



Making a positive difference
for energy consumers

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Dear Jasper,

Approval of amended BBL Interconnection Agreement (IA) between BBL Company V.O.F. (BBL) and National Grid Gas Plc (NGG) proposed by BBL pursuant to Standard Licence Condition (SLC) 3 of the gas interconnector licence (licence)

SLC3 states that the licensee shall enter into such bilateral agreements as may be reasonably required by any relevant gas transporter. Such agreements, and any amendments to these agreements, must be provided by the licensee to the Authority for its approval. BBL submitted, to the Authority, proposed amendments to the IA on 25 August 2019 for Approval.

This letter sets out our decision approving the modified IA on the basis that amendments to the IA have been agreed by both parties in order to facilitate physical reverse flow.

Background

BBL is a unidirectional interconnector that connects the Netherlands' gas market, Title Transfer Facility (TTF) with GB. BBL is a certified Transmission System Operator (TSO) and holder of a gas interconnector licence.

BBL first entered into the IA with NGG on 21 April 2009. The IA relates to the connection between BBL's and NGG's National Transmission System (NTS) at Bacton interconnection point.

National Grid proposed an enabling modification Uniform Network Code (UNC) 0675S - Enabling changes to the IA to facilitate physical reverse flow. This self-governance modification does not modify the UNC document, it allows the IA to be approved on the NGG side via code governance rules. This is a standard process for reviewing changes to such documents as Network Entry Agreements and Interconnection Agreements that may impact upon Users.¹

UNC0675S was unanimously approved by the UNC Panel on 20 June 2019, taking effective from 12 July 2019.

Summary of Changes

BBL is proposing changes to the IA in order to facilitate physical reverse flows. The new restated agreement includes amendments to the NGG Network Exit Provisions in respect of

¹A User is defined under the UNC as a person engaged in shipping on the NTS

Maintenance, Pressure, Flow Profiles, Notice Periods for Rate Changes and Gas Quality. There are also updates to other areas of the agreement to make clauses bi-directional where applicable, including updates to the Local Operating Procedures.

Authority Decision

SLC3.1 requires that any amendments to bilateral agreements must be submitted to the authority for approval. The Authority has decided to approve the BBL IA, in accordance with the provisions of SLC3 of BBL's gas interconnector licence, having regard to the Authority's principal objective and statutory duties, on the basis that amendments to the IA have been agreed by both parties.

If you have any questions relating to this decision, please contact Robin.Dunne@Ofgem.gov.uk

Yours Sincerely

Chris Thackeray
Head of GB Wholesale Markets