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Dear Hannah

Publication of Near Real Time Data at UK Sub-Terminals (UNC Modification Proposal 006) – Ofgem Impact Assessment – Case Study- Ofgem's letter dated 10 January 2006

Thank you for your letter dated 10 January 2006 sent to the upstream producers via UKOOA. We refer to the UKOOA response to your letter of yesterday's date and the concerns it has expressed about providing the information requested by Ofgem. We share those concerns.

1. There are a number of shortcomings in the data provided by Ofgem which would require further clarification in order for us to be able to provide any considered and meaningful response to the questions posed by Ofgem. In addition to addressing the shortcomings in the Ofgem examples, we feel that the exercise would be more worthwhile if the data provided by Ofgem was set in a broader context rather than concentrated on isolated incidents.
2. The short timeframe within which to respond makes it extremely difficult for us to conduct a proper internal consultation on the questions asked by Ofgem.
3. As UKOOA has pointed out in the past any retrospective assessment of this kind is going to be highly subjective.

In the circumstances we confirm that we find ourselves in considerable difficulty attempting to answer the five questions posed by Ofgem. Having commented as far as practicable on Ofgem's specific letter, we further confirm that our overall position on 006 remains as set out in our response to the modification dated 2 March 2005. We would of course be pleased to provide a further copy of this letter to Ofgem should you require us to do so.

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It would also be of assistance if Ofgem was to provide an understanding of how the specific requests in their letter dated 10th January will fit into the process of the forthcoming Impact Assessment relating to 006.

Yours sincerely

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Cc: Claire Durkin, DTI
Rob Lally , DTI