



Industry Governance

The views of the Gas Forum

- The Gas Forum believes that the regulatory approach to date, ie. light touch with intervention by the regulator kept to a minimum, has been a significant contributory factor in producing the most competitive gas market in Europe. We would therefore be concerned with any departure from such an approach
- The Gas Forum does not believe that Ofgem should be attempting to set energy policy – some of its interventions in the Codes could be seen as setting policy – eg the reform of entry capacity (which makes it difficult to bring gas to the UK) and exit capacity (which is about to remove the interruptions regime)
- The Gas Forum has grave concerns about Ofgem deciding that it is judge and jury with respect to Significant Code Reviews (SCR)
- The Gas Forum is concerned at the level of complexity introduced – this is to the detriment of smaller players and new entrants
- Regulatory stability is key – the regulator should be seeking to minimise its role in the UNC modification process– not the other way round
- The Gas Forum agrees with Ofgem’s desire to promote self regulation where possible. The Gas Forum’s role to elect UNC Users’ Representatives is an excellent example of where rules do not have to be in the UNC and governed by cumbersome and bureaucratic processes.
- The Gas Forum believes in an increased level of representation for shippers and suppliers on the modification panel. Since the advent of the DN sale the shipping community, as principal users of the Uniform Network Code, and the principal funders of change, have had a diminished level of participation and decision-making on the panel.