

The Company Secretary
National Grid Gas plc
1-3 Strand
London
WC2N 5EH

Consent given to National Grid Gas plc by the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority pursuant to Special Condition 9A.7 of the gas transporter licence in respect of the national transmission system

1. This Consent is given by the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority (the "Authority") pursuant to Special Condition 9A.7 of the gas transporter licence in respect of the national transmission system (the "Licence") granted or treated as granted under Section 7 of the Gas Act 1986 (the "Act") to National Grid Gas plc (the "Licensee").
2. Special Condition 9A.6 provides that the Licensee must, if so directed by the Authority, and in any event at least once in every two years, review the current methodologies and Capacity Methodology Statements.
3. Special Condition 9A.7 provides that, unless the Authority otherwise consents in writing, the methodologies and Capacity Methodology Statements must be accompanied by a statement from an Independent Examiner, confirming that they have carried out an Examination, the scope and objectives of which must have been established by the Licensee and approved by the Authority and giving an opinion as to the extent to which the Licensee has developed a methodology that is consistent with its duties under the Gas Act and its obligations under the Licence.
4. On 2 April 2013 the Licensee requested that the Authority grant a Consent releasing it of the requirements under Special Condition 9A.7 to provide an Independent Examiner Statement alongside the Entry Capacity Substitution Methodology Statement (the "ECS") and set out the reasons for that request.
5. The reasons why the Licensee requested the Consent are:
 - a. the Licensee has only received one request for incremental capacity since the ECS has been in place (December 2009);
 - b. there was insufficient demand to trigger the release of Incremental Entry Obligated Capacity in the March 2013 QSEC auction;

- c. any changes in the forthcoming review are likely to be limited to those necessary to ensure consistency with Licence; and
 - d. there is little or no benefit to be gained from obtaining an Independent Examiner Statement at this time.
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- 6. The Authority, having regard to reasons set out above, hereby consents to the Licensee submitting the ECS statement for the period 2013-14 without an Independent Examiner Statement as required under Special Condition 9A.7.
 - 7. This Consent constitutes notice of the reasons for the Authority's decision pursuant to section 38A of the Act.

Dated: 02 May 2013

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andy Burgess".

Andrew Burgess

Associate Partner, Transmission and Distribution Policy

Signed on behalf of the Authority and authorised for that purpose by the Authority