to the RESP development process and strategic outputs, established by the ISOP in accordance with condition C19 of the ISOPs Electricity System Operator Licence and condition C13 of the Gas System Planner Licence.</u>

APPENDIX [1]
(see Part A of this condition)

A1.1 Great Britain – Relevant RESP nations and regions for each Electricity Distributor. References are as set out in Part B (References to the Electricity Distributors) of Special Condition 1.2 of this licence.

<u>RESP nations and regions</u>	<u>Electricity Distributor</u>
<u>England</u> <u>Central England</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>EMID</u> • <u>WMID</u> • <u>SSES</u> • <u>EPN</u>
<u>England</u> <u>East</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>EPN</u> • <u>LPN</u>
<u>England</u> <u>East Midlands</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>ENWL</u> • <u>EMID</u> • <u>NPgY</u>
<u>England</u> <u>Greater London</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>SSES</u> • <u>EPN</u> • <u>LPN</u> • <u>SPN</u>
<u>England</u> <u>North East & Yorkshire</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>ENWL</u> • <u>NPgN</u> • <u>NPgY</u> • <u>SPD</u>

² as listed in Appendix 1 to Standard Special Condition D23 of the Gas Transporter Licence

<u>England</u> <u>North West</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>ENWL</u> • <u>SPMW</u> • <u>NPGY</u> • <u>WMID</u> • <u>SPD</u>
<u>England</u> <u>South East</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>SSES</u> • <u>LPN</u> • <u>SPN</u>
<u>England</u> <u>South West</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>SWALES</u> • <u>SWEST</u> • <u>WMID</u> • <u>SSES</u>
<u>England</u> <u>West Midlands</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>EMID</u> • <u>WMID</u> • <u>SPMW</u>
<u>Scotland</u> <u>Scotland</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>SPD</u> • <u>SSEH</u>
<u>Wales</u> <u>Wales</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>SWALES</u> • <u>SPMW</u>

Schedule 2 – Draft of proposed modifications to the standard conditions (SLCs) of the Electricity System Operator

New text is double underlined.

Section C: Strategic and operational functions

Condition 19 Regional Energy Strategic Plan

Introduction

C19.1

The purpose of this condition is to set out the obligation of the licensee to develop a Regional Energy Strategic Plan (RESP) for each of the RESP nations and regions and a RESP Methodology, including setting out:

- (a) in Part A, the requirement to create RESPs and a RESP Methodology;
- (b) in Part B, the process for the Authority to issue and amend RESP Guidance;
- (c) in Part C, the development and approval process for the RESP Methodology;
- (d) in Part D, the approval process for the RESPs; and
- (e) in Part E, the publication of the RESPs.

Part A: Requirement to create RESPs and a RESP Methodology

C19.2

The licensee must, in accordance with the RESP Guidance:

- (a) develop and publish a RESP Methodology;
- (b) develop and publish a RESP for each of the RESP nations and regions in line with the RESP Methodology; and
- (c) carry out assurance activities following the creation of the RESPs.

C19.3

The licensee must, in accordance with the RESP Guidance:

- (a) establish a GB Steering Committee to provide strategic oversight and national-level coordination of strategic energy planning for the purposes of RESP; and
- (b) establish a Strategic Board for each of the RESP nations and regions, consult it at key points in the RESP development process and seek its approval of the RESP, in accordance with the RESP Methodology.

C19.4

In the development of each RESP and in accordance with the RESP Guidance, the licensee must:

- (a) draw from relevant datasets and undertake stakeholder engagement to develop a Nations and Regions Context;
- (b) conduct spatial modelling of future energy supply and demand to develop a single short-term RESP Pathway over a 10-year time horizon and multiple long-term RESP Pathways;

- (c) produce an accessible geospatial tool to show RESP Pathways against network capacity data to develop a Spatial Context;
- (d) identify and develop a Specification of Strategic Investment Need; and
- (e) publish a set of Consistent Planning Assumptions with acceptable ranges of variation to allow for differences between RESP nations and regions.

C19.5

To support the development of each RESP and in accordance with the RESP Guidance, the licensee must:

- (a) actively seek to resolve gaps and inconsistencies in plans within and between RESP nations and regions and identify opportunities for whole-system optimisation; and
- (b) develop structured, transparent and accessible routes for stakeholder engagement in each of the RESP nations and regions and develop proportionate forms of support for local government to engage in the development of the RESP.

