
Northern Gas Networks
Capacity Management & System Operation

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Capacity Management Services for Distribution

Annual Report 2009

Northern Gas Networks

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Executive Summary

Northern Gas Networks has been given discretion with regard to the procurement of System Management Services, subject to an obligation under its Gas Distribution Licence to operate the system in an efficient, economic and co-ordinated manner.

Northern Gas Networks confirms that System Management Services during the period 1st April 2008 to 31st March 2009 (covered by this Report) have been procured in accordance with the principles set out in the prevailing Procurement Guidelines, and therefore Northern Gas Networks consider that such activities satisfy its relevant GT Licence obligations.

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the document

This document is the Procurement Guidelines Report ("Report"), which Northern Gas Networks is required to publish in accordance with Special Condition D5 of the Gas Distribution Licence. This Report provides information in respect of the procurement of System Management Services referred to in the Procurement Guidelines. The Procurement Guidelines set out the kinds of System Management Services which Northern Gas Networks may be interested in purchasing, together with the mechanisms by which Northern Gas Networks envisages purchasing such services.

This Report covers each of the services detailed in the Tables of the Procurement Guidelines, and identifies contractual and market-related information for each of the services.

Terms used within this Report shall have the same meaning given to them in Northern Gas Networks' GT Licence and the Uniform Network Code, as the case may be.

This report can be viewed and downloaded from our website www.northerngasnetworks.co.uk.

Further copies of this report may be obtained from:

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1.2 Reporting Period

This Report has been prepared in accordance with paragraph 4 Standard Special Condition D5. This Condition states that the Report should be produced within one month after the publication date of the Procurement Guidelines that are prepared in accordance with paragraph 3 of this Condition.

This report includes details of System Management Services procured in relation to the gas flow period 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009 inclusive, covering both North and North East LDZs which form Northern Gas Networks.

2. Procurement of System Management Services

2.1 Definition of System Management Services

System Management Services are those services that Northern Gas Networks needs to procure in order to operate its Distribution pipeline system in an efficient, economic and co-ordinated manner.

Such services may be provided from a variety of sources. Northern Gas Networks may access existing mechanisms or markets, for example via a trading system or alternatively it may be via other contractual frameworks.

The Procurement Guidelines summarises the above System Management Services as being required for the following applications :

- Shrinkage
- DN Exit Capacity Management
- Storage
- Interruption.

2.2 System Management Services Procured

The services Northern Gas Networks procured in this period are summarised in the following Tables.

Table 1 – Shrinkage

Service Component Description

Shrinkage is the gas that is used or lost by the Transporter in the operation of the distribution network.

Component Details

1st April 2008 to 31st March 2009 procured shrinkage gas

Northern Gas Networks

Month	Quantity Purchased (MWh)
April	48229
May	28971
June	23390
July	21646
August	20443
September	24907
October	44419
November	42986
December	44419
January	44419
February	40121
March	44419

Table 2 – DN Exit Capacity Management

Service Component Description		
<p>In order to manage demands in the distribution network Northern Gas Networks procures flow capability through NTS Offtakes. The flow, based on capability is managed through a flat capacity requirement (peak daily flow) and a flex capacity requirement (flow between 06:00 and 22:00 relative to end of day flow).</p>		
Component Details		
<p>Procured Flat & Flex Capacity– Northern Gas Networks. 1st April 2008 to 30th September 2008.</p> <p>(North LDZ and North East LDZ)</p>		
LDZ	Flat Capacity (GWh/day)	Flex Capacity (GWh/d)
North	271.85	6.80
North East	297.98	22.86
<p>Procured Flat & Flex Capacity– Northern Gas Networks. 1st October 2008 to 31st March 2009.</p> <p>North LDZ and North East LDZ)</p>		
LDZ	Flat Capacity (GWh/day)	Flex Capacity (GWh/d)
North	251.06	19.05
North East	268.80	21.18

Table 3 – Storage**Service Component Description**

Diurnal Storage gas is the quantity of gas required in any given gas day that will balance the input (supply) to match the gas demand at the parts of the day where demand exceeds the supply. Where the perceived diurnal storage requirement for any gas day exceeds that available within the network, Diurnal Storage Services will be procured.

Component Details**1st April 2008 to 31st March 2009 Procured Storage Services****Northern Gas Networks**

During the period 1st April 2008 to 31st March 2009 National Grid, via the Distribution National Control Centre at Hinckley, have administered the storage required to balance the Network. The governance of this process has been by way of daily and monthly reports and regular liaison meetings with DNCC, which have taken place under the terms of the System Management Services Agreement between National Grid and Northern Gas Networks.

Northern Gas Networks has made available internal diurnal storage and any additional quantities have been secured by DNCC against the flexibility capacities booked with National Grid in the Offtake Capacity Statements.

Table 4 – Interruption

Service Component Description

In the event that demand exceeds transportation capability in either North or North East LDZs, Northern Gas Networks will procure Interruption Services to manage NTS constraints, LDZ constraints and/or supply demand imbalance.

Component Details

During the period 1st April 2008 to 31 March 2009, Northern Gas Networks utilised this service as follows:

LDZ Interruptions				
Month	LDZ	No. of Supply Points Interrupted	No. of Supply Point Days*	Quantity Interrupted (MCM)
April	0	0	0	0
May	0	0	0	0
June	0	0	0	0
July	0	0	0	0
August	0	0	0	0
September	0	0	0	0
October	0	0	0	0
November	0	0	0	0
December	0	0	0	0
January	NE	2	3	0.03941
February	NE	3	11	0.18985
March	0	0	0	0

On the 1st April 2009 Northern Gas Network had interruption access to 185 LDZ sites with an aggregate SOQ of 71,850,472 kWh

* Number of Supply Point Days = Number of Supply Points interrupted * duration of interruption for each Supply Point in days