

R/3

14 JANUARY 2009

Four new members are appointed to the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority

The appointment of four new non-executive members of the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority has been announced (Wednesday) by energy minister, Mike O'Brien.

David Harker and Jim Keohane join the Authority this month to serve three and four-year terms respectively. John Howard and Professor David Fisk will each serve three-year terms from 1 July 2009.

The energy minister has also announced the re-appointment of three existing Authority members – Professor George Yarrow, Miriam Greenwood OBE, DL and Jayne Scott - to serve a further three-year term. The Authority steers the overall strategy and policies which energy regulator Ofgem implements.

Lord Mogg KCMG, Chairman of the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority, said: "I am very pleased to welcome the new Authority members and I acknowledge the excellent contribution of the three members whose term has been extended. Significant challenges lie ahead for Ofgem and the organisation will benefit from the wealth of experience the new members bring in areas such as regulation, sustainable development and consumer issues."

Jim Keohane is coming to the end of an eight-year term as a non-executive director at the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). From autumn 2007 until the end of December 2008, he was Deputy Chairman of the CAA. He has 30 years experience in the energy industry and worked extensively on the privatisation and restructuring of the electricity industry in the late 1980s. He was subsequently a director at East Midlands Electricity and later, Eastern Group.

David Harker OBE has been the Chief Executive of Citizens Advice since 1997 and is a non-executive director of the Advertising Standards Authority. Prior to joining Citizens Advice, David was managing director of Sense, the national disability charity.

John Howard, a former BBC broadcaster and journalist, holds several non-executive posts. He is a former member of energywatch's council. For eight years he was a member of the Financial Services Consumer Panel, which he chaired from 2005 until 2008.

Professor David Fisk CB is currently the Royal Academy of Engineering Professor of Engineering for Sustainable Development at Imperial College, London. He was previously Chief Scientist at several Government departments and until 2005, Chief Scientific Adviser to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.

- ends -

Notes to Editors

1. Under the Utilities Act 2000, the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change appoints members to the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority. Before making these appointments he must consult the Authority's chairman Lord Mogg.

2. Ofgem is the Office of the Gas and Electricity Markets, which supports the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority, the regulator of the gas and electricity industries in Great Britain. The Authority's powers and duties are largely provided for in statute, principally the Gas Act 1986, the Electricity Act 1989, the Utilities Act 2000, the Competition Act 1998, the Enterprise Act 2002 and the Energy Act 2004 as well as arising from directly effective European Community legislation. References to the Gas Act and the Electricity Act in this Appendix are to Part 1 of each of those Acts.

For further press information contact:

Chris Lock: 0207 901 7225 / 07766 511470