C19.6

During the development of the RESPs and in accordance with the RESP Guidance, the licensee must use its best endeavours to ensure that requests for the provision of RESP Information are efficient and coordinated, including by providing reasonable requirements regarding the timescale, format, and quality of the RESP Information.

C19.7

During the development of each RESP and in accordance with the RESP Guidance, the licensee must consult;

- (a) the Authority;
- (b) Distribution Services Providers;
- (c) relevant holders of a Gas Transporter Licence with Distribution Networks³;
- (d) persons as set out in the RESP Methodology;
- (e) publicly, other persons and parties that might be interested in the development of the RESPs;
- (f) the Strategic Board; and
- (g) the GB Steering Committee.

C19.8

The consultation in accordance with paragraph C19.7 must be of such a form and duration to reasonably allow all parties set out in paragraph C19.7 to provide representations.

Part B: RESP Guidance

C19.9

The Authority may issue and amend the RESP Guidance by direction.

C19.10

The RESP Guidance will contain, but not be limited to:

³ As listed in Appendix 1 to Standard Special Condition D23 of the Gas Transporter Licence.

- (a) instructions and detailed guidance on the process, content, governance arrangements and timeframe for publishing the RESP; and
- (b) instructions and detailed guidance for the process, content, and publication of the RESP Methodology.

C19.11

Before directing that the RESP Guidance comes into effect, the Authority will publish:

- (a) the text of the proposed RESP Guidance; and
- (b) the period during which representations may be made, which will not be less than 28 days.

C19.12

Before directing any amendment to the RESP Guidance, the Authority will publish:

- (a) a consultation on the text of any amendments to the RESP Guidance;
- (b) the date on which the Authority intends the amendments to come into effect; and
- (c) the reasons for any amendment.

C19.13

The consultation in accordance with C19.11 or C19.12 must be of such a form and duration to reasonably allow all parties set out in paragraph C19.7(b)-(g) to provide representations

Part C: Development and Approval of the RESP Methodology

C19.14

Unless otherwise directed by the Authority, the licensee must publish the RESP Methodology within 4 weeks of approval, in accordance with paragraph C19.21.

C19.15

The RESP Methodology must, in accordance with the RESP Guidance, develop a detailed mechanism for the approval of the RESP.

C19.16

During the development of, and prior to submitting the proposed RESP Methodology to the Authority and the Secretary of State pursuant to paragraph C19.19 and C19.20, the licensee must consult:

- (a) the Authority;
- (b) the Secretary of State;
- (c) Distribution Services Providers
- (d) relevant holders of a Gas Transporter Licence with Distribution Networks⁴; and
- (e) publicly, other persons and parties that might be interested in the development of the RESP Methodology.
- (f) once established, the Strategic Board; and
- (g) once established, the GB Steering Committee.

⁴ As listed in Appendix 1 to Standard Special Condition D23 of the Gas Transporter Licence

C19.17

The consultation in accordance with paragraph C19.16 must be of such a form and duration to reasonably allow all persons and parties set out in paragraph C19.16 to provide representations.

C19.18

The requirement of paragraph C19.16 may be satisfied by actions taken before or after this licence condition comes into effect.

C19.19

By 30 June 2026 and by 30 June of every third year thereafter, the licensee must (unless otherwise directed by the Authority) submit to the Authority and the Secretary of State for approval the proposed RESP Methodology.

C19.20

Submissions made under paragraph C19.19 must include:

- (a) a detailed explanation of the consultation process undertaken in the development of the RESP Methodology;
- (b) a summary of views from all parties and an explanation of how these were considered in the development of the RESP Methodology; and
- (c) copies of any formal responses submitted to the licensee as part of its consultation process.

C19.21

The Authority and the Secretary of State may on receipt of a submission under paragraph C19.19 either:

- (a) approve the proposed RESP Methodology (or any revised version); or
- (b) if either the Authority or the Secretary of State does not approve the RESP Methodology, issue a direction to the licensee that the new (or revised) RESP Methodology requires further development, and the date by which the licensee is required to submit a revised RESP Methodology to the Authority and the Secretary of State for approval.

