



**GAS DISTRIBUTION CONNECTION  
SERVICES CHARGES**

**NORTH WEST  
WEST MIDLANDS  
EAST OF ENGLAND  
LONDON  
DISTRIBUTION NETWORKS**

**STANDARD CHARGES EFFECTIVE FROM  
1 APRIL 2008**

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

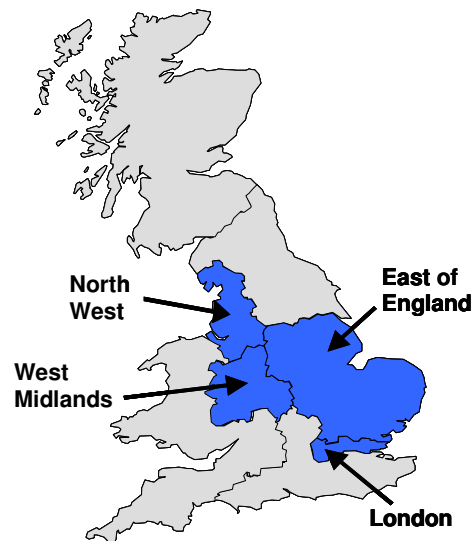
This document sets out the various standard charges used by National Grid in charging for our gas distribution connections services.

National Grid Gas plc is the GT Licence holder for Gas Distribution in the four Distribution Networks shown below. All references to “we”, “us” and “our” in this document are to National Grid Gas plc, trading as National Grid.

The application of each type of standard charge set out in this document is governed by a set of Application Criteria that are provided in each respective section.

The geographical layout of our four networks is illustrated here.

Where charges vary by network, the relevant Distribution Network is identified by means of the customer’s Post Code.



The standard charges set out in this document include overheads, but are stated before VAT is applied. VAT will be applied to charges at the appropriate rate. This will depend upon the type of work and the status of the customer to whom the charge is being made.

In the course of its work, National Grid may incur specific additional costs relating to prevailing traffic management legislation, such as (but not limited to) parking bay suspension fees. National Grid reserves the right to pass on such additional costs directly to the customer where appropriate.

Further information on our gas distribution services is available on the National Grid web site <http://www.nationalgrid.com/>. For enquiries regarding this document, please refer to Section 12, Contact Details.

**NB: Pressure Information** - We publish standard source pressures, which may be subject to change from time to time. However, please note that the service for specific network analysis enquiries was discontinued as of 3 July 2006, in line with revisions to National Grid’s Network Policy Manual, NP14. Any enquiries regarding this change to policy should be directed to our Network Strategy Team using the contact details provided in Section 12 of this document.

## 2. DOMESTIC CONNECTION CHARGES

### Statement of Standard Charges

Charges Excl. VAT	Load Size	Length on Private	North West	West Midlands	East of England	London
Incl. Excavate / Backfill or Insert	<=65 kWh (U6 Meter)	0m	£260	£245	£248	£433
		<=20m	£642	£606	£612	£1,070
		<=40m	£1,144	£1,079	£1,091	£1,907
	<=275 kWh (U16 / U25 meter)	0m	£451	£425	£430	£751
		<=20m	£879	£829	£838	£1,464
		<=40m	£1,462	£1,379	£1,394	£2,436
Cust. Excavate / Backfill	<=65 kWh (U6 Meter)	0m				
		<=20m	£253	£238	£241	£421
		<=40m	£309	£292	£296	£516
	<=275 kWh (U16 / U25 meter)	0m				
		<=20m	£367	£347	£351	£613
		<=40m	£452	£429	£433	£756

### Application Criteria

The above standard charges are applicable for up to 40 metres of service pipe to be laid on land owned or occupied by the person requiring the connection, where the service termination is not more than 3 metres above the exterior ground surface level. To be eligible for a standard charge, all the following criteria must be met:

- the new connection must be for individual premises situated within 23 metres of one of our relevant mains with no engineering difficulties or other obstacles<sup>1</sup> present that would result in more than 23m of pipe being laid to the premises boundary;
- the premises being used or proposed to be used mainly or wholly for domestic purposes;
- there is no existing gas supply to the premises;
- the individual premises does not form part of a multiple development, or
- the individual premises does form part of a multiple development however the person owning or occupying<sup>2</sup> each premises can be identified<sup>3</sup>, and

<sup>1</sup> Including, but not limited to works which involve the crossing of or affected by the presence of a motorway, railway, waterway, site of special scientific interest, or where an easement or other legal permit has to be obtained from any person other than the person requesting the works.

