

Gas Storage Facilities

Participation Requirements

There are several Gas Storage Facilities connected to the National Transmission System (NTS). Storage Facilities operate in two modes, import or export. Contacting Storage Facilities and requesting they increase/decrease or switch to import/export is an action available under a Network Gas Supply Emergency (NGSE). This is known as the storage flow direction process, which is tested in the annual Network Emergency Coordinator (NEC) Assurance Exercise.

Start of Exercise

Gas Storage Facilities 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:

“EXERCISE NAME – START OF EXERCISE”

At any stage of the response the National Gas Network Emergency Management Team (NEMT) may request storage information from Gas Storage Facilities through the issue of a [Storage Gas Availability Status Information Form](#). Gas Storage Facilities are requested to complete and return this form within 30 minutes of receipt. The information contained will provide the NEMT key situational awareness to form their response strategy. Data provided should be based upon real on-the-day data

Stage 1

The exercise scenario will require the 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 NGSE at Stage 1 by issuing a completed [NEC Declaration Form](#), via established communication channels.

The NEMT will monitor communication channels 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

At Stage 2, it is likely that the NEC will direct Gas Storage Facilities to withdraw all available supplies on to the NTS to re-balance the network. A further [NEC Declaration Form](#) will be issued to inform industry that Stage 2 has been declared. The receipt of the updated declaration form should alert Gas Storage Facilities to prepare to amend their storage withdrawal.

Gas Storage Facilities will be telephoned via the details stored on the NEMT's Emergency Contact Database. A verbal instruction will be given to maximise withdrawal on to the NTS. The telephone call will be followed up by a written instruction (email) in the form of a [Storage Flow Direction Notification Form](#). It is the phone call with which the Gas Storage Facility must comply.

NEC Assurance Exercise Participation Requirements

Network
Emergency
Co-ordinator

Contact

Should you have any queries or require further information regarding any aspect of an NEC Assurance Exercise, please visit the [National Gas Website](#) or get in touch with the National Gas Energy Resilience Team using the contact details provided below:

Email: gasops.emergencyplanning@nationalgas.com