Part D: Approval of the RESPs

C19.22

By 30 September 2028 and by 30 September of every third year thereafter, unless otherwise directed by the Authority, the licensee must submit each proposed RESP to the relevant Strategic Board for approval, in accordance with the RESP Methodology, subject to C19.27.

C19.23

Submissions made under paragraph C19.22 must include:

- (a) a detailed explanation of the consultation process undertaken in the development of the RESPs;
- (b) a summary of views from all parties and an explanation of how these were considered in the development of the RESPs; and
- (c) copies of any formal responses submitted to the licensee as part of its consultation process.

C19.24

Prior to publication of a RESP in accordance with paragraph C19.28, the licensee must ensure that either:

- (a) the Strategic Board has approved the proposed RESP in accordance with the RESP Methodology; or
- (b) where, having used reasonable endeavours, the licensee has been unable to obtain such approval, the licensee has submitted the proposed RESP to the Authority for further consideration and approval has been obtained in accordance with paragraphs C19.25, C19.26 and C19.27.

C19.25

The Authority may on receipt of a submission under paragraph C19.24(b) either:

- (a) offer facilitation to enable approval of the RESP; or
- (b) give a direction to the licensee that the proposed (or revised) RESP requires further development, and the date by which the licensee is required to submit a revised RESP to the Authority for approval; or
- (c) approve the proposed (or revised) RESP.

C19.26

Where the Authority makes a direction under C19.25 or C19.27

- (a) the licensee must submit the relevant RESP(s) to the Authority for approval in such form and manner as the Authority may specify;
- (b) the Authority may approve the relevant RESP(s) with or without conditions, or require the licensee to make such modifications as the Authority may specify and to resubmit the relevant RESP(s) within a period specified by the Authority; and
- (c) if so required by the Authority, the licensee must carry out further consultation with the persons specified by the Authority, in accordance with such process and timeframes as the Authority may specify, prior to the Authority determining whether to approve the relevant RESP(s).

C19.27

The Authority may, by direction:

- (a) require that any RESP which has been approved by the Strategic Board must be resubmitted to the Authority for review and approval before it may take effect; and/or
- (b) require that any RESP which has not yet been approved by the Strategic Board must be submitted to, and approved by, the Authority prior to publication.

Part E: Publication of the RESPs

C19.28

By 31 December 2028 and by 31 December of every third year thereafter, the licensee must publish a RESP for each of the RESP nations and regions in accordance with the latest RESP Methodology unless another date has been directed by the Authority.

C19.29

The licensee must publish the RESPs and supporting material as described in C19.23 on its website in an accessible format.

Interpretation and Definitions

<u>Consistent Planning Assumptions</u>	<u>means a single set of assumptions developed by the licensee which drive coherent derivation of network requirements resulting from the RESP Pathways.</u>
<u>Distribution Services Provider</u>	<u>means any Electricity Distributor in whose Electricity Distribution Licence the requirements of Section B of the standard conditions of that licence have effect (whether in whole or in part).</u>
<u>RESP Information</u>	<p><u>means such information (other than information subject to legal privilege) to be provided by Distribution Services Providers and relevant holders of a Gas Transporter Licence with Distribution Networks⁵ to the licensee which:</u></p> <p><u>(a) relates to the Distribution Services Providers and relevant holders of a Gas Transporter Licence with Distribution Networks;</u></p> <p><u>(b) is in the possession or control of the Distribution Services Providers and relevant holders of a Gas Transporter Licence with Distribution Networks; and</u></p> <p><u>(c) the licensee considers necessary to develop the RESP Methodology or the RESPs.</u></p>
<u>GB Steering Committee</u>	<u>means a governance body that involves, at a minimum, the Authority, the licensee, and the Secretary of State. Together they provide strategic oversight, expertise, advice, and national-level coordination of strategic energy planning during</u>

⁵ as listed in Appendix 1 to Standard Special Condition D23 of the Gas Transporter Licence

