UIP/GT fast track self connection process (UIP/GT Briefing Note 10)

1. Introduction

In order to streamline the UIP/GT self connection process changes are being made to enable customers to bypass the quotation request stage and submit their request at the acceptance stage. This change is limited to self connection works within the scope of the standard pressure matrix (See UIP/GT Briefing note 4), or self connection works following a land enquiry response without reinforcement.

Transco will continue to provide a connection quotation where requested. In addition the quotation variation process has been revised where a UIP/GT has received a quotation for Transco to connect, but decides to follow a self connect option.

2. Fast track process changes

The UIP/GT will be required to submit a new combined connection request and acceptance form. UIP requests should be made on form CONN_FM138a. iGT requests should be made on form CONN_FM153a.

The new forms allow submission of minimum information requirements under National Grid's Connections Business Rules and confirmation of the minimum design pressure. This should either be the design pressure provided under the standard pressure matrix or the design pressure quoted by National Grid under the Land Enquiry process.

For GT submissions where other NExA related pressure information has been provided at the land enquiry stage the GT should include this information in the request form. Where a standard pressure is being used National Grid will confirm any additional NExA related pressure information at the acceptance stage. For GT submissions CONN_FM153a will from the basis of Schedule 1&2 (Annex B) of the NExA.

National Grid will validate the request/acceptance form to ensure it meets the current requirements.

National Grid will issue an acknowledgement of acceptance confirming approval in principal subject to receipt of a design submission or issue a rejection letter stating the reasons for rejection. For GT requests within the scope of the standard pressure matrix any additional NExA related pressure information will be provided in the acknowledgement letter.

3. Quotation Variation process changes

Where a UIP/GT customer has received a National Grid connection quotation but then decides to follow a self connect option a new form has been developed to inform National Grid of the change. This removes the requirement for National Grid to send a variation

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form and await acceptance by the customer and amends UIP/GT Briefing Note 1 section 2.4.

The process is as follows:

 Where the customer is returning an acceptance for a National Grid quoted connection, but wishes to proceed with a self connect option the customer should submit the original quotation documentation indicating their intention to self connect and striking out any National Grid connection price. The customer should also complete and sign the revised CONN FM140 from accepting the new self connect terms.

National Grid will provide an acknowledgement of the amended terms.

 Where the customer has accepted a National Grid connection and received a planning date, but then decides to self connect, the customer should complete the revised CONN_FM140 accepting the new self connect terms. Contractually this notification should be issued within 5 days of receipt of the National Grid planned date. National Grid will provide an acknowledgement of the amended terms and cancel the planned works.

4. Contract changes

In order to make these changes an amendment will be required to section 2.4 of the UIP/GT Connection, Service Disconnection and Service Alteration Agreement, authorising works to proceed subject to any other permissions on receipt of an acknowledgement of acceptance from National Grid. A letter will be sent to signatories of the connection agreement requesting acceptance for the modified contract terms.

5. Implementation

This process will be implemented for job requests received after close of business on 31 August 2005.

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