

Very Large Daily Metered Consumer (VLDMC) Participation Requirements

There are around 50 sites directly connected to the National Transmission System (NTS). Contacting VLDMCs and requesting they cease taking gas is a key emergency action under Stage 2. The following load shedding process will be tested during Exercise Arctic.

Start Ex

VLDMCs will be alerted to the commencement of Exercise Arctic via established communications channels. The start message will be complemented by a short situation report to inform participants the background to the scripted unfolding events.

“EXERCISE ‘ARCTIC’ – START EX”

Stage 1

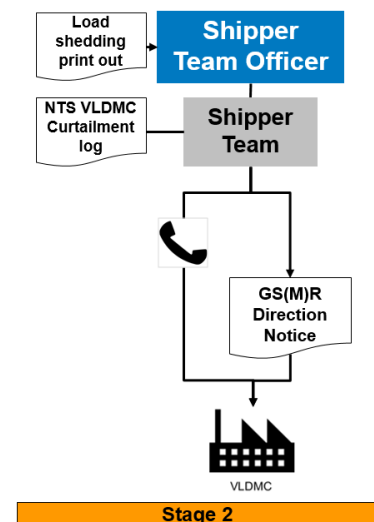
The exercise scenario will require the Network Emergency Management Team (NEMT) to request the Network Emergency Coordinator (NEC) declare a Gas Deficit Emergency in response to high demand and a range of supply issues. The NEMT's 'Support' Team will alert the industry to the declaration of a Network Gas Supply Emergency (NGSE) at Stage 1 by issuing a completed [NEC Declaration Form](#), via established communication channels.

The Support Team will monitor communication systems to assure successful delivery of the declaration message. Any errors or fail messages will be followed up to assure the correct contact details are on file.

Stage 2

As the response to the exercise scenario progresses, it is assessed that load shedding of Directly Connected Sites (VLDMCs) will be a key part of the NEMT's strategy to re-balance the NTS. The NEMT will request the NEC declare Stage 2 in order to access this option. The [NEC Declaration Form](#) will be updated to inform industry that Stage 2 has been declared. The receipt of the updated declaration form will alert VLDMCs that they are likely to be contacted for the purposes of commencing Load Shedding.

The NEMT's 'Shipper' Team will be briefed on the load shedding strategy and asked to commence the process of contacting sites to cease taking gas. The team will collate [P70s](#) to determine which sites are already offline. Offline sites will still be contacted and given the instruction not to recommence taking gas, but this will take place after prioritising the contact of sites which are already online.



To load shed a VLDMC a Shipper Team member will call the site via the contact details stored on the NEMT's contact database. A verbal instruction will be given to cease taking gas. The Shipper Team member will clarify that this is possible and request an estimation of the time it will take to complete this action. The telephone call will be followed up by a written

instruction in the form of a [GS\(M\)R Direction Notice](#). It is the phone call which a VLDMC must comply with.

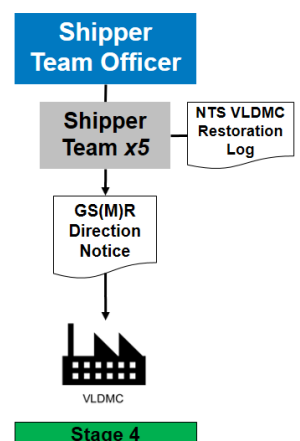
It is the site's responsibility to inform their Shipper/Agent or commercial trading desk of gas flow amendment to support the NEC instruction. For the purposes of the exercise it is recommended that this process be conducted, though it is important to pre-fix all messages of this nature with the words '**for Exercise Arctic**' and confirm all recipients understand the message is for exercise purposes and no further action is required.

Stage 3

There are no specific actions which concern VLDMCs at stage 3. The Shipper Team will release a telephone number which can be used for enquires during this time.

Stage 4

The timeframe of the exercise will almost certainly not allow the NEMT to progress as far as Stage 4, Restoration. If Stage 4 is declared, the Shipper Team will contact VLDMCs, most likely in reverse order, to advise the site may resume consuming gas. This phone call will be followed up by the issue of an updated [GS\(M\)R Direction Revocation Notice](#) revoking the original instruction.



Contact

Should you have any queries or require further information regarding any aspect of Exercise Arctic please visit the National Grid Emergency Information [website](#) or get in touch with the National Grid Gas Emergency and Incident Framework Team using the contact details provided below:

Email: gasops.emergencyplanning@nationalgrid.com