	<u>development of the RESP Methodology and the RESPs.</u>
<u>RESP Pathway</u>	<u>means a component of each RESP which provides a spatially modelled projection of energy demand and supply over the RESP nations and regions developed by the licensee in line with the RESP Guidance.</u>
<u>Nations and Regions Context</u>	<u>means a component of each RESP which provides a long-term view of regional conditions and priorities in the relevant RESP nation or region developed by the licensee in line with the RESP Guidance.</u>
<u>Regional Energy Strategic Plan (RESP)</u>	<u>means a whole-system energy plan developed for RESP nations and regions comprised of a Nations and Regions Context, a single 10-year RESP Pathway and multiple longer-term RESP Pathways, a Spatial Context, a Specification of Strategic Investment Need, and Consistent Planning Assumptions. The plural acronym RESPs is used to refer to multiple Regional Energy Strategic Plans.</u>
<u>RESP Guidance</u>	<u>means the document of that name issued and amended by the Authority from time to time pursuant to condition C19.9.</u>
<u>RESP Methodology</u>	<u>means the methodology, approved by the Authority and the Secretary of State, describing how the licensee will develop RESPs, in accordance with condition C19.14.</u>
<u>RESP nations and regions</u>	<u>means a geographic area, as defined in the RESP Guidance, for which a RESP is developed.</u>
<u>Spatial Context</u>	<u>means a component of each RESP which provides a geospatial view of RESP Pathways against network data indicating network capacity requirements over the RESP nations and regions developed by the licensee in line with the RESP Guidance.</u>
<u>Specification of Strategic Investment Need</u>	<u>means a component of each RESP developed by the licensee in line with the RESP Guidance which identifies areas of investment need within the RESP nations and regions which are of high economic and/or system value and necessary to the delivery of regional priorities as set out in the Nations and Regions Context</u>
<u>Strategic Board</u>	<u>means a governance body for the oversight of the delivery and approval of each RESP that involves Distribution Services Providers and holders of a Gas Transporter Licence with Distribution Networks, devolved and local governments, and</u>

	<u>regional cross-sector bodies to provide oversight and steer to the RESP development process and strategic outputs.</u>
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Schedule 3 – Draft of proposed modifications to Part D of the standard special licence conditions of the Gas Transporter Licence

New text is double underlined

Standard Special Condition D23. Regional Energy Strategic Plan

Introduction

1.

The purpose of this condition is to set out the obligation of the licensee to support the ISOP to meet its obligation under the ISOP’s Electricity System Operator Licence and Gas System Planner Licence to develop the RESP Methodology and a RESP for each of the RESP nations and regions.

Part A: Participation

2.

The licensee must use its best endeavours and in accordance with the RESP Guidance to:

(a) Participate in the development of the RESP Methodology;

(b) Subject to paragraph 3:

(i) Participate in the development of the RESP for the RESP nations and regions for the licensee specified in Appendix 1.

(ii) Provide appropriate representation on the Strategic Board for the RESP nations and regions for the licensee specified in Appendix 1.

3.

On receipt of a request made by the licensee, and where sufficient information is provided by the licensee to justify such a change in accordance with the RESP Guidance, the Authority may direct changes to the level of the licensee’s participation in the development of relevant RESPs and representation on relevant Strategic Boards.

Part B: Provision of RESP Information

4.

The licensee must use its best endeavours to provide the ISOP with RESP Information, as the ISOP may reasonably request, within a reasonable number of Working Days of receipt of a request from the ISOP, taking account of the complexity, volume and availability of the RESP Information sought.

5.

The RESP Information provided under paragraph 4 must be of appropriate quality and format as the ISOP may reasonably request.

Part C: Procedure for issuing and revising the RESP Guidance

6.

In satisfying the requirements of this condition the licensee must have due regard to the RESP Guidance.

7.

The Authority may issue and amend the RESP Guidance by direction.

8.

Before issuing or amending the RESP Guidance, the Authority must publish on its website:

(a) the text of the proposed or amended RESP Guidance;

(b) the date on which the Authority intends the RESP Guidance or amended RESP Guidance to come into effect; and

(c) a period during which representations may be made, which must not be less than 28 days.

9.

After issuing or amending the RESP Guidance, the Authority must:

(a) Publish the RESP Guidance on the Authority's website; and

(b) ensure that any amendments to the RESP Guidance are promptly incorporated into a consolidated version maintained on the Authority's website.

10.

The steps required to issue or amend the RESP Guidance may be satisfied by action taken before, as well as action taken after, this condition comes into effect.

Part D: Interpretation and Definitions

11.

