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Our Reference:
Your Reference:

Date : 12 Aug 08

Dear Andrew,

NTS Exit Capacity Release Methodology Statement (ExCR) in respect of the Transition Period

Thank you for providing Scottish and Southern Energy plc (SSE) with the opportunity to comment on the above Consultation Document.

SSE is generally supportive of the principles in the ExCR methodology statement as it reflects the intent of mod 214 to provide a means to book NTS exit capacity in excess of 6 months ahead.

However, this will be achieved through an ARCA and as such important details of the booking are not transparent and are largely at the discretion of NGG. This includes the ARCA commitment which equates to the user commitment in the enduring regime. It is proposed in the consultation document that "User Commitment" will be related to the quantity of capacity reserved and relevant exit capacity charges but full details will only be made available through individual ARCAs on a case by case basis. SSE believes it is necessary that the basis on which commitment will be determined should be transparent and uniform across all Users to avoid undue discrimination. Details of the duration of the commitment and confirmation that charges used will be those applying at the time the commitment is made, should be confirmed in paragraph 38 and 48 of the ExCR to remove regulatory uncertainty and risk.

If you would like to discuss any of the above points please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Jeff Chandler
Gas Strategy Manager
Energy Strategy

