COLLECTIVE LICENCE MODIFICATION PROPOSAL ref. 95/11 (amending the licence obligation to apply a new rule for determining the electricity distribution charging boundary)

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 11A(3) OF THE ELECTRICITY ACT 1989 CONCERNING THE PROPOSED MODIFICATION OF THE STANDARD LICENCE CONDITIONS OF ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION LICENCES

The Gas and Electricity Markets Authority ("the Authority") hereby gives notice pursuant to section 11A(3) of the Electricity Act 1989 ("the Act") as follows:

- 1. The Authority proposes to modify all electricity distribution licences granted or treated as granted to the holders of an electricity distribution licence (the "Licensees") under section 6(1)(c) of the Act by amending standard licence condition (SLC) 13A and SLC50A, and removing SLC50. The proposed licence modification is attached to the Annex to this Notice.
- **2.** For the purpose of this Notice SLC13A, SLC50 and SLC50A apply to Distribution Services Providers (DSPs).¹
- **3.** The reasons why the Authority proposes to make this licence modification are to:
 - i. implement its decision, by way of a licence obligation on licensees, to clarify the rules for determining whether a customer should be charged for distribution use of system under the Common Distribution Charging Methodology (CDCM) or the EHV Distribution Charging Methodology (EDCM) which will start to apply when SLC13B comes into force on 1 April 2012, as detailed in the Authority's decision published on 2 August 2011 titled 'Decision to modify the boundary between the Common Distribution Charging Methodology (CDCM) and the EHV Distribution Charging Methodology (EDCM) as set out in the electricity distribution standard licence conditions (SLCs)' (the "2 August decision");
 - ii. reflect the implementation of the CDCM on 1 April 2011 and the completion by licensees of all conditions of our decision to approve the CDCM; and
 - iii. make typographical and formatting changes to ensure clarity and consistency of the SLCs.
- **4.** The effects of the proposed modifications are to:
 - i. clarify how DSPs determine whether a customer is charged in accordance with the CDCM or EDCM;
 - ii. remove SLC50 which has become redundant following the full implementation of the CDCM; and
 - iii. make typographical and formatting changes to ensure clarity and consistency of the SLCs.
- **5.** A pro forma that Licensees may wish to use in order to register a statutory objection is appended to this Notice.

¹ Distribution Services Providers is a defined term in SLC 1. It includes all Licensees other than those who operate independent networks.

- **6.** A copy of the proposed modification and other documents referred to in this Notice are available (free of charge) from the Ofgem library (telephone 020 7901 7003) or on the Ofgem website (www.ofgem.gov.uk).
- 7. Any representations or objections to the proposed licence modifications may be made on or before 31 August 2011 to: Nicholas Rubin, the Office of Gas and Electricity Markets, 9 Millbank, London SW1P 3GE or by email to distributionpolicy@ofgem.gov.uk.
- **8.** All responses will normally be published on Ofgem's website and held in the Research and Information Centre. However, if respondents do not wish their response (or any part of it) to be made public then they should clearly mark their response (or a relevant part of it) as not for publication. Ofgem prefers to receive responses in an electronic form so they can be placed easily on the Ofgem website.
- **9.** If you wish to discuss any aspect of this Notice, please contact Nicholas Rubin on 020 7901 7176 or at nicholas.rubin@ofgem.gov.uk.

Rachel Fletcher,

Partner, Distribution

Duly authorised on behalf of the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority

2 August 2011

Pro Forma of Statutory Objection

Proposed Modification of Standard Licence Conditions: SLC13A. SLC50, and

SLC50A.
In response to the statutory notice dated 2 August 2011 in respect of the above proposed modification, this notice constitutes a statutory objection to that proposal on behalf of ²
I confirm that I am duly authorised to give this notice on behalf of each of the above named companies.
Signed:

Date:

 $^{^{\}rm 2}$ Please state the full name of the relevant licence holder making the objection.