For the purposes of this condition:

<u>Consistent Planning Assumptions</u>	<u>means a single set of assumptions developed by the ISOP which drive coherent derivation of network requirements resulting from the RESP Pathways.</u>
<u>Distribution Services Provider</u>	<u>means any Electricity Distributor in whose Electricity Distribution Licence the requirements of Section B of the standard conditions of that licence have effect (whether in whole or in part).</u>

<u>RESP Information</u>	<p><u>means such information (other than information subject to legal privilege) to be provided by the licensee to the ISOP which:</u></p> <p><u>(a) relates to the licensee’s Distribution Network;</u></p> <p><u>(b) is in the possession or control of the licensee; and</u></p> <p><u>(c) the ISOP considers necessary to develop the RESP Methodology or the RESPs.</u></p>
<u>RESP Pathway</u>	<u>means a component of each RESP which provides a spatially modelled projection of energy demand and supply over the RESP nations and regions developed by the ISOP in line with the RESP Guidance.</u>
<u>Nations and Regions Context</u>	<u>means a component of each RESP which provides a long-term view of regional conditions and priorities in the relevant RESP nation or region developed by the ISOP in line with the RESP Guidance.</u>
<u>Regional Energy Strategic Plan (RESP)</u>	<u>means a whole-system energy plan developed for RESP nations and regions by the ISOP comprised of a Nations and Regions Context, a single 10-year RESP Pathway and multiple longer-term RESP Pathways, a Spatial Context, a Specification of Strategic Investment Need, and Consistent Planning Assumptions. The plural acronym RESPs is used to refer to multiple Regional Energy Strategic Plans.</u>
<u>RESP Guidance</u>	<u>means the document of that name issued and amended by the Authority from time to time pursuant to condition D23.7.</u>
<u>RESP Methodology</u>	<u>means the methodology of that name describing how the ISOP will develop RESPs, approved by the Authority and the Secretary of State, in accordance with condition C19 of the ISOP’s Electricity System Operator Licence and condition C13 of the Gas System Planner Licence.</u>
<u>RESP nations and regions</u>	<u>means a geographic area, listed in Appendix 1 and as described in more detail</u>

	<u>in the RESP Guidance, for which a RESP is developed.</u>
<u>Spatial Context</u>	<u>means a component of each RESP which provides a geospatial view of RESP Pathways against network data indicating network capacity requirements over the RESP nations and regions developed by the ISOP in line with the RESP Guidance.</u>
<u>Specification of Strategic Investment Need</u>	<u>means a component of each RESP developed by the ISOP in line with the RESP Guidance which identifies areas of investment need within the RESP nations and regions which are of high economic and/or system value and necessary to the delivery of regional priorities as set out in the Nations and Regions Context.</u>
<u>Strategic Board</u>	<u>means a governance body for the oversight of the delivery and approval of each RESP that involves Distribution Services Providers and relevant holders of a Gas Transporter Licence with Distribution Networks⁶, devolved and local governments, and regional cross-sector bodies to provide oversight and steer to the RESP development process and strategic outputs, established by the ISOP in accordance with condition C19 of the ISOPs Electricity System Operator Licence and condition C13 of the Gas System Planner Licence.</u>

APPENDIX [1]
(see Part A of this condition)

A1.1 Great Britain – Relevant RESP nations and regions for each Gas Transporter

<u>RESP nations and regions</u>	<u>Gas Transporter</u>
<u>England</u> <u>Central England</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Cadent</u> • <u>SGN Southern England</u> • <u>WWU</u>
<u>England</u> <u>East</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Cadent</u> • <u>SGN Southern England</u>
<u>England</u> <u>East Midlands</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Cadent</u>
<u>England</u> <u>Greater London</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Cadent</u> • <u>SGN Southern England</u>
<u>England</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Cadent</u>

⁶ as listed in Appendix 1 to Standard Special Condition D23 of the Gas Transporter Licence

<u>North East & Yorkshire</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>NGN</u> • <u>SGN Scotland</u>
<u>England</u> <u>North West</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Cadent</u> • <u>NGN</u>
<u>England</u> <u>South East</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>SGN Southern England</u> • <u>WWU</u> • <u>Cadent</u>
<u>England</u> <u>South West</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>SGN Southern England</u> • <u>WWU</u>
<u>England</u> <u>West Midlands</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Cadent</u> • <u>SGN Southern England</u> • <u>WWU</u>
<u>Scotland</u> <u>Scotland</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>SGN Scotland</u>
<u>Wales</u> <u>Wales</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>WWU</u> • <u>Cadent</u>

Schedule 4 – Draft of proposed modifications to the standard conditions (SLCs) of the Gas System Planner Licence

New text is double underlined.

