Dear Stakeholder,

BBL Company (BBLC) and National Grid Gas (NGG) are together proposing amendments to the BBL Interconnection Agreement (IA) to accommodate an enhanced pressure service to be provided by NGG to BBLC.

Currently a Uniform Network Code (UNC) modification proposal UNC 0786S “Amendment to the framework for the Bacton exit pressure service to interconnectors” is being consulted on by the Joint Office of Gas Transporters (link to consultation documents: 0786S - Amendment of the framework for the Bacton exit pressure service to interconnectors | Joint Office of Gas Transporters (gasgovernance.co.uk)).

The terms of the pressure service described within the 0786S UNC Proposal also need to be incorporated into the IA between BBLC and NGG, and the revised IA will need approval from Ofgem. This document, and the accompanying proposed revised IA, provides further details of the proposed amendments.

Stakeholders are invited to submit any comments on this document, and the proposed revised IA, by email to ‘consultations@bblcompany.com’ by 28th January 2022.

Background

Company Information

BBLC is a certified TSO under the ownership and unbundling requirements of the EU Third Package and is subject to the relevant regulations, except in relation to its exempt capacity. Since December 2006, BBLC’s main activities have been the ownership and operation of a pipeline transporting gas from the Netherlands to the United Kingdom (UK). As of July 2019 the BBL pipeline has also been able to transport gas from the UK to the Netherlands.

NGG is the owner and operator of the gas National Transmission System (NTS) in Great Britain that connects with the BBL Pipeline at Bacton. The NTS plays an important role in facilitating the competitive gas market and provides the UK with a secure gas supply.
Interconnection Agreement (IA)

The IA describes the commercial arrangements and operational working provisions between BBLC and NGG, the Transmission System Operators (TSOs), whose systems are connected at the BBL Interconnection Point (IP) at Bacton.

Reason for Change

Under certain operational conditions, when BBLC is transporting gas from the UK to the Netherlands, it would be beneficial to BBLC if NGG provided a higher gas pressure at the BBLC offtake from the NTS. The reason for amending the IA is to include the terms relating to the provision of this new pressure service by NGG to BBL.

Consultation Process

The consultation period will run from 22nd December 2021 to 28th January 2022 and comments on the proposed changes are invited from stakeholders.

Please send your response to consultations@bblcompany.com. Any response not marked confidential will be published on the BBLC website. Confidential responses will be published without any references to your company name. If you indicate that you do not wish to have your response published at all, an anonymized version of your response will be sent to Ofgem.

The revised IA will be submitted to Ofgem for approval following consideration of the responses received.

If you wish to have further clarification of anything outlined in this letter, or have any questions on the proposed modifications to the IA, please do not hesitate to email us at consultations@bblcompany.com or give me a call at +31611005087.

Kind regards,

Rudi Streuper
Commercial Manager