Annex

Condition 13A. Common Distribution Charging Methodology

Part A: Licensee's obligations

- This condition applies to the licensee on and after 1 April 2010 if the licensee is a Distribution Services Provider.
- 13A.2 This condition applies to the licensee in relation to Designated Properties only.
- The licensee must take all steps within its power to ensure that the Common Distribution Charging Methodology ('the CDCM') in force under this licence at 1 April 2010 continues to be a Charging Methodology for the determination of the licensee's Use of System Charges that is approved by the Authority on the basis that it achieves the Relevant Objectives set out in Part C below.
- 13A.4 The licensee must at all times implement and comply with the CDCM.
- The licensee must, for the purpose of ensuring that the CDCM continues to achieve the Relevant Objectives:
 - (a) review the methodology at least once every year; and
 - (b) subject to Part D of standard condition 22A, make such modifications (if any) of the methodology as are necessary for the purpose of better achieving the Relevant Objectives.

Part B: Charging boundary

- 13A.6 For the purposes of this condition, Designated Properties are:
 - (a) from 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2012, premises or Distribution Systems connected to <u>electric lines or electrical plant</u> assets on the licensee's Distribution System at a voltage level of less than 22 kilovolts, but excluding any such premises or Distribution Systems in respect of which the Use of System Charges levied by the licensee are calculated on the same basis as those levied in respect of premises or Distribution Systems connected to <u>electric lines or electrical plant</u> assets on the licensee's Distribution System at a voltage level of 22 kilovolts or more; and
 - (b) on and after 1 April 2012, premises or Distribution Systems (that are not LDNO Distribution Systems) connected to the licensee's Distribution System at a voltage level of less than 22 kilovolts, but excluding premises or Distribution Systems connected directly to substation assets that form part of the licensee's Distribution System at 1 kilovolt or more and less than 22 kilovolts where the primary voltage of the substation is 22 kilovolts or more and the Metering Point is located at the same substation; and

on and after 1 April 2012, LDNO Distribution Systems connected to the licensee's Distribution System at a voltage level of less than 22 kilovolts, but excluding LDNO Distribution Systems connected directly to substation assets that form part of the licensee's Distribution System at 1 kilovolt or more and less than 22 kilovolts where the primary voltage of the substation is 22 kilovolts or more and where the LDNO Asset Ownership Boundary is at the same substation.

Part C: The Relevant Objectives of the CDCM

- 13A.7 The Relevant Objectives that the CDCM must achieve are as follows.
- The first Relevant Objective is that compliance with the CDCM facilitates the discharge by the licensee of the obligations imposed on it under the Act and by this licence.
- The second Relevant Objective is that compliance with the CDCM facilitates competition in the generation and supply of electricity and will not restrict, distort, or prevent competition in the transmission or distribution of electricity or in participation in the operation of an Interconnector.
- The third Relevant Objective is that compliance with the CDCM results in charges which, so far as is reasonably practicable after taking account of implementation costs, reflect the costs incurred, or reasonably expected to be incurred, by the licensee in its Distribution Business.
- The fourth Relevant Objective is that, so far as is consistent with the first three Relevant Objectives so far as is consistent with paragraphs 13A.7 to 13A.9, the CDCM, so far as is reasonably practicable, should properly take account of developments in the licensee's Distribution Business.
- For the purposes of this condition, the CDCM achieves the Relevant Objectives if it achieves them in the round, taking one objective with another.

Part D: Public availability of the CDCM

The licensee must ensure that a copy of the CDCM that is in force under this condition, as from time to time modified, is publicly available on the licensee's Website and is otherwise available to any person who requests it upon payment of an amount not exceeding the reasonable costs of making and supplying that copy.

Part E: Derogations

The Authority may (after consulting the licensee and, where appropriate, any other Authorised Electricity Operator likely to be materially affected) give a direction ('a derogation') to the licensee that relieves it of its obligations under Part A of this condition in respect of such elements of the CDCM, to such extent, for such period of time, and subject to such conditions as may be specified in the direction.

Part F: Interpretation

13A.15 For the purposes of this condition:

LDNO Asset Ownership Boundary means the point at which electric lines or electrical plant owned or operated by the licensee that (for the avoidance of doubt) form part of the licensee's Distribution System, are connected to a LDNO Distribution System that is not owned or operated by the licensee.

