# **Gas Quality: A National Grid Perspective**

Ofgem Workshop, 18th November 2009













#### **Presentation Content**

- National Grid NTS position on the issues in 2007
- Review of processing at Bacton
- Thoughts on Fluxys' presentation
- UK import supplies
- Other gas quality issues
- Summary



#### **National Grid NTS Views in 2007**

- 1) "The current framework has delivered, and will continue to facilitate, efficient investment in gas processing"
  - "Normal commercial incentives are the appropriate mechanism"
- 2) "NGG does not believe that blending on the NTS is feasible"
- 3) "Gas blending at the onshore terminal is only appropriate in addition to, and not as a substitute for, gas processing"
- 4) "At the Bacton terminal, there may be merit in the provision of a regulated gas processing service"
- 5) If it were decided that National Grid NTS should provide a processing service:
  - Requires a fundamental change to the regulatory framework
  - Requires development of appropriate funding arrangements



#### Current views on a processing plant at Bacton

- We are not best placed to judge what, if anything, should be built
  - We are not responsible for the provision of supply
  - Energy Markets Outlook to be published shortly
- Building and operating such a plant would be difficult
- Would improve the current situation
- However, the time of flight through the facility may require complex design to avoid GS(M)R compliance risks
- Alternative commercial solutions may be feasible



#### A processing plant at Bacton? Key Issues

- Planning permission / land
- Complexity of design
- Leadtime (4-5 years)
- Demand for the service
  - Impact of energy efficiency
- Reliability (vs a pipe and a compressor)
- Emissions
- Funding arrangements
- All other importers are required to meet GB entry specification
- EU gas quality (CEN outcome uncertainty)

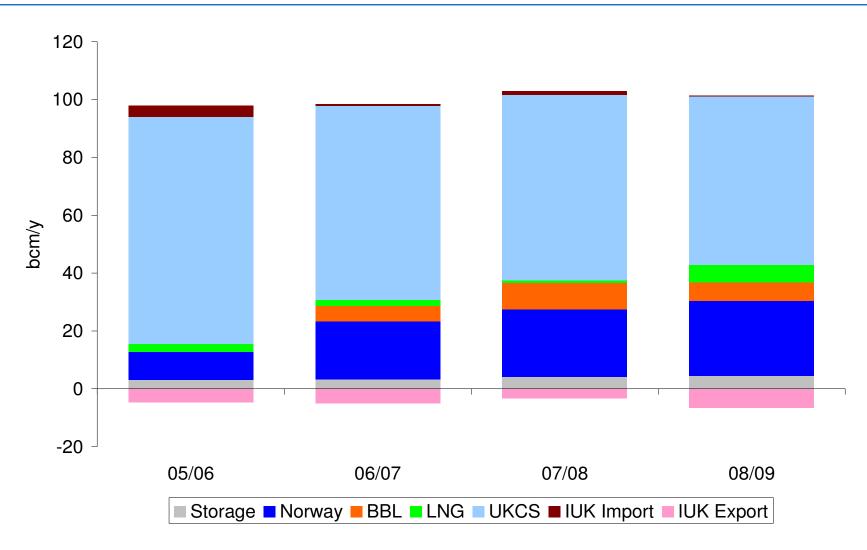


### Thoughts on Fluxys' Presentation

- Fluxys presents credible scenarios
- Magnitude of the risk is difficult to judge
- Nordstream Wobbe range appears extreme
  - An estimate and likely to be commingled with leaner gas
- European gas flow patterns are changing and are likely to become less predictable

