

Offtake Flow Reduction

Overview

In relation to a forecast NTS Exit Constraint, National Gas Transmission may require offtake Users to reduce demand for a set period of time by requesting offers for Offtake Flow Reduction (OFR) at NTS Exit Points in NTS Exit Zones impacted by the forecast constraint.

The request will be initiated by notifying all users that National Gas Transmission has a requirement for NTS Exit Users in specific NTS Exit Zone(s) to reduce offtake flows for a period of time in a gas day by issuing an ANS message indicating this.

NTS Exit Users in the affected NTS Exit Zones will have the option to make an offer to National Gas Transmission by entering the location, price and potential flow reduction into the Gemini Exit system.

Offtake Flow Reduction offers will be assessed and allocated in relation to the NTS Exit constraint risk being managed. National Gas Transmission will accept offers in line with the System Management Principles Statement and will assess each offer based on cost and the geographic location of the NTS Exit Point prior to accepting any offer(s).

Once an Offtake Flow Reduction offer has been accepted and allocated, Users must send a revised OPN no less than 30 minutes prior to the start of the reduction period reflecting the Offtake Flow Reduction quantity National Gas Transmission has accepted. Please note that if the OPN does not match the flow reduction that was offered and subsequently accepted, then payment may not be made. National Gas Transmission will utilise the OFR process during operationally critical periods when dealing with NTS Exit Constraints and therefore will not be able to specifically assess OPNs (on the gas day) in relation to an accepted OFR. Therefore on the gas day, the onus is on those who offered the OFR to ensure that the revised OPN accurately reflects the accepted offer.

An “after-the-day” process will be managed by National Gas Transmission to confirm that revised OPNs reflected the accepted OFR offers and payments will be scheduled accordingly.

Communications

When National Gas Transmission initiates an Offtake Flow Reduction invitation, an ANS message will be issued notifying all NTS Users of the applicable NTS Exit Zone(s) where offers are requested and also the “Invitation Reference Number” (e.g. “OFR0001”) which will be available in the Gemini Exit system:

National Gas Transmission is seeking Offtake Flow Reduction offers at any locations within the following NTS Exit Zone(s) XX. Please see the Gemini Exit system OFR Invitation Reference No. (XXXX) for details.

Process Summary

1. National Gas Transmission (GNC) forecast an NTS Exit Constraint that affects 1 or more NTS Exit Zones.
2. National Gas Transmission initiates constraint management processes in line with the System Management Principles Statement in order to alleviate the potential constraint.
3. If an Offtake Flow Reduction could help to alleviate/avoid the forecast constraint, then National Gas Transmission will issue an ANS message indicating the OFR Invitation Reference Number and the affected NTS Exit Zone(s).
4. The Offtake Flow Reduction start time, end time and reduction quantity required can be found in the Gemini Exit system tagged to the relevant OFR Invitation Reference Number here:
Home - Publish - Reports - Offtake Flow Reduction - Offtake Flow Reduction Publish Invitation Report
5. NTS Exit Users that wish to make an offer of flow reduction in relation to the invitation sent by National Gas Transmission can do so by entering the offer details into Gemini Exit here:
Home - Deal - Offtake Flow Reduction - Offtake Flow Reduction Offer Capture
6. Where National Gas Transmission accepts an offer, the relevant NTS Exit User must ensure that a revised OPN which reflects the accepted OFR offer is received no later than 30 minutes prior to the reduction period. Accepted offers can be viewed in Gemini Exit here:
Home - Publish - Reports - Offtake Flow Reduction - Offtake Flow Reduction Offer Information Report

Note that in the Offtake Flow Reduction Offer Information Report, the “OPN Compliance” has a default setting of “Yes”. OPN compliance will be checked after the Gas Day, therefore in operational timescales, the onus is on the User to ensure the OPN revision matches the OFR offer.

For further details regarding this subject, please refer to UNC TPD Section B - System Use & Capacity, Annex B-2.