LDNO Distribution System means:

- (a) <u>a Distribution System that is operated by an Electricity Distributor that is not a Distribution Services Provider; or</u>
- (b) <u>a Distribution System that is operated by an Electricity Distributor that is a Distribution Services Provider, but is operating that Distribution System outside its Distribution Services Area.</u>

Condition 50A. Development and implementation of an EHV Distribution Charging Methodology

Introduction

- 50A.1 This condition applies on and after 1 October 2009 for the following purposes.
- The first purpose is to ensure that an EHV Distribution Charging Methodology ('the EDCM') that conforms to one of the descriptions set out at paragraph 50A.12 is developed and brought into force by the licensee in conjunction with every Associated Licensee (see paragraph 50A.4) on 1 April 2012 ('the Implementation Date') in accordance with the provisions of this condition.
- 50A. 3 The second purpose is to provide for the introduction into this licence with effect from the Implementation Date of a transparent compliance and change control framework for the EDCM.
- For the purposes of this condition, an Associated Licensee, in relation to the licensee, is a Distribution Services Provider that has chosen to develop and bring into force an EDCM that is of the same description, within the meaning of paragraph 50A.12, as the licensee's EDCM.

Part A: Relief from requirements of standard condition 13

While this condition is in force in this licence, and except where the Authority directs otherwise, such provisions of standard condition 13 (Charging Methodologies for Use of System and connection) as relate to the licensee's duty to review its Use of System Charging Methodology at least once a year, with a view to modifying it for the purpose of better achieving the Relevant Objectives of that condition, do not have effect in relation to such parts of that Use of System Charging Methodology as are to be superseded by the EDCM on 1 April 2012.

Part B: Licensee's EHV Distribution Charging Methodology

- 50A.6 The licensee's EDCM is a Charging Methodology that:
 - (a) appliesd for the purpose of ensuring that the Use of System Charges levied by the licensee in respect of Designated EHV Properties (see paragraph 50A.11) are determined by the licensee and every Associated Licensee on a common basis, so far as is reasonably practicable; and
 - (b) is approved by the Authority, having regard to its principal objective and duties under the Act, on the basis that it achieves the Relevant Objectives set out below

- The first Relevant Objective is that compliance with the EDCM facilitates the discharge by the licensee of the obligations imposed on it under the Act and by this licence.
- The second Relevant Objective is that compliance with the EDCM facilitates competition in the generation and supply of electricity and will not restrict, distort, or prevent competition in the transmission or distribution of electricity or in participation in the operation of an Interconnector.
- The third Relevant Objective is that compliance with the EDCM results in charges which, so far as is reasonably practicable after taking account of implementation costs, reflect the costs incurred, or reasonably expected to be incurred, by the licensee in its Distribution Business.
- The fourth Relevant Objective is that, so far as is consistent with the first three Relevant Objectives, the EDCM, so far as is reasonably practicable, properly takes account of developments in the licensee's Distribution Business.
- 50A.11 For the purposes of this condition, Designated EHV Properties are any of the following:
 - (a) Distribution Systems connected to the licensee's Distribution System at 22 kilovolts or more;
 - (b) premises connected to the licensee's Distribution System at 22 kilovolts or more:
 - (c) Distribution Systems (that are not LDNO Distribution Systems) connected directly to substation assets that form part of the licensee's Distribution System at 1 kilovolt or more and less than 22 kilovolts where the primary voltage of the substation is 22 kilovolts or more and where the Metering Point is located at the same substation;
 - (d) LDNO Distribution Systems connected directly to substation assets that form part of the licensee's Distribution System at 1 kilovolt or more and less than 22 kilovolts where the primary voltage of the substation is 22 kilovolts or more and where the LDNO Asset Ownership Boundary is at the same substation; and
 - (e) premises connected directly to substation assets that form part of the licensee's Distribution System at 1 kilovolt or more and less than 22 kilovolts where the primary voltage of the substation is 22 kilovolts or more and where the Metering Point is located at the same substation.

