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Sonia Brown
Director, Transportation
Ofgem
9 Millbank
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11th May 2005

Dear Sonia

Final Proposals for Interim Incentives and Formal Section 23 Consultation

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these proposals. We would like to acknowledge the considerable effort from Ofgem to enable this consultation to be produced ahead of timetable. We recognise the full and transparent process that has been undertaken with the industry prior to producing this consultation and the opportunity, for example at DISG, for all stakeholders to raise and discuss areas of concern with Ofgem. We fully support the proposals that are contained within this consultation to enable sale to go ahead as planned on 1st June. Nevertheless, there are some issues that we may wish to follow up post-sale.

The one comment that we wish to make is in regard to the timetable. We now understand from the HSE that acceptance of safety case 5 is likely to be granted at the latest by 20th May. To ensure that we are able to complete on the 1st June, it would be extremely helpful if the licence modifications could be directed for implementation as soon as possible after the consultation closes on the 24th May, and in any event before the proposed date of 27th May. Consequently sale consent could be granted at the same time (assuming all consent conditions have been met).

Please do not hesitate to call me if you wish to discuss this response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Wiseman', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Alex Wiseman
Gas Regulation Director