Section C: Strategic and operational functions

Condition 13 Regional Energy Strategic Plan

Introduction

C13.1

The purpose of this condition is to set out the obligation of the licensee to develop a Regional Energy Strategic Plan (RESP) for each of the RESP nations and regions and a RESP Methodology, including setting out:

- (a) in Part A, the requirement to create RESPs and a RESP Methodology;
- (b) in Part B, the process for the Authority to issue and amend RESP Guidance;
- (c) in Part C, the development and approval process for the RESP Methodology;
- (d) in Part D, the approval process for the RESPs; and
- (e) in Part E, the publication of the RESPs.

Part A: Requirement to create RESPs and a RESP Methodology

C13.2

The licensee must, in accordance with the RESP Guidance:

- (a) develop and publish a RESP Methodology;
- (b) develop and publish a RESP for each of the RESP nations and regions in line with the RESP Methodology; and
- (c) carry out assurance activities following the creation of the RESPs.

C13.3

The licensee must, in accordance with the RESP Guidance:

- (a) establish a GB Steering Committee to provide strategic oversight and national-level coordination of strategic energy planning for the purposes of RESP; and
- (b) establish a Strategic Board for each of the RESP nations and regions, consult it at key points in the RESP development process and seek its approval of the RESP, in accordance with the RESP Methodology.

C13.4

In the development of each RESP and in accordance with the RESP Guidance, the licensee must:

- (a) draw from relevant datasets and undertake stakeholder engagement to develop a Nations and Regions Context;
- (b) conduct spatial modelling of future energy supply and demand to develop a single short-term RESP Pathway over a 10-year time horizon and multiple long-term RESP Pathways;

- (c) produce an accessible geospatial tool to show RESP Pathways against network capacity data to develop a Spatial Context;
- (d) identify and develop a Specification of Strategic Investment Need; and
- (e) publish a set of Consistent Planning Assumptions with acceptable ranges of variation to allow for differences between RESP nations and regions.

C13.5

To support the development of each RESP and in accordance with the RESP Guidance, the licensee must:

- (a) actively seek to resolve gaps and inconsistencies in plans within and between RESP nations and regions and identify opportunities for whole-system optimisation; and
- (b) develop structured, transparent and accessible routes for stakeholder engagement in each of the RESP nations and regions and develop proportionate forms of support for local government to engage in the development of the RESP.

C13.6

During the development of the RESPs and in accordance with the RESP Guidance, the licensee must use its best endeavours to ensure that requests for the provision of RESP Information are efficient and coordinated, including by providing reasonable requirements regarding the timescale, format, and quality of the RESP Information.

C13.7

During the development of each RESP and in accordance with the RESP Guidance, the licensee must consult;

- (a) the Authority;
- (b) Distribution Services Providers;
- (c) relevant holders of a Gas Transporter Licence with Distribution Networks⁷ ;
- (d) persons as set out in the RESP Methodology;
- (e) publicly, other persons and parties that might be interested in the development of the RESPs
- (f) the Strategic Board; and
- (g) the GB Steering Committee.

C13.8

The consultation in accordance with paragraph C13.7 must be of such a form and duration to reasonably allow all parties set out in paragraph C13.7 to provide representations.

Part B: RESP Guidance

C13.9

The Authority may issue and amend the RESP Guidance by direction.

C13.10

The RESP Guidance will contain, but not be limited to:

⁷ As listed in Appendix 1 to Standard Special Condition D23 of the Gas Transporter Licence.

- (a) instructions and detailed guidance on the process, content, governance arrangements and timeframe for publishing the RESP; and
- (b) instructions and detailed guidance for the process, content, and publication of the RESP Methodology.

C13.11

Before directing that the RESP Guidance comes into effect, the Authority will publish:

- (a) the text of the proposed RESP Guidance; and
- (b) the period during which representations may be made, which will not be less than 28 days.