<sup>2</sup> Housing developers or landlords or an agent working on behalf of a developer or landlord are not eligible.

<sup>3</sup> Acceptable forms of evidence in respect of the identification of the person who owns or occupies a premises (being either a single premises or a premises within a multiple development) are:

- The name and address of the owner or occupier of the premises or;

- the person requesting the connection is the owner or occupier of the premises, or their agent, as qualified above.

Any individual premises meeting the criteria stated above is eligible, regardless of whether the enquiry is part of a single or multiple connection request.

## **Description of Charging Categories**

### Including Excavation & Reinstatement

This category refers to connection jobs where the customer has elected not to carry out excavation and reinstatement of the required trench for installation of the new gas service on private land. On such occasions we may install the new gas service pipe using one of a range of methods which include the use of 'moling', insertion or the excavation of an open-cut trench. Reinstatement of any associated excavation on private land is included.

Customers are advised that we are unable to ensure full reinstatement of specialist surfaces, e.g., mosaic tiles or coloured flagstones. In such cases, customers are advised to engage their own specialist contractor to replace the final surface to their requirements. We are also unable to replace any plants damaged as a result of the work being carried out.

### Excluding Excavation & Reinstatement

This category refers to jobs where the customer has elected to carry out excavation and reinstatement of trenches etc. on private land. The customer should complete excavation of the required trench prior to us attending site to avoid having to pay for a works variation (to pay for us to carry out excavation) or an abortive visit charge.

### Zero Horizontal Length (Length 0m on Private)

This category refers to jobs where no excavation will occur on private land, i.e., the customer occupies a house or flat that fronts directly onto the street. They may have a connection to a meter box, or a ground floor house entry, or an entry into a basement or to a first floor flat where no more than 3m of above ground pipework will be installed. This category does not include the installation or reinstallation of a connection to a pre-existing riser.

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- A written statement specifying the reasons why a name and address cannot be provided and confirming that the premises are individually owned or occupied.

## **Other Information**

Any premises which falls within a 'live' infill scheme and meets the above standard charge Application Criteria, will be required to pay a mains contribution cost, plus the appropriate standard charge from the above table.

The above charges include the provision of a 'bolt-on' or 'semi concealed' meter housing where applicable. Where a 'built in' meter housing is required, the customer must purchase this and ensure that it is installed prior to us beginning the engineering works. (A list of suppliers can be obtained from our Domestic Connections Team using the contact details provided in Section 12.)

On completion of works a meter box becomes the property of the customer, who is then responsible for ongoing care and maintenance. However, we currently provide a chargeable repair service (see Section 5).

On occasion, we may carry out work additional to that required by the customer in order to ensure that we develop and maintain our pipeline system in an economic and efficient manner. Such additional work will not be charged to the person requesting the connection.

Where the Application Criteria for these standard charges are not met, a bespoke quotation will be provided for the required new connection works.

### 3. DISCONNECTION CHARGES

#### Statement of Standard Charges

Charges Excl. VAT		North West	West Midlands	East of England	London
Surface = Unmade / Cultivated	<=32mm PE / 1" met	£357	£418	£448	£618
	63mm PE / 2" met	£389	£534	£562	£763
	90mm PE / 3" met	£789	£781	£752	£1,235
	125mm PE / 4" met	£908	£923	£768	£1,251
	180mm / 6" met	£1,170	£1,046	£1,049	£1,976
Surface = Road / Path	<=32mm PE / 1" met	£367	£621	£642	£851
	63mm PE / 2" met	£398	£724	£728	£1,005
	90mm PE / 3" met	£800	£1,113	£1,009	£1,578
	125mm PE / 4" met	£922	£1,279	£1,055	£1,676
	180mm / 6" met	£1,181	£1,530	£1,412	£2,598

#### Application Criteria

These charges are applicable for disconnection of gas service pipes connected to the low, medium and intermediate pressure distribution networks. The charge is based upon the diameter of the service pipe to be disconnected and the type of surface where the disconnection is to be made. The above charges will also be applied where customers requesting a service alteration also request that the service pipe be disconnected on a separate visit, prior to the alteration job.