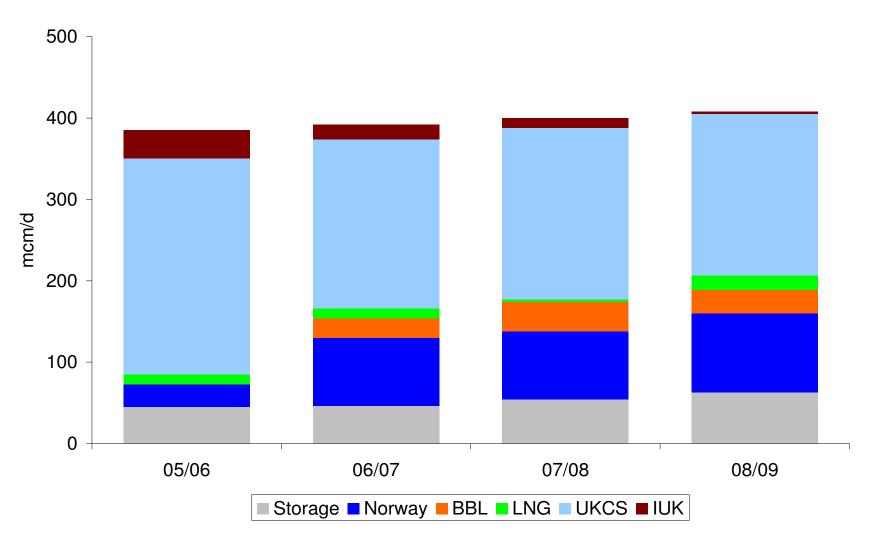


## **Historic NTS Supplies**



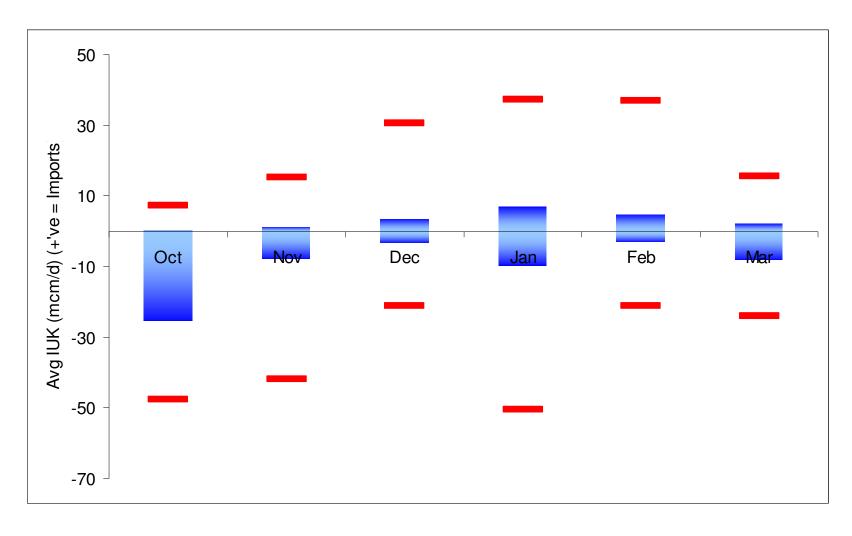


## **Average Flows, Top 20 Demand Days**





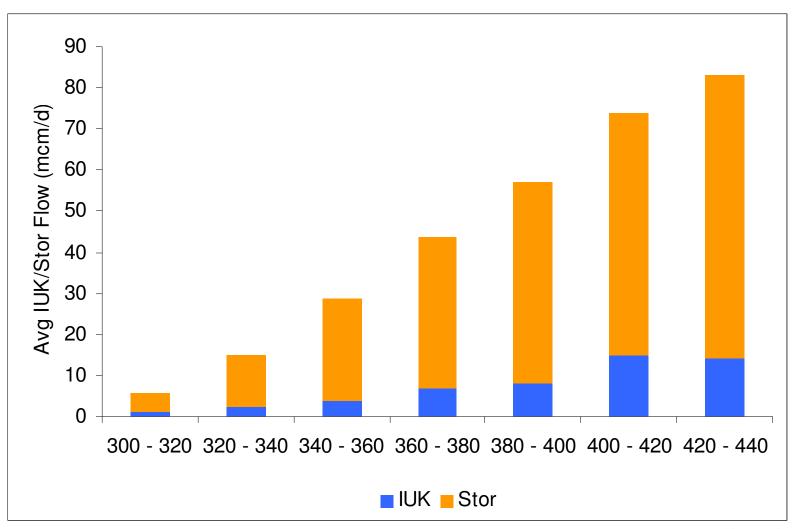
## **Average IUK Flows 2006/7 to 2008/9**





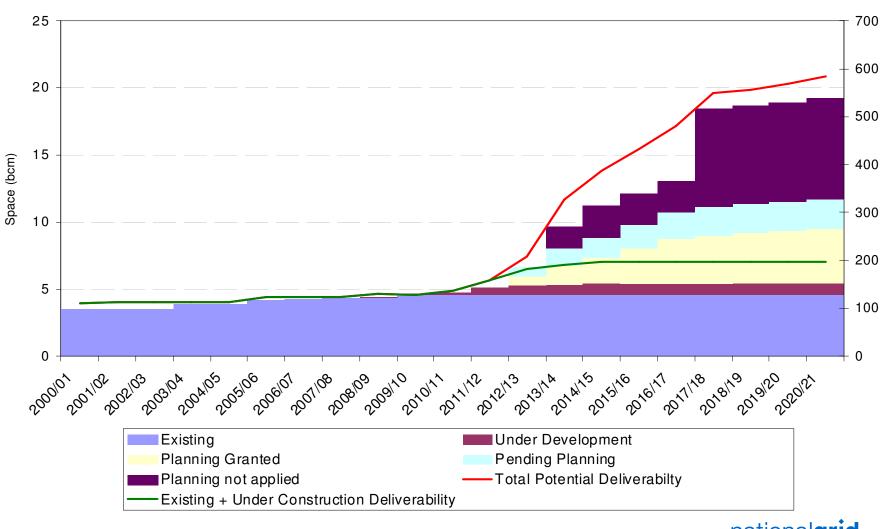


## Historic Storage / IUK usage (06/07 – 08/09)





## **Historic and Forecast UK Storage Capacity**





#### **Future view**

- We do not expect IUK to import aggressively this winter at demands below ~400 mcmd (Winter Outlook Report)
- New storage being developed in UK is typically midduration high deliverability
- Storage will continue to provide most of the swing supplies at high demands



### Other Gas Quality Issues

- UKCS decline
- Growth of unconventional sources (biogas, CBM)
- CV regime
  - Appropriateness of current flow weighted average methodology
  - Management of low CV sources
  - UNC Review Group 0251 will report shortly



### Summary

- We recognise the potential issues presented by Fluxys but are not immediately concerned for UK security of supply
- We are willing to help facilitate a solution but the limitations of our current role need to be recognised
- Significant issues would need to be resolved to implement a processing solution at Bacton
- A processing solution needs to be evaluated against other options
- There are other gas quality issues to consider