C13.12

Before directing any amendment to the RESP Guidance, the Authority will publish:

- (a) a consultation on the text of any amendments to the RESP Guidance;
- (b) the date on which the Authority intends the amendments to come into effect; and
- (c) the reasons for any amendment.

C13.13

The consultation in accordance with C13.11 or C13.12 must be of such a form and duration to reasonably allow all parties set out in paragraph C13.7(b)-(g) to provide representations

Part C: Development and Approval of the RESP Methodology

C13.14

Unless otherwise directed by the Authority, the licensee must publish the RESP Methodology within 4 weeks of approval, in accordance with paragraph C13.21.

C13.15

The RESP Methodology must, in accordance with the RESP Guidance, develop a detailed mechanism for the approval of the RESP.

C13.16

During the development of, and prior to submitting the proposed RESP Methodology to the Authority and the Secretary of State pursuant to paragraph C13.19 and C13.20, the licensee must consult:

- (a) the Authority;
- (b) the Secretary of State;
- (c) Distribution Services Providers;
- (d) relevant holders of a Gas Transporter Licence with Distribution Networks⁸; and
- (e) publicly, other persons and parties that might be interested in the development of the RESP Methodology.
- (f) once established, the Strategic Board; and

⁸ As listed in Appendix 1 to Standard Special Condition D23 of the Gas Transporter Licence

(g) once established, the GB Steering Committee.

C13.17

The consultation in accordance with paragraph C13.16 must be of such a form and duration to reasonably allow all persons and parties set out in paragraph C13.16 to provide representations.

C13.18

The requirement of paragraph C13.16 may be satisfied by actions taken before or after this licence condition comes into effect.

C13.19

By 30 June 2026 and by 30 June of every third year thereafter, the licensee must (unless otherwise directed by the Authority) submit to the Authority and the Secretary of State for approval the proposed RESP Methodology.

C13.20

Submissions made under paragraph C13.19 must include:

- (a) a detailed explanation of the consultation process undertaken in the development of the RESP Methodology;
- (b) a summary of views from all parties and an explanation of how these were considered in the development of the RESP Methodology; and
- (c) copies of any formal responses submitted to the licensee as part of its consultation process.

C13.21

The Authority and the Secretary of State may on receipt of a submission under paragraph C13.19 either:

- (a) approve the proposed RESP Methodology (or any revised version); or
- (b) if either the Authority or the Secretary of State does not approve the RESP Methodology, issue a direction to the licensee that the new (or revised) RESP Methodology requires further development, and the date by which the licensee is required to submit a revised RESP Methodology to the Authority and the Secretary of State for approval.

Part D: Approval of the RESPs

C13.22

By 30 September 2028 and by 30 September of every third year thereafter, unless otherwise directed by the Authority, the licensee must submit each proposed RESP to the relevant Strategic Board for approval, in accordance with the RESP Methodology, subject to C13.27.

C13.23

Submissions made under paragraph C13.22 must include:

- (a) a detailed explanation of the consultation process undertaken in the development of the RESPs;
- (b) a summary of views from all parties and an explanation of how these were considered in the development of the RESPs; and
- (c) copies of any formal responses submitted to the licensee as part of its consultation process.

C13.24

Prior to publication of a RESP in accordance with paragraph C13.28, the licensee must ensure that either:

- (a) the Strategic Board has approved the proposed RESP in accordance with the RESP Methodology; or
- (b) where, having used reasonable endeavours, the licensee has been unable to obtain such approval, the licensee has submitted the proposed RESP to the Authority for further consideration and approval has been obtained in accordance with paragraphs C13.25, C13.26 and C13.27.

C13.25

The Authority may on receipt of a submission under paragraph C13.24(b) either:

- (a) offer facilitation to enable approval of the RESP; or
- (b) give a direction to the licensee that the proposed (or revised) RESP requires further development, and the date by which the licensee is required to submit a revised RESP to the Authority for approval; or
- (c) approve the proposed (or revised) RESP.

C13.26

Where the Authority makes a direction under C13.25 or C13.27:

- (a) the licensee must submit the relevant RESP(s) to the Authority for approval in such form and manner as the Authority may specify;
- (b) the Authority may approve the relevant RESP(s) with or without conditions, or require the licensee to make such modifications as the Authority may specify and to resubmit the relevant RESP(s) within a period specified by the Authority; and
- (c) if so required by the Authority, the licensee must carry out further consultation with the persons specified by the Authority, in accordance with such process and timeframes as the Authority may specify, prior to the Authority determining whether to approve the relevant RESP(s).