#### Other Information

Charges associated with the clamping and/or removal of gas meters that are owned by us are set out in National Grid's statement of Gas Metering Charges.

## 4. DOMESTIC SERVICE ALTERATION CHARGES

### Statement of Standard Charges

Charges Excl. VAT	Alteration Length	North West	West Midlands	East of England	London
1	<=2m	£738	£581	£574	£844
2	2<=6m	£828	£651	£644	£947
3	6<=10m	£981	£772	£763	£1,123
4	10<=15m	£1,183	£931	£920	£1,354
5	15<=20m	£1,415	£1,114	£1,101	£1,619

### Application Criteria

These charges are applied on the basis of the length (in metres) of the required service pipe alteration, i.e., from the point at which the existing service pipe needs to be cut back, to the required point of service entry.

Customers requiring this service will be provided with an information pack (on request to our Domestic Connections Team using the contact details provided in Section 12) to work out their standard charge, or to identify where a bespoke quotation is required.

To be eligible for the above standard charges, the premises must be used mainly or wholly for domestic purposes and the service pipe alteration works must meet all the following criteria:

- Service pipe diameter 1" metallic / 32mm PE, or less and operating at a pressure of below 7 barg;
- Both the existing and proposed service entry points (the location where the service pipe enters the property) are not more than 3 metres above ground level;
- The total length of the alteration is not more than 20 metres;
- The pipe to be altered is a pipe that is designed to supply only one or two supply meter points;
- No unusual security or similar access restrictions apply, e.g. where a property is within a secure military base a standard charge will not be applicable;
- At the time of the request the customer does not anticipate that the completion of the works will be affected by any unusual health, safety or environmental risks, e.g., working under scaffolding erected by others, presence of asbestos dust, etc.

Where the Application Criteria for these standard charges are not met, we will provide a bespoke quotation for the required alteration works.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Party Service Pipe Alteration works**

Where an Independent Connection Provider (ICP) relays a  $\leq 2$ " steel service pipe as part of the service alteration we will pay a fixed allowance of **£465** per service to the ICP on satisfactory completion of the work.

#### **Other Information**

Customers are advised that we are unable to ensure full reinstatement of specialist surfaces, e.g., mosaic tiles or coloured flagstones. In such cases, customers are advised to engage their own specialist contractor to replace the final surface to their requirements. We are also unable to replace any plants damaged as a result of the work being carried out.

On occasion, we may carry out work additional to that required by the customer in order to ensure that we develop and maintain our pipeline system in an economic and efficient manner. Such additional work will not be charged to the person requesting the service alteration.

The above charges exclude the relocation of the customer's meter following service pipe alteration works. These charges are provided in the customer information pack, available on request, as stated above.

The above charges include the provision of a 'bolt-on' or 'semi concealed' meter housing where applicable. Where a 'built in' meter housing is required, the customer must purchase this and ensure that it is installed prior to us beginning the engineering works. (A list of suppliers can be obtained from our Domestic Connections Team using the contact details provided in Section 12.)

On completion of works a meter box becomes the property of the customer, who is then responsible for ongoing care and maintenance. However, we currently provide a chargeable repair service (see Section 5).

If we are required to alter existing pipework to meet a request for an increase in load, the standard charges will not be applicable.

We will not charge for the alteration of a meter position and / or service pipe to meet the physical needs<sup>4</sup> of people who are disabled, chronically sick or of pensionable age. In these cases the work carried out by National Grid will be the least cost fit for purpose solution to meet the physical needs of the customer. Any additional works beyond this will be chargeable to the customer.

Where customers require the service pipe to be disconnected in a separate visit, prior to the service alteration, a standard disconnection charge will apply (see Section 3).

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<sup>4</sup> In this instance, 'physical needs' means that as a result of a person's physical condition, the alteration is required to allow that person to operate the emergency control valve, and / or read the meter.

