

## **Annex 7. EU Exit – Notice of proposed licence modifications to the licence conditions of the Gas Supply Licence**

**To: All holders of a Gas Supply Standard Licence**

**Gas Act 1986**

**Section 23(2)**

### **Notice of statutory consultation on a proposal to modify the standard conditions of all Gas Supply Licences**

1. The Gas and Electricity Markets Authority (the Authority) proposes to modify the standard conditions of all Gas Supply Licences granted or treated as granted under section 7A of the Gas Act 1986 by amending Standard Licence Conditions under section 23(1)(b):
  - SLC1 (Definitions for standard conditions)
  - SLC5 (Provision of Information to Authority and data retention)

set out in Annex 7.1.a and 7.1.b to this Notice.

2. The modifications we propose to make are to reflect the changes in the legislative framework that will be implemented in the event that the United Kingdom (UK) leaves the European Union (EU) without a deal.
3. The effect of these proposed modifications is to ensure that the references in the licence to EU law (e.g. Directives, Regulations and Commission decisions) shall be read as references to such EU law as it had effect immediately before exit day subject to any further amendments as may be contained in statutory instruments made under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018. As far as possible, the modifications do not seek to change the current obligations and duties of licensees, nor do they seek to change the current policy positions as reflected in the licence conditions.
4. The proposed modifications and the reasons why they are proposed are stated in Annex 7.1.a to this Notice. The effect of the proposed changes is set out in paragraph 3 of this Notice. Further information concerning the proposed modifications is contained in the letter entitled 'Preparing for EU Exit: statutory consultation on consequential licence modifications in the event the UK leaves the EU without a deal' which can be found at [www.ofgem.gov.uk](http://www.ofgem.gov.uk).
5. Any representations with respect to the proposed licence modification/modifications must be made on or before 15 February 2019 to: Heather Stewart, Office of Gas and Electricity Markets, 10 South Colonnade, Canary Wharf, London, E14 4PU or by email to [EUExit@ofgem.gov.uk](mailto:EUExit@ofgem.gov.uk).

6. We normally publish all responses on our website. However, if you do not wish your response to be made public then please clearly mark it as not for publication. We prefer to receive responses in an electronic form so they can be placed easily on our website.
7. If we decide to make the proposed modifications, they will take effect not less than 56 days after the decision is published.

**Cathryn Scott**  
**Director, Wholesale Markets & Commercial**

**Duly authorised on behalf of the**  
**Gas and Electricity Markets Authority**

**14 January 2019**

## Annex 7.1.a Gas Supply Standard Conditions Modification Table

| Standard License Condition | Current wording   | Proposed change   | Reasons for change  |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|
| 1.2                        | Directive means Directive 2009/73/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 concerning common rules for the internal market in natural gas and repealing Directive 2003/55/EC; | Directive means Directive 2009/73/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 concerning common rules for the internal market in natural gas and repealing Directive 2003/55/EC, <u>as it has effect immediately before Exit Day as read with the modifications set out in the Act</u> | The licence refers to the Directive in a number of conditions. This proposal will ensure that the references to the Directive are to be interpreted on the basis of the Directive as it has effect immediately before Exit Day as read with the modifications inserted into section 5B of the Gas Act 1986 by regulation 8 of the Electricity and Gas etc. (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 <sup>1</sup> . |
| 1.2                        | New definition  | <u>Exit Day has the same meaning as that given in section 20(1) of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018;</u>  | This new definition is required to give effect to the revised definition of “Directive”.  |
| 1.2                        | New definition  | <u>legally binding decisions of the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Co-operation of Energy Regulators means any relevant legally binding decisions of the European Commission and/or the Agency, but a binding decision does not include a</u>  | The licence contains references to this phrase. Post EU exit, future decisions of the Commission and the Agency will no longer have any legal effect in the UK. However, decisions made prior to Exit Day are to continue to have effect. The introduction of these new definitions will achieve this.<br><br>The terminology is consistent with the amendment made by draft  |

<sup>1</sup>The Electricity and Gas etc. (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 were published in draft on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 (<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5c17d12140f0b60c70c4ba79/Regulations.pdf>) and have been laid in draft before the sifting committees of both Houses of Parliament. The modifications that are proposed to the licence are on the assumption that the draft Regulations will be made and come into force in their published format before any proposed licence modification is to take effect. Cross references to the Regulations reflect the numbering in the published draft as at the date of this notice.

