

## Supplementary Transporters

### Participation Requirements

Gas Distribution Network (GDN) Operators are responsible for emergency communications with Supplementary Transporters connected to the Secondary Systems which they operate. GDS have been requested to contact Supplementary Transporters throughout the NEC Assurance Exercise for the purposes of aligning emergency actions required in the Local Distribution Zones (LDZ) to activities required to be undertaken in the Supplementary systems

Distribution Networks (DN) have also been requested to contact Supplementary Transporters within the DN Emergency Contact Validation exercise, on a date separate to the annual NEC Assurance Exercise. This contact will include requests to undertake load shedding communications, which may include isolation and restoration discussions with the DN to support their Safety Case obligations.

Any direct communications throughout the exercise should be conducted through the relevant Distribution Network, though the following is guide to the broader exercise activity specific to Supplementary Transporter participation

### Start of Exercise

All industry participants will be alerted to the commencement of the exercise via established communication channels. The start message will be complemented by a short situation report to inform participants the background to the scripted unfolding events. The communication will be prefixed with:

#### **“NEC ASSURANCE EXERCISE – START OF EXERCISE”**

#### Stage 1

The exercise scenario will require the National Gas Network Emergency Management Team (NEMT) to request the NEC to declare a Gas Deficit Emergency in response to high demand and a range of supply issues. The NEMT 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. GDNs will further alert Supplementary Transporters connected to their Secondary Systems of the declaration of an emergency and any requests for information.

#### Stage 2

As the response to the exercise scenario progresses, it is assessed that load shedding of industrial and commercial demand will be a key part of the NEMT’s strategy to re-balance the Network. The NEMT will request the NEC declare Stage 2 of an NGSE 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 GDNs that they are likely to be contacted for the purposes of commencing load shedding in their LDZs. At this point, if not already

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conducted, GNDs should be in active communications with Supplementary Transporters to determine the extent of industrial and commercial demand available for load shedding in the Supplementary Systems.

The NEMT will be briefed on the load shedding strategy and asked to commence the process of contacting sites to cease taking gas and directing the GDNs to do the same in their LDZs. The GDNs will further contact supplementary Transporters to request that they load shed demand previously identified as meeting the requirements of the current load shedding strategy.

### Stage 3

At Stage 3 of an NGSE GDNs will contact Supplementary Transporters if their supplementary systems form part of an area impacted by the GDN's Isolation plans. Supplementary Transporters have a duty to comply with the GDNs management of Isolation in their LDZs

### 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 NEMT will contact work closely with the GDNs to assess priorities for restoration and the extent to which isolation can be reversed. The GDNs will maintain contact with their Supplementary Transporters to keep them abreast of these activities.

### Contact

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

Email: [gasops.emergencyplanning@nationalgas.com](mailto:gasops.emergencyplanning@nationalgas.com)