## 5. METER BOX REPAIR CHARGES

### Statement of Standard Charges

<b>Charges Excluding VAT</b>	
<b>1. Supply &amp; Install Surface Mounted Meter Box Cover and Door</b>	<b>£140.61</b>
<b>2. Supply &amp; Install Replacement Meter Box Door</b>	<b>£62.64</b>
<b>3. Supply &amp; Install Vandal-Resistant Meter Box Door (Built-in Meter Boxes Only)</b>	<b>£156.08</b>
<b>4. Supply &amp; Install Pregnant Meter Box Door for ETM</b>	<b>£72.18</b>
<b>5. Repair meter box door hinges and / or lock</b>	<b>£45.78</b>
<b>6. Supply only replacement hinge pins / lock / key</b>	<b>£7.94</b>

### Application Criteria

These charges are applicable in respect of our service to repair meter box doors for domestic gas meter boxes that are designed to accommodate a meter with a badged capacity of 6 standard cubic metres per hour that are associated with service pipes attached to our pipe-line system.

### Other Information

Payment is required in advance of works being undertaken. (For further details please contact our Domestic Connections Team, using the contact details provided in Section 12.)

## 6. CONNECTION DESIGN CHARGES

Note: Design charges do not apply to new connection jobs that meet the Application Criteria set out in Section 2 of this document.

### 6.1 Design Charges for New Connection Projects deemed to be of Sufficient Complexity<sup>5</sup>

#### Statement of Standard Charges

- Where the nature of a new connection project is of Sufficient Complexity we may either resource this internally or use an external design organisation.
- Where the design of Sufficient Complexity projects is resourced internally, we will predict the number of hours that our staff will take to complete the design and charge on the basis of the number of hours multiplied by the applicable hourly rate, which is **£42.60 per hour** (excl. VAT).
- Where an external design organisation is used, the design charge will be levied according to the cost to us, and overheads will be applied at the appropriate rate.
- It is also possible for us to use a combination of external and internal resources to complete a design. In this situation, we will charge for each type of resource using the appropriate methodology as outlined above.

#### Application Criteria

Charges for the design of Sufficient Complexity projects will be levied in advance and no refund is applicable except where the project is a reinforcement project that proceeds to the construction phase and that passes our Economic Test<sup>6</sup>.

New connections, disconnections, service alteration and reinforcement works may all be designated to be Sufficient Complexity, provided that they conform to that definition.

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<sup>5</sup> Please refer to the glossary of terms in Section 11.

<sup>6</sup> Please refer to the glossary of terms in Section 11.

## **6.2 Design charges for New Connection Projects which are not deemed to be Sufficiently Complex**

### **Statement of Standard Charges**

Standard design charges will be based upon an hourly charge out rate, for design staff, of **£44.82 per hour** (excl. VAT).

### **Application Criteria**

Design charges will be applied and itemised on the quotation for the construction works, and shall not be charged in advance of the quotation for construction / installation works being accepted.

## 7. CHARGES FOR ADOPTION OF ASSETS

### Statement of Standard Charges

We apply a charge where we are asked to adopt or take ownership of gas pipes laid by Independent Connection Providers (ICPs) who are not registered under the Gas Industry Registration Scheme (GIRS). However, we do not charge for this service where an ICP holds the relevant GIRS registration.

Standard charges are categorised by small and large jobs, but bespoke charges will be calculated for complex jobs. Our standard charges (excl. VAT) for this service are:

<b>GIRS Registration Status</b>	<b>Small job</b>	<b>Large job</b>
Non GIRS Design registered	£55	£80
Non GIRS Construction/Commissioning Registered	£340	£580
Non GIRS registered for both Design and Construction/Commissioning	£395	£660

NOTE: Where the principal ICP (the ICP applying for adoption or taking ownership of pipes) does not hold either the Design and/or Construction/Commissioning registration the above charges are payable unless the ICP is GIRS registered for Project Management and subcontracts to an organisation that is GIRS registered for Design and/or Construction/Commissioning.

### Complex Job Charge

We will charge **£59.85 per hour** (excl. VAT) in respect of bespoke below 7 barg adoption or taking ownership charges, subject to a minimum charge equivalent to the standard charges above and dependent on the GIRS registration status.

### Application Criteria

Charges for adoption or taking ownership of assets, where they are laid by Independent Connection Providers (ICPs), form part of the customer quotation and are payable on acceptance of the quotation. If we do not receive the required payment a rejection letter will be issued.

The standard charge categories are applied subject to the following:

### **Small Job**

- Low pressure (below 75 mbarg) with pipe sizes less than or equal to 180mm PE and less than 100m of pipe to be laid.
- The apparatus has been designed to connect less than 20 domestic properties.
- Excludes jobs defined as “Complex”.

