

NOTICE

NOTICE UNDER STANDARD CONDITION 48 OF GAS SUPPLIERS LICENCE

Whereas:

1. Paragraph 12 of standard condition 48 (Marketing of Gas to Domestic Customers) ("the Condition") of the gas suppliers licence provides that the Condition shall cease to have effect on 31 March 2006 ("the termination date").
2. Paragraph 12(a) of the Condition provides that if the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority ("the Authority"), after consultation with relevant persons, gives notice that it considers that the development of competition is such as to require the continuation of any part of the Condition until such date not later than two years from the termination date as may be specified in the notice (the "new termination date"), then such part of the Condition as may be specified in the notice shall continue to apply as if for the termination date there were substituted the new termination date.
3. The Authority published a consultation document entitled, "The regulation of gas and electricity sales to domestic customers: notice of the proposed modification of standard licence condition 48 (marketing conditions) and consultation on their continuation" (06/06) on 6 January 2006. Copies of that document are available from the Ofgem Research and Information Centre, 9 Millbank, London SW1P 3GE (020 7901 7003) or the Ofgem website (www.ofgem.gov.uk).
4. The Authority stated in the consultation document that it considers that the development of competition is such as to require the continuation of the Condition until 31 March 2008 or such earlier date that it may direct.
5. Prior to the close of the consultation period, the Authority received nine responses to the consultation document. No responses were withdrawn. All non confidential responses are available from the Ofgem Research and Information Centre or on the Ofgem website.
6. The Authority has carefully considered all responses made to the consultation document and not withdrawn.
7. Immediately after this notice has effect, the Authority intends to modify the Condition pursuant to section 23(1) of the Gas Act 1986 to remove paragraph 3(c) and to make consequential modifications to the definition of "marketing activities" in paragraph 13.

In accordance with paragraph 12(a) of the Condition, the Authority hereby gives notice that it considers that the development of competition is such as to require the continuation of the Condition until 31 March 2008 or such earlier date that it may direct.

This notice shall have effect on and from 31 March 2006.

Words and expressions used in the Condition shall bear the same meaning in this notice unless the context otherwise requires.

Dated 30 March 2006

Signed.....

Philip Davies
Director of Environmental Policy and Markets
duly authorised on behalf of the Authority