TRANSCO REPORT ON DISCUSSION DOCUMENT PD5

Charges for Independent Systems

1. TRANSCO'S INITIAL PROPOSAL

Discussion document PD5 and simultaneous papers from Transco's connections department proposed that any new connections to the Independent Systems should face the same connection and transportation charging policies as elsewhere in Great Britain. Transco invited respondents to comment on this proposal.

2. SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

In total there were three responses, all from shippers.

Of these responses, two supported the proposal. One respondent opposed the "shallow" connections policy.

2.1 Lack of analysis

Comments Received

One shipper is "disappointed by the lack of supporting data on this issue".

Transco's Response

The proposal recommends that transportation and connections charges are brought in line with those for the rest of Great Britain these charges are published in the respective charging brochures, and so it was not considered appropriate to reproduce them here.

2.2 Lack of details on implementation

Comments Received

One shipper was disappointed by the lack of details of how Transco intends to implement the proposal.

Transco's response

The discussion document was not considered a suitable vehicle to publish implementation details. However, Transco can confirm that it proposes to implement the new transportation charges and connection policy for the Independent Systems with effect from 1st October 1999. Transco will provide notice to the industry of its revised charges two months prior to the implementation date as required by Network Code.

2.3 Opposition to "shallow" policy

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Comments Received

One shipper is opposed to the "shallow" connection policy for Independent Systems (and in general).

Transco's Response

The "shallow" policy has been approved and implemented throughout the rest of Great Britain and its introduction in the Independent Systems will ensure consistency.

3. TRANSCO'S FINAL PROPOSAL

Transco is pleased with the level of support demonstrated for the proposal. Transco has separately consulted about changing the connection policy and has not received any comments contrary to this policy and so proposes to implement it with effect from 1st October 1999.

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