### **Large Job**

- Medium pressure (75 mbarg to 2 barg) with a pipe size less than or equal to 355mm PE and less than 1000m pipe to be laid.
- Low pressure (below 75 mbarg) with pipe sizes less than or equal to 355mm PE and less than 1000m of pipe to be laid, excluding those defined under “Small job”.
- The apparatus has been designed to connect less than 200 domestic properties and less than 20 Non Daily Metered I&C loads.
- Excludes jobs defined as “Complex”.

### **Complex Job**

- Any job not meeting the small or large job category.
- Any job falling within the “Sufficient Complexity” category.

To qualify for a reduction in charges an ICP must confirm their GIRS registration status and/or subcontractor GIRS registration status (if applicable), subject to the above rules. The GIRS registration status must be the “Full” registration status and appear on the GIRS Operator’s public listing. ICPs should indicate their registration status in the appropriate boxes on the customer quotation request form.

## 8. ABORTIVE VISIT CHARGES

### Statement of Standard Charges

The charge to be applied for eligible abortive visits is **£60** (excl. VAT).

### Application Criteria

The abortive visit standard charge is applicable in respect of any works where a planned date has been agreed between National Grid and the customer and will apply where:

- the customer refuses an on-site variation to a shipper self-quote<sup>7</sup>, making a job cancellation or deferral necessary; or
- the customer has not informed us of on-site conditions which prevent the work from being carried out, or would make it unsafe to do so. Where on-site conditions outside of the customer's control prevent the work from being carried out, no charge shall be made; or
- the customer refuses an on-site variation for a customer self-quote, making a job cancellation or deferral necessary.

### Other Information

The invoice will clearly state that the charge relates to a cancelled job, and the reason for the cancellation.

Where we have visited the premises for the purpose of laying a new connection pipe and found a live supply to an Emergency Control Valve, an Abortive Visit Charge will not apply.

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<sup>7</sup> Please refer to the glossary of terms in Section 11.

## 9. ICP / IGT FINAL CONNECTION CHARGES

### Statement of Standard Charges

This section sets out the standard charges we apply when we are requested to carry out the final connection of pipes laid by Independent Connection Providers (ICPs) and Independent Gas Transporters (iGTs) to our gas distribution network.

The standard charges shown below exclude the cost of providing protection, abandonment or diversionary works which may be required to our apparatus to enable the connection requested.

### Standard Charges (excl. VAT)

<b>NORTH WEST</b>						
Offtake Dia. (mm)	Parent Main Diameter (PE Mains)					
	63mm	90mm	125mm	180mm	250mm	315mm
<b>63</b>	£740	£740	£740	£740	£740	£740
<b>63+LV</b>	£790	£790	£790	£850	£850	£850
<b>90</b>		£790	£890	£940	£940	£1,000
<b>90+LV</b>		£940	£1,000	£1,050	£1,050	£1,110
<b>125</b>			£1,040	£1,310	£1,840	£2,210
<b>125+LV</b>			£1,180	£1,410	£1,940	£2,310
<b>180</b>				£1,950	£2,690	£3,310
<b>180+LV</b>				£2,260	£2,780	£3,400
<b>In line</b>	£740	£740	£930	£1,850	£1,960	£2,690
Offtake Dia. (mm)	Parent Main Diameter (Metallic Mains)					
	2 inch	3 inch	4 inch	6 inch	8 inch	10 inch
<b>63</b>	£740	£730	£730	£740	£740	£740
<b>63+LV</b>	£790	£780	£780	£790	£790	£790
<b>90</b>		£940	£940	£950	£940	£1,000
<b>90+LV</b>		£1,090	£1,100	£1,110	£1,100	£1,110
<b>125</b>			£1,190	£1,320	£1,310	£1,680
<b>125+LV</b>			£1,390	£1,410	£1,410	£1,780
<b>180</b>				£2,170	£2,160	£2,780
<b>180+LV</b>				£2,350	£2,370	£2,990
<b>In line</b>	£740	£890	£1,090	£1,950	£2,060	£2,780

