



Making a positive difference
for energy consumers

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Regulatory Affairs Manager
Interconnector Limited

Natalie Ellard
Customer Lifecycle Manager
National Gas

Email: energy.securityofsupply@ofgem.gov.uk

Date: 7th August 2026

Dear Mr Dhesi and Ms Ellard,

Approval of the proposed amendments to Interconnection Agreement between Interconnector Limited and National Gas

On 13 July 2026, a request to approve amendments to the INT – NGT interconnection agreement ("IA") between Interconnector Limited ("INT") and National Gas Transmission ("NGT") was submitted to the Authority¹ for approval in accordance with Standard Licence Condition ("SLC") 3 of the Gas Interconnector Licence² ("the Licence") – 'Compliance with bilateral agreements'. This condition states that the licensee shall enter into such bilateral agreements as may be reasonably required by any relevant gas transporter and any such agreements must be provided by the licensee to the Authority for its approval.

This letter sets out our decision to approve the IA on the basis that the contents have been agreed by both parties.

¹ References to the "Authority", "Ofgem", "we" and "our" are used interchangeably in this document. The Authority refers to GEMA, the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority. The Office of Gas and Electricity Markets (Ofgem) supports GEMA in its day to day work. This decision is made by or on behalf of GEMA.

² [Licences and licence conditions | Ofgem](#)

Background

INT is the operator of a bi-directional interconnector that connects the Belgian gas market with Great Britain at the Bacton interconnection point (hereafter, "Bacton"). INT is a certified Transmission System Operator ("TSO")³ and holder of a gas interconnector licence.

INT first entered into the IA with NG on 25 August 1998. The IA relates to the connection between INT's pipeline and the National Transmission System ("NTS") at Bacton.

On 13 July 2026, INT submitted a proposed amended and restated IA for approval. The proposed amendments include:

Recompression activities

INT carries out an annual maintenance shutdown that requires its system to be fully purged and prevents physical gas flows in either direction during the outage period. In support of efforts to minimise methane emissions associated with these activities, INT and NGT have agreed arrangements to recompress gas held within the Interconnector Bacton Terminal ("IBT") into the NTS during maintenance periods. The first use of this process is planned during INT's 2026 annual maintenance shutdown commencing on 1 September 2026.

To formalise these arrangements, amendments have been made to Annex G-1 (Local Operating Procedures) of the IA. INT has stated that the amendments reflect operational arrangements agreed between the parties and do not have a material impact on network users. The amendments sit alongside the Maintenance provisions of the IA and do not amend arrangements governed by the Uniform Network Code ("UNC") European Interconnection Document.

National Gas name change

The IA has also been updated to replace references to "National Grid Gas plc" with "National Gas Transmission plc" following the company's name change in February 2023.

Authority Decision

SLC 3.1 requires that bilateral agreements, and any amendments to these agreements, must be submitted to the Authority for approval. We have received a request to approve

³ [Certification decision on Interconnector \(UK\) Limited \(I\(UK\)\) | Ofgem](#)

the amended IA as well as confirmation from both parties that all components have been agreed.

We recognise that the amendments only relate to agreed operational arrangements intended to support emissions reduction during maintenance activities, and a small clarificatory update to references to NGT following their corporate name change. On the former, we note that recompression is a recognised methane-abatement technique and is already being used elsewhere on the NTS. We have also received confirmation from INT that they will cover all costs associated with the recompression activity, and we have not identified any change in terms that would be detrimental to the market or to consumers. We consider that these changes are reasonable, have been agreed by the parties, and do not give rise to concerns regarding competition, network access, market operation, or consumer interests. We have therefore not identified any aspect of the amendments that would warrant withholding approval.

After careful consideration of the IA submitted to Ofgem on 13 July 2026, having regard to the Authority's principal objective and statutory duties, the Authority has decided to approve the IA in accordance with the provisions of SLC 3 of the Licence. Accordingly, the Authority approves the amended and restated Interconnection Agreement between Interconnector Limited and National Gas Transmission plc.

If you have any questions relating to this decision, please contact:

energy.securityofsupply@ofgem.gov.uk.

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Hamsini Satchithanathan

Head of Gas Security and Flexibility

Energy Systems Management and Security

Signed on behalf of the Authority and authorised for that purpose