Part C: Developing a EHV Distribution Charging Methodology

The licensee must choose and develop an EDCM that conforms to such principles and assumptions as have been specified by the Authority for the purposes of this condition under one of the following two descriptions:

- (a) the methodology described as the long run incremental cost methodology, as detailed in a decision of the Authority dated 31 July 2009; or
- (b) the methodology described as the forward cost pricing methodology, as detailed in a decision of the Authority dated 31 July 2009.
- 50A.13 If the Authority considers it necessary for the purposes of this condition to materially vary any of the principles and assumptions referred to in paragraph 50A.12, it may do so at any time before the Implementation Date in a direction given to the relevant Associated Licensees following consultation with them.
- The licensee must develop its chosen EDCM in compliance with the following requirements.
- 50A.15 The first requirement is that the EDCM must be developed by the licensee in conjunction with every Associated Licensee.
- The second requirement is that the EDCM must be able to be given effect by the licensee by not later than the Implementation Date.
- 50A.17 The third requirement is that the EDCM must be submitted by not later than 1 April 2011 for approval by the Authority in accordance with the direction issued by the Authority pursuant to Part J of this condition on 30 September 2010.
- 50A.18 The fourth requirement is that a full set of illustrative Use of System Charges for the Regulatory Year 2011/12 which would have resulted from the licensee's compliance with the EDCM if it had been in force under this licence at 1 April 2010 must be submitted to the Authority by not later than 1 April 2011 in accordance with the direction issued by the Authority pursuant to Part J of this condition on 30 September 2010.
- 50A.19 The fifth requirement is that during the development of the EDCM and before submitting it to the Authority in accordance with the third requirement, the licensee must have taken all reasonable steps (including, where appropriate, approaching the Authority to discuss how the licensee proposes to address any unforeseen charging implications of the EDCM) to ensure that the EDCM in the form in which it is being developed will be capable of being approved by the Authority in accordance with the requirements of Part B of this condition.

Part D: Approving an EHV Distribution Charging Methodology

50A.20 Where the Authority, having regard to its principal objective and duties under the Act, is satisfied with the EDCM developed in accordance with the provisions of Part B and Part C of this condition, it may approve the EDCM in a direction given for the purposes of this condition generally that:

- (a) sets out the Authority's reasons for approving it; and
- (b) specifies the date (which must not be later than 31 December 2011 unless otherwise directed by the Authority) on which it proposes that the approval should have effect.
- 50A.21 Subject to paragraph 50A.22, approval by the Authority under paragraph 50A.20 may be granted subject to such conditions as the Authority considers appropriate, having regard, in particular, to:
 - (a) the need for any further action to be undertaken by the licensee to ensure that the EDCM would better achieve the Relevant Objectives; and
 - (b) the time by which such action must be completed.
- 50A.22 No condition imposed under paragraph 50A.21 is effective unless, before granting the relevant approval, the Authority has informed the licensee of its intention to impose the condition in a Notice which:
 - (a) sets out the nature and contents of the condition; and
 - (b) specifies a period of at least 28 days within which representations or objections with respect to the condition may be made,

and has considered any representations or objections that are duly made by the licensee and not withdrawn.

50A.23 Except that the Authority may not bring forward the dates specified in Parts D, E, F, G and Appendix 1 of this condition, the Authority may direct that such deadlines as are specified or referred to in those Parts or that Appendix may be amended as the Authority considers necessary for the purpose of meeting its wider public law duties or having regard to its principal objective and duties under the Act.

Part E: Implementing an EHV Distribution Charging Methodology

- Where the Authority has approved the EDCM under Part D of this condition, the licensee must, with effect from the Implementation Date:
 - (a) revoke such parts of its Use of System Charging Methodology used for the calculation of Use of System Charges levied in respect of Designated EHV Properties as are contained within that methodology in the form in which it is in force under standard condition 13 at 31 March 2012 and
 - (b) implement the EDCM in the form in which it has been approved by the Authority.

Part F: Arrangements for handling modification proposals

50A.25 The licensee, in conjunction with all other Distribution Services Providers, and in consultation with other Authorised Electricity Operators, must develop