| Standard License Condition | Current wording  | Proposed change   | Reasons for change  |
|----------------------------|--|---|---|
|                            |  | <u>decision that is not, or so much of a decision as is not Retained EU Law;</u>  | regulation 10 to Section 4C of the Gas Act.   |
| 1.2                        | New definition   | <u>Retained EU Law has the same meaning as that given by section 6(7) of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018;</u>  | This definition is required to give effect to the new definitions that include reference to “Retained EU Law”.  |
| 5.6                        | With respect to transactions in gas derivatives, the obligation to keep the Relevant Data shall only apply once the European Commission has adopted guidelines pursuant to paragraph 4 of Article 44 of the Directive. | With respect to transactions in gas derivatives, the obligation to keep the Relevant Data shall only apply once the <del>European Commission</del> <u>Authority</u> has adopted guidelines pursuant to paragraph 4 of Article 44 of the Directive, <u>to be read as if the references to the European Commission are references to the Authority.</u> | Proposed amendment is required to reflect the fact that the guidelines will be adopted by the Authority rather than the European Commission post EU exit. |

## **Annex 7.1.b. Gas Supply Standard Conditions Change Marked Licence Text**

We have included the sections of the licence conditions we propose to remove or amend below. Deletions are shown in strike through and new text is double underlined.

### **Condition 1. Definitions for standard conditions**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Directive</b>   | means Directive 2009/73/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 concerning common rules for the internal market in natural gas and repealing Directive 2003/55/EC; <u>as it has effect immediately before Exit Day as read with the modifications set out in the Act;</u> |
| <b><u>Exit Day</u></b>   | <u>has the same meaning as that given in section 20(1) of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018;</u>  |
| <b><u>legally binding decisions of the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Co-operation of Energy Regulators</u></b> | <u>means any relevant legally binding decisions of the European Commission and/or the Agency, but a binding decision does not include a decision that is not, or so much of a decision as is not Retained EU Law;</u>  |
| <b><u>Retained EU Law</u></b>  | <u>has the same meaning as that given by section 6(7) of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018;</u>   |

### **Condition 5. Provision of Information to Authority and data retention**

- 5.1 After receiving a request from the Authority for Information that it may reasonably require or that it considers may be necessary to enable it to perform any functions given or transferred to it by or under any legislation, including any functions conferred on the Authority by or under the Regulation, the licensee must give that Information to the Authority when and in the form requested.
- 5.2 The licensee is not required to comply with paragraph 5.1 if the licensee could not be compelled to produce or give the Information in evidence in civil proceedings before a court.
- 5.3 After receiving a request from the Authority for reasoned comments on the accuracy and text of any Information relating to the licensee's activities under or pursuant to this licence which the Authority proposes to publish under section 35 of the Act, the licensee must give such comments to the Authority when and in the form requested.

- 5.4 The Authority’s power to request Information under this condition is additional to its power to call for information under or pursuant to any other condition of this licence.

### Data Retention

- 5.5 The licensee shall keep, for at least five years, the Relevant Data relating to any transactions in gas supply contracts and gas derivatives with wholesale customers, transmission system operators, storage facility and LNG import or export facility owners, or any person who sells gas to the licensee, which have been entered into by the licensee on or after the day after the day on which the Electricity and Gas (Internal Markets) Regulations 2011 are made.
- 5.6 With respect to transactions in gas derivatives, the obligation to keep the Relevant Data shall only apply once the ~~European Commission~~ Authority has adopted guidelines pursuant to paragraph 4 of Article 44 of the Directive, to be read as if the references to the European Commission are references to the Authority.
- 5.7 After receiving a request from the Authority for the Relevant Data, the licensee must give the Relevant Data to the Authority when and in the form requested.
- 5.8 Paragraphs 5.5 and 5.7 do not require the licensee to keep Relevant Data in respect of any feed-in tariff arrangements entered into by the licensee in accordance with Condition 33 or 34.
- 5.9 For the purposes of this condition:

“**LNG import or export facility**” has the meaning given in and is to be interpreted in accordance with section 48 of the Act;

“**owner**” has the meaning given in and is to be interpreted in accordance with section 48 of the Act;

“**Relevant Data**” means details on the characteristics of all transactions in gas supply contracts and gas derivatives with wholesale customers, transmission system operators, storage facility and LNG import or export facility owners, or any person who sells gas to the licensee, including but not limited to the duration, delivery and settlement rules, the quantity, the dates and times of execution and the transaction prices and means of identifying the wholesale customer concerned, as well as specified details of all unsettled gas supply contracts and gas derivatives;

“**storage facility**” has the meaning given in and is to be interpreted in accordance with section 48 of the Act.”.