

## Data Transparency Issues: CIA views

- Reliability of Transco's Information Exchange Systems especially with regards to the publication of forecast and physical aggregate flows onto the National Transmission System, and looking ahead to probability of interruption for this winter.
- Comparability of data published within the Transco NTS Entry End of Day Flow Reports, and also the reliability of this data source.
- Responsibilities for ensuring that certain data sources are published, maintained etc, DTI, Ofgem, none of the above.

### Reliability Issues:

Since the Category 1, Phase III information (National Physical and Forecast Aggregate Flows onto the National Transmission System) on the Transco Information Exchange on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2005, the CIA has been aware of four separate occasions when these reports have either been unavailable, or not updated when expected. The CIA is aware that Transco is undertaking a £250,000 project to resolve these reliability issues, however the concern remains that an adequate system will not be in place for winter when the site may receive more traffic, when customers will be looking at the probability of interruption information available. We welcome the work completed by Nigel Cornwall and Transco and look forward to having access to the "overview page", and to the publication of a Gas NISM (Notice of Inadequate System Margin).

### Comparability of Data:

The CIA recently raised an issue with Transco over the divergence of data between that published for the Interconnector in the End of Day Flow Reports and that published by the Interconnector UK on their website. As a result of this query Transco have changed the help text to clarify that the data for both the interconnector and storage sites is based on nominations, whilst the data published for all other system entry points in this report is based on actual physical flows. Whilst this is an improvement the CIA is concerned that two data types are being published in the same report that are not comparable. Transco claim that they are unable to publish actual gas flows for confidentiality reasons as they do not own the data source and do not have permission to publish this information. Whilst we recognise this concern we are also aware that the Interconnector publishes their actual physical flows at D+2, which is the same time frame as the NTS End of Day Flow Reports, and can therefore see no reason why the Interconnector cannot be treated the same as the other system entry points excluding storage sites. We would also be encouraged to see Transco entering into talks with the storage operators to see if they would have any objections to having their actual physical flow data published at D+2.

### Responsibilities

Currently Transco publishes information on their website for a number of reasons, (i) as a result of their licence conditions, (ii) as a result of the voluntary information initiative, and (iii) as a result of their own voluntary initiative. The CIA's understanding is that if there is a problem with information released because their licence conditions requires it, then Ofgem is the body to approach; if the information is released under the voluntary information initiative then DTI is the body to

approach; and if the information is released as part of Transco's own voluntary initiative then they are the body to approach. The CIA therefore feels it would be wise to indicate which data sources are governed by licence conditions, voluntary agreements, or none of the above, and how customers should raise any concerns regarding data content and delivery.