- arrangements for handling modification proposals in relation to the EDCM ('modification arrangements') and submit them for approval to the Authority by not later than 1 September 2010.
- 50A.26 The modification arrangements must include provision for the following core features.
- The first core feature is that the arrangements must provide for the licensee to meet periodically with other Distribution Services Providers, other Authorised Electricity Operators, and any other persons whose interests are materially affected by the EDCM for the purpose of discussing the further development of the EDCM.
- The second core feature is that the arrangements must provide for a timely and efficient process by which the licensee can:
 - (a) formally receive modification proposals from any Authorised Electricity Operator or any other person whose interests are materially affected by the EDCM;
 - (b) consult on the merits of those proposals with other Distribution Services Providers, other Authorised Electricity Operators, and any other persons whose interests are materially affected by the EDCM; and
 - (c) evaluate those proposals in the light of that consultation.
- 50A.29 The third core feature is that the arrangements must provide for the licensee to have a report on any modification proposal prepared in a timely and efficient manner for submission to the Authority that:
 - (a) sets out the terms proposed for the modification;
 - (b) fairly summarises the representations received during the consultation process under paragraph 50A.28;
 - (c) sets out the conclusions reached by the licensee and other Distribution Services Providers about the modification proposal in question, including whether, in their opinion, the modification would better achieve the Relevant Objectives; and
 - (d) sets out a timetable for implementing the modification, if it were to be made, and the date from which the modification (if made) would take effect.
- 50A.30 The fourth core feature is that the arrangements must provide for the review and future modification (where appropriate) of the modification arrangements.

Part G: Approval of arrangements for handling modifications

Where the Authority, having regard to its principal objective and duties under the Act, is satisfied that the modification arrangements submitted under paragraph

50A.25 comply with the features set out in paragraphs 50A.27 to 50A.30, it may approve those arrangements as the modification arrangements approved by the Authority for the purposes of standard condition 13B (EHV Distribution Charging Methodology) in a direction given for the purposes of this condition 50A generally that:

- (a) describes (or provides for access to a description of) the nature of the modification arrangements;
- (b) sets out the Authority's reasons for approving the arrangements; and
- (c) specifies the date on which it proposes that the approval should have effect.
- 50A.32 Subject to paragraph 50A.33, approval by the Authority under paragraph 50A.31 may be granted subject to such conditions as the Authority considers appropriate, having regard, in particular, to:
 - (a) the need for any further action to be undertaken by the licensee to ensure that the modification arrangements would better meet the features set out in paragraphs 50A.27 to 50A.30 of this condition; and
 - (b) the time by which such action must be completed.
- 50A.33 No condition imposed under paragraph 50A.32 is effective unless, before granting the relevant approval, the Authority has informed the licensee of its intention to impose the condition in a Notice which:
 - (a) sets out the nature and contents of the condition; and
 - (b) specifies a period of at least 28 days within which representations or objections with respect to the condition may be made,

and has considered any representations or objections that are duly made by the licensee and not withdrawn.

Part H: Compliance and change control framework

- 50A. 34 Where the Authority has approved the EDCM under Part D of this condition, this Part H applies on the Implementation Date for the purpose of modifying the standard conditions of this licence with effect from that date in accordance with paragraph 50A.35 below.
- 50A.35 The modification referred to in paragraph 50A.34 is that standard condition 13B in the form set out at Appendix 1 (which is part of this condition 50A) comes into force in this licence on the Implementation Date.

Part I: Interpretation and termination

- 50A.36 For the purposes of this condition, the EDCM achieves the Relevant Objectives if it achieves them in the round, taking one objective with another.
- 50A.37 Unless and to the extent otherwise directed by the Authority, this condition is of no further effect in this licence after the Implementation Date.

50A.38 For the purposes of this condition:

LDNO Asset Ownership Boundary means the point at which electric lines or electrical plant owned or operated by the licensee that (for the avoidance of doubt) form part of the licensee's Distribution System, are connected to a LDNO Distribution System that is not owned or operated by the licensee.

LDNO Distribution System means:

- (a) <u>a Distribution System that is operated by an Electricity Distributor that is</u> not a Distribution Services Provider; or
- (b) <u>a Distribution System that is operated by an Electricity Distributor that is a Distribution Services Provider, but is operating that Distribution System outside its Distribution Services Area.</u>

Part J: Derogations

- The Authority may (after consulting the licensee and, where appropriate, any other Authorised Electricity Operator likely to be materially affected) give a direction ('a derogation') to the licensee that relieves it of its obligations under Part C of this condition in respect of such elements of the EDCM, to such extent, for such period of time, and subject to such conditions as may be specified in the direction.
- 50A.40 Appendix 1 follows immediately below.