<b>WEST MIDLANDS</b>						
Offtake Dia. (mm)	Parent Main Diameter (PE Mains)					
	63mm	90mm	125mm	180mm	250mm	315mm
63	£800	£800	£800	£1,110	£1,110	£1,600
63+LV	£850	£850	£850	£1,160	£1,160	£1,710
90		£1,590	£1,820	£2,790	£2,790	£3,530
90+LV		£1,800	£1,920	£2,900	£2,900	£3,640
125			£1,830	£2,910	£3,320	£4,060
125+LV			£1,920	£3,010	£3,540	£4,160
180				£2,930	£3,560	£4,420
180+LV				£3,120	£3,760	£4,630
In line	£860	£1,600	£1,730	£2,840	£2,940	£4,160

Offtake Dia. (mm)	Parent Main Diameter (Metallic Mains)					
	2 inch	3 inch	4 inch	6 inch	8 inch	10 inch
63	£800	£790	£850	£1,110	£1,110	£1,600
63+LV	£850	£840	£960	£1,160	£1,160	£1,710
90		£1,800	£1,930	£2,800	£2,790	£3,530
90+LV		£1,890	£2,030	£2,900	£2,900	£3,630
125			£1,930	£2,800	£2,910	£3,530
125+LV			£2,130	£2,890	£3,010	£3,630
180				£3,030	£3,020	£3,880
180+LV				£3,330	£3,230	£4,090
In line	£740	£1,690	£1,820	£2,940	£3,040	£4,250

<b>EAST OF ENGLAND</b>						
Offtake Dia. (mm)	Parent Main Diameter (PE Mains)					
	63mm	90mm	125mm	180mm	250mm	315mm
63	£730	£740	£740	£980	£980	£1,600
63+LV	£780	£790	£790	£1,030	£1,030	£1,710
90		£1,590	£1,810	£2,540	£2,540	£3,280
90+LV		£1,670	£1,920	£2,650	£2,650	£3,380
125			£1,830	£2,540	£3,070	£3,810
125+LV			£1,910	£2,640	£3,170	£3,910
180				£2,560	£3,300	£3,800
180+LV				£2,870	£3,510	£4,010
In line	£740	£1,480	£1,600	£2,460	£2,560	£3,660

Offtake Dia. (mm)	Parent Main Diameter (Metallic Mains)					
	2 inch	3 inch	4 inch	6 inch	8 inch	10 inch
63	£730	£730	£730	£1,040	£1,040	£1,600
63+LV	£780	£780	£780	£1,090	£1,090	£1,710
90		£1,800	£1,800	£2,540	£2,540	£3,280
90+LV		£1,890	£1,900	£2,650	£2,650	£3,380
125			£1,920	£2,660	£2,660	£3,280
125+LV			£2,000	£2,760	£2,760	£3,370
180				£2,770	£2,770	£3,380
180+LV				£2,960	£2,980	£3,470
In line	£740	£1,690	£1,700	£2,560	£2,660	£3,750

<b>LONDON</b>						
Offtake Dia. (mm)	Parent Main Diameter (PE Mains)					
	63mm	90mm	125mm	180mm	250mm	315mm
<b>63</b>	£1,060	£1,050	£1,060	£1,280	£1,280	£1,950
<b>63+LV</b>	£1,110	£1,100	£1,130	£1,340	£1,340	£1,970
<b>90</b>		£1,460	£1,550	£1,890	£1,960	£3,440
<b>90+LV</b>		£1,660	£1,640	£1,980	£2,060	£3,540
<b>125</b>			£1,610	£1,890	£2,420	£3,970
<b>125+LV</b>			£1,730	£1,990	£2,520	£4,070
<b>180</b>				£2,480	£2,660	£3,930
<b>180+LV</b>				£2,780	£2,770	£4,030
<b>In line</b>	£1,050	£1,370	£1,430	£2,180	£2,330	£6,120

Offtake Dia. (mm)	Parent Main Diameter (Metallic Mains)					
	2 inch	3 inch	4 inch	6 inch	8 inch	10 inch
<b>63</b>	£1,060	£1,100	£1,130	£1,280	£1,280	£1,960
<b>63+LV</b>	£1,110	£1,190	£1,210	£1,350	£1,350	£2,030
<b>90</b>		£1,660	£1,720	£1,880	£1,960	£3,530
<b>90+LV</b>		£1,770	£1,810	£1,980	£2,060	£3,630
<b>125</b>			£1,800	£1,890	£1,970	£3,540
<b>125+LV</b>			£1,920	£1,990	£2,070	£3,640
<b>180</b>				£2,480	£2,480	£3,550
<b>180+LV</b>				£2,780	£2,770	£3,750
<b>In line</b>	£1,050	£1,560	£1,540	£2,370	£2,480	£6,330