C13.27

The Authority may, by direction:

- (a) require that any RESP which has been approved by the Strategic Board must be resubmitted to the Authority for review and approval before it may take effect; and/or
- (b) require that any RESP which has not yet been approved by the Strategic Board must be submitted to, and approved by, the Authority prior to publication.

Part E: Publication of the RESPs

C13.28

By 31 December 2028 and by 31 December of every third year thereafter, the licensee must publish a RESP for each of the RESP nations and regions in accordance with the latest RESP Methodology unless another date has been directed by the Authority.

C13.29

The licensee must publish the RESPs and supporting material as described in C13.23 on its website in an accessible format.

Interpretation and Definitions

<u>Consistent Planning Assumptions</u>	<u>means a single set of assumptions developed by the licensee which drive coherent derivation of network requirements resulting from the RESP Pathways.</u>
<u>Distribution Services Provider</u>	<u>means any Electricity Distributor in whose Electricity Distribution Licence the requirements of Section B of the standard conditions of that licence have effect (whether in whole or in part).</u>
<u>RESP Information</u>	<u>means such information (other than information subject to legal privilege) to be provided by Distribution Services Providers and relevant holders of a Gas Transporter Licence with Distribution Networks⁹ to the licensee which:</u> <u>(a) relates to the Distribution Services Providers and relevant holders of a Gas Transporter Licence with Distribution Networks;</u> <u>(b) is in the possession or control of the Distribution Services Providers and relevant holders of a Gas Transporter Licence with Distribution Networks; and</u> <u>(c) the licensee considers necessary to develop the RESP Methodology or the RESPs.</u>
<u>GB Steering Committee</u>	<u>means a governance body that involves, at a minimum, the Authority, the licensee, and the Secretary of State. Together they provide strategic oversight, expertise,</u>

⁹ as listed in Appendix 1 to Standard Special Condition D23 of the Gas Transporter Licence

	<u>advice, and national-level coordination of strategic energy planning during development of the RESP Methodology and the RESPs.</u>
<u>RESP Pathway</u>	<u>means a component of each RESP which provides a spatially modelled projection of energy demand and supply over the RESP nations and regions developed by the licensee in line with the RESP Guidance.</u>
<u>Nations and Regions Context</u>	<u>means a component of each RESP which provides a long-term view of regional conditions and priorities in the relevant RESP nation or region developed by the licensee in line with the RESP Guidance.</u>
<u>Regional Energy Strategic Plan (RESP)</u>	<u>means a whole-system energy plan developed for RESP nations and regions comprised of a Nations and Regions Context, a single 10-year RESP Pathway and multiple longer-term RESP Pathways, a Spatial Context, a Specification of Strategic Investment Need, and Consistent Planning Assumptions. The plural acronym RESPs is used to refer to multiple Regional Energy Strategic Plans.</u>
<u>RESP Guidance</u>	<u>means the document of that name issued and amended by the Authority from time to time pursuant to condition C13.9.</u>
<u>RESP Methodology</u>	<u>means the methodology, approved by the Authority and the Secretary of State, describing how the licensee will develop RESPs, in accordance with condition C13.14.</u>
<u>RESP nations and regions</u>	<u>means a geographic area, as defined in the RESP Guidance, for which a RESP is developed.</u>
<u>Spatial Context</u>	<u>means a component of each RESP which provides a geospatial view of RESP Pathways against network data indicating network capacity requirements over the RESP nations and regions developed by the licensee in line with the RESP Guidance.</u>
<u>Specification of Strategic Investment Need</u>	<u>means a component of each RESP developed by the licensee in line with the RESP Guidance which identifies areas of investment need within the RESP nations and regions which are of high economic</u>

	<u>and/or system value and necessary to the delivery of regional priorities as set out in the Nations and Regions Context</u>
<u>Strategic Board</u>	<u>means a governance body for the oversight of the delivery and approval of each RESP that involves Distribution Services Providers and relevant holders of a Gas Transporter Licence with Distribution Networks, devolved and local governments, and regional cross-sector bodies to provide oversight and steer to the RESP development process and strategic outputs.</u>