APPENDIX 1

Condition 13B. EHV Distribution Charging Methodology

Part A: Licensee's obligations

- This condition applies to the licensee on and after 1 April 2012 if the licensee is a Distribution Services Provider.
- This condition applies to the licensee in relation to Designated EHV Properties only.
- The licensee must take all steps within its power to ensure that the EHV Distribution Charging Methodology ('the EDCM') continues to be a Charging Methodology for the determination of the licensee's Use of System Charges that is approved by the Authority on the basis that it achieves the Relevant Objectives set out in Part C below.
- In this condition, references to the EDCM are references to the methodology that was developed and brought into force by the licensee on 1 April 2012 in conjunction with every Associated Licensee within the meaning of paragraph 50A.4 of standard condition 50A (Development and implementation of an EHV Distribution Charging Methodology).
- 13B.<u>5</u> The licensee must at all times implement and comply with the EDCM.
- The licensee must, for the purpose of ensuring that the EDCM continues to achieve the Relevant Objectives:
 - (a) review the methodology at least once every year; and
 - (b) subject to Part D of this condition, make such modifications (if any) of the methodology as are necessary for the purpose of better achieving the Relevant Objectives.

Part B: Charging boundary

- For the purposes of this condition, Designated EHV Properties are any of the following:
 - (a) Distribution Systems connected to the licensee's Distribution System at 22 kilovolts or more;
 - (b) premises connected to the licensee's Distribution System at 22 kilovolts or more;
 - (c) Distribution Systems (that are not LDNO Distribution Systems) connected directly to substation assets that form part of the licensee's Distribution System at 1 kilovolt or more and less than 22 kilovolts where the primary voltage of the substation is 22 kilovolts or more and where the Metering Point is located at the same substation; and

- (d) <u>LDNO Distribution Systems connected directly to substation assets that form part of the licensee's Distribution System at 1 kilovolt or more and less than 22 kilovolts where the primary voltage of the substation is 22 kilovolts or more and where the LDNO Asset Ownership Boundary is at the same substation; and</u>
- (e) premises connected directly to substation assets that form part of the licensee's Distribution System at 1 kilovolt or more and less than 22 kilovolts where the primary voltage of the substation is 22 kilovolts or more and where the Metering Point is located at the same substation.

Part C: The Relevant Objectives of the EDCM

- 13B.8 The Relevant Objectives that the EDCM must achieve are as follows.
- The first Relevant Objective is that compliance with the EDCM facilitates the discharge by the licensee of the obligations imposed on it under the Act and by this licence.
- The second Relevant Objective is that compliance with the EDCM facilitates competition in the generation and supply of electricity and will not restrict, distort, or prevent competition in the transmission or distribution of electricity or in participation in the operation of an Interconnector.
- The third Relevant Objective is that compliance with the EDCM results in charges which, so far as is reasonably practicable after taking account of implementation costs, reflect the costs incurred, or reasonably expected to be incurred, by the licensee in its Distribution Business.
- The fourth Relevant Objective is that, so far as is consistent with the first three Relevant Objectives, the EDCM, so far as is reasonably practicable, should properly take account of developments in the licensee's Distribution Business.
- 13B.<u>13</u> For the purposes of this condition, the EDCM achieves the Relevant Objectives if it achieves them in the round, taking one objective with another.

Part D: Public availability of the EDCM

The licensee must ensure that a copy of its EDCM that is in force under this condition, as from time to time modified, is publicly available on the licensee's Website and is otherwise available to any person who requests it upon payment of an amount that does not exceed the reasonable costs of making and supplying that copy.

Part E: Derogations

The Authority may (after consulting the licensee and, where appropriate, any other Authorised Electricity Operator likely to be materially affected) give a direction ('a derogation') to the licensee that relieves it of its obligations under Part A of this

condition in respect of such elements of the EDCM, to such extent, for such period of time, and subject to such conditions as may be specified in the direction.

Part F: Interpretation

13B.16 For the purposes of this condition:

LDNO Asset Ownership Boundary means the point at which electric lines or electrical plant owned or operated by the licensee that (for the avoidance of doubt) form part of the licensee's Distribution System, are connected to a LDNO Distribution System that is not owned or operated by the licensee.

LDNO Distribution System means:

- (a) <u>a Distribution System that is operated by an Electricity Distributor that is not a Distribution Services Provider; or</u>
- (b) <u>a Distribution System that is operated by an Electricity Distributor that is a Distribution Services Provider, but is operating that Distribution System outside its Distribution Services Area.</u>