Note: LV = Line valve

### Application Criteria

The above standard charges are applicable where the ICP / iGT:

- carries out all excavation and reinstatement associated with the required connection
- lays its infrastructure back to our parent main at the agreed point of connection
- makes payment of any applicable asset adoption charge (non GIRS only) as set out in Section 7 of this document
- makes payment of any applicable reinforcement or enhancement costs

## 10. CHARGING EXAMPLES

The following examples are shown for illustrative purposes only and show the application of our standard charges in a range of scenarios for some typical jobs.

### 10.1 New connection standard charges example

#### Example Project Details

A request is received for a new gas connection to a domestic premise (not part of a multiple development) in East of England Network, for which the request details are:

- Annual gas consumption – 20,000 kWh per annum (using standard U6 domestic meter).
- Proximity of the premises to a relevant main – 5 metres.
- Length of pipe required on consumer's premises – 11 metres.
- Excavation type – including excavation and reinstatement.
- Termination – to a bolt on meter box on the front profile of the building.

#### Charges Applied

The request is eligible for a standard charge; a charge of **£612** plus VAT is quoted to the customer.

### 10.2 Disconnection standard charges example

#### Example Project Details

A request is received for the disconnection of a gas service pipe in West Midlands Network, for which the request details are:

- Diameter of service pipe to be disconnected – 63mm.
- Pressure tier of network connected to – Low Pressure.
- Surface category of the disconnection – Public Footpath.

#### Charges Applied

The request is eligible for a standard charge of **£724** plus VAT.

Note this charge does not cover any work related to the removal of the gas meter.

### 10.3 Alteration standard charges example

#### Example Project Details

A request is received for the alteration of a gas service pipe in West Midlands Network, for which the request details are:

- Diameter of service pipe to be altered – 32mm.
- Operating pressure of service pipe – Low Pressure.
- Service entry – Ground Floor.
- Length of alteration required – 7 metres.
- Surface adjacent to existing service entry is flower bed.
- Surface adjacent to proposed meter box is tarmac.
- Security or similar access restrictions – None.
- A bolt on meter housing is required.

#### Charges Applied

The request is eligible for a standard charge. By reference to the Service Alterations Pack provided, the customer can identify that this job falls into charge band 3, and so **£772** plus VAT is self-quoted.

Note: This charge does not cover work related to the relocation or reconnection of the gas meter.

### 10.4 ICP/iGT mains connection standard charge example

An Independent Gas Transporter (iGT) requires National Grid to connect their new gas main, feeding phase one of a newly constructed housing estate – which they will operate as an independent gas distribution system – to the Distribution Network System in North West Network. The job details are:

- No. domestic dwellings in final proposed connected system – 250.
- Diameter of main laid by ICP – 125mm (assumes peak hourly load  $\leq 3,250$  kW, per table A.4 T/SP/NP/14 document).
- Diameter of PE parent main in Distribution Network System – 125mm.
- Operating pressure of Distribution Network System – Low Pressure.
- Offtake main laid by ICP up to parent main connection point and site fully excavated to allow mains connection.

#### Charges Applied

The request is eligible for a standard charge. By reference to the standard charges table for North West Network, a connection charge of **£1,040** plus VAT is self-quoted.

## **11. GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

### **ECONOMIC TEST**

The Economic Test is a financial assessment tool that is designed to ensure that we meet our Gas Act obligations to develop and maintain an efficient and economical pipeline system for the conveyance of gas and to comply with any reasonable request to connect to its system any premises or pipeline system operated by another authorised transporter, where it is economical to do so (Gas Act, section 9(1)(a) and 9(1)(b)). It does this by deriving the required customer contribution (if any) in respect of reinforcement costs incurred by us as a result of providing a connection to our system. Where the Economic Test is “passed”, no customer contribution is payable in respect of the reinforcement. Where the proposed connection does *not* pass the Test, the customer must pay a specified contribution in advance.

### **INFILL**

An Infill is the extension of new relevant mains to an area having a number of existing premises (there may also be new premises being constructed in the area) where not all of the owners or occupiers of those premises have expressed a desire to be connected to a gas supply at the time the mains are laid. In an infill, an individual contract is formed when sufficient premises have returned completed acceptances for a gas connection and an individual charge is made to carry out that connection. We will only consider acceptances for the establishment of an infill when the expected uptake of gas connections in the first 20 years is sufficient to make the project economic. The infill is only confirmed when sufficient acceptances have been received to confirm that the expected uptake of connections to gas is likely to be achieved. The charging arrangements for Infills are covered by the Gas Connection Charges Regulations.

### **RELEVANT MAIN**

A Relevant Main is a distribution main operated by us which is being used for the purpose of giving a supply of gas to any premises in its authorised area at a rate not exceeding 2,196,000 kWh per annum, except any pipe which is not relevant in accordance with Section 10(13) of the Gas Act 1986 as amended by the Gas Act 1995.

### **SHIPPER SELF-QUOTE**

This refers to standard quotations for domestic connections that are provided by a shipper or supplier to a customer, using standard charging information provided by the gas transporter.

## **SUFFICIENT COMPLEXITY**

“Sufficient Complexity” connections occur when the connection, disconnection or service alteration is to be made to an above 2 barg<sup>8</sup>. system, or where there are known obstacles on the proposed route of the new apparatus and the anticipated total cost of the construction works including applicable overheads is expected to exceed £10,000, or where the total construction costs including applicable overheads, based on past experience of projects of a similar nature, is expected to exceed £100,000.

“Sufficient Complexity” reinforcements occur when the reinforcement includes any apparatus that is designed to operate at above 2 barg<sup>8</sup>. or where there are known obstacles on the proposed route of the reinforcement apparatus and the anticipated total cost of the construction works including applicable overheads is expected to exceed £10,000, or where the total construction costs including applicable overheads, based on past experience of projects of a similar nature, is expected to exceed £250,000.

A list of obstacles having the potential to categorise a connection or reinforcement job as being of Sufficient Complexity is provided in Section 9 of our Connections Charging Methodology Statement.

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<sup>8</sup> Under a change to connections policy effective from 15<sup>th</sup> October 2007 the threshold for Sufficiently Complex connections and reinforcements changed from 7 barg to 2 barg. Since that date all requests for connection to parts of our distribution network designed to operate at pressures in excess of 2 barg are deemed to be Sufficiently Complex.

## **12. CONTACT DETAILS**

### **12.1 Requesting Our Domestic Connections Services**

To obtain any of the domestic services set out in this document, please contact:

Domestic Connections  
National Grid  
Lakeside House  
The Lakes  
Northampton  
NN4 7SN

Tel: 0870 903 9999  
Email: [gasconnections@uk.ngrid.com](mailto:gasconnections@uk.ngrid.com)

### **12.2 Standard Pressures, Network Analysis and Asset Adoption**

For information on the above, please contact:

Network Strategy  
National Grid  
Block 4 Area 6  
Brick Kiln Street  
Hinckley  
Leicestershire  
LE10 0NA

Tel: 01455 237830  
Fax: 0845 0700868

### **12.3 Further Information on This Document**

Any comments or enquiries regarding this document should be forwarded to our gas distribution Pricing Team:

David Chalmers  
Connections Pricing Manager  
National Grid  
National Grid House  
Warwick Technology Park  
Gallows Hill  
Warwick  
CV34 6DA

Email: [david.w.chalmers@uk.ngrid.com](mailto:david.w.chalmers@uk.ngrid.com)

## 12.4 Complaints

In the first instance complaints should be raised with us by contacting:

Complaints Management  
National Grid  
Lakeside House  
The Lakes  
Northampton  
NN4 7SN

Tel: 0845 0700203  
Fax: 01604 815288  
Email: [complaints.ds@uk.ngrid.com](mailto:complaints.ds@uk.ngrid.com)

If the matter is not resolved following referral to us it should be referred to energywatch.

energywatch can be contacted as follows:

Tel: 0845 906 0708  
Website: [www.energywatch.org.uk](http://www.energywatch.org.uk)  
Email: [enquiry@energywatch.org.uk](mailto:enquiry@energywatch.org.uk)

If it ultimately proves necessary to refer the matter to Ofgem for a determination, letters should be addressed to:

The Chairman  
The Gas and Electricity Markets Authority  
Office of Gas and Electricity Markets  
9 Millbank  
London  
SW1P 3GE