

# Utilities Act 2000

# **2000 CHAPTER 27**

#### PART V

# AMENDMENT OF THE GAS ACT 1986

Gas performance standards

# 89 Repeal of section 10(2) to (5) of Gas Act 1995.

Subsections (2) to (5) of section 10 of the MIGas Act 1995 shall cease to have effect and, accordingly, sections 33A to 33E of the 1986 Act are not liable to expire in accordance with those subsections.

#### **Commencement Information**

S. 89 in force at 1.10.2001 by S.I. 2001/3266, art. 2, Sch. (subject to transitional provisions in arts. 3-20)

# **Marginal Citations**

M1 1995 c. 45.

# 90 Standards of performance in individual cases.

- (1) In section 33A of the 1986 Act—
  - (a) in subsection (3)(a), after "section" there is inserted "or their rights under section 33AA"; and
  - (b) subsections (6) to (9) shall cease to have effect.
- (2) After section 33A of the 1986 Act there is inserted—

# "33AA Standards of performance in individual cases: gas transporters.

- (1) The Authority may make regulations prescribing such standards of performance in connection with the activities of gas transporters, so far as affecting customers or potential customers of gas suppliers, as in the Authority's opinion ought to be achieved in individual cases.
- (2) Regulations under this section may only be made with the consent of the Secretary of State.
- (3) If a gas transporter fails to meet a prescribed standard, he shall make to any customer or potential customer of a gas supplier who is affected by the failure and is of a prescribed description such compensation as may be determined by or under the regulations.
- (4) The regulations may—
  - (a) prescribe circumstances in which gas transporters are to inform customers or potential customers of gas suppliers of their rights under this section;
  - (b) prescribe such standards of performance in relation to any duty arising under paragraph (a) as, in the Authority's opinion, ought to be achieved in all cases;
  - (c) make provision as to the manner in which compensation under this section is to be made;
  - (d) prescribe circumstances in which gas transporters are to be exempted from any requirements of the regulations or this section; and
  - (e) if the Authority is of the opinion that the differences are such that no gas transporter would be unduly disadvantaged in competing with other gas transporters, make different provision with respect to different gas transporters.
- (5) Provision made under subsection (4)(c) may—
  - (a) require or permit compensation to be made on behalf of gas transporters by gas suppliers to customers or potential customers;
  - (b) require gas suppliers to provide services to gas transporters in connection with the making of compensation under this section.
- (6) The making of compensation under this section in respect of any failure to meet a prescribed standard shall not prejudice any other remedy which may be available in respect of the act or omission which constituted that failure.

# 33AB Standards of performance in individual cases: disputes.

- (1) Any dispute arising under section 33A or 33AA or regulations made under either of those sections—
  - (a) may be referred to the Authority by either party or, with the agreement of either party, by the Council; and
  - (b) on such a reference, shall be determined by order made by the Authority or, if it thinks fit, by such person (other than the Council) as may be prescribed.

- (2) A person making an order under subsection (1) shall include in the order his reasons for reaching his decision with respect to the dispute.
- (3) The practice and procedure to be followed in connection with any such determination shall be such as may be prescribed.
- (4) An order under subsection (1) shall be final and shall be enforceable—
  - (a) in England and Wales, as if it were a judgment of a county court; and
  - (b) in Scotland, as if it were an extract registered decree arbitral bearing a warrant for execution issued by the sheriff.
- (5) In this section "prescribed" means prescribed by regulations made by the Authority with the consent of the Secretary of State."

#### **Commencement Information**

S. 90(2) in force for specified purposes at 16.5.2001 by S.I. 2001/1781, art. 2, Sch. (subject to transitional provisions in arts. 3-10); s. 90(1) in force for all purposes and s. 90(2) in force for all remaining purposes at 1.10.2001 by S.I. 2001/3266, art. 2, Sch. (subject to transitional provisions in arts. 3-20)

# 91 Overall standards of performance.

After section 33B of the 1986 Act there is inserted—

# "33BA Overall standards of performance: gas transporters.

- (1) The Authority may from time to time—
  - (a) determine such standards of overall performance in connection with the activities of gas transporters as, in its opinion, ought to be achieved by them; and
  - (b) arrange for the publication, in such form and in such manner as he considers appropriate, of the standards so determined.
- (2) Different standards may be determined for different gas transporters if the Authority is of the opinion that the differences are such that no gas transporter would be unduly disadvantaged in competing with other gas transporters.
- (3) It shall be the duty of every gas transporter to conduct his business in such a way as can reasonably be expected to lead to his achieving the standards set under this section."

# **Commencement Information**

I3 S. 91 in force for specified purposes at 16.5.2001 by S.I. 2001/1781, art. 2, **Sch.** (subject to transitional provisions in arts. 3-10); s. 91 in force for all remaining purposes at 1.10.2001 by S.I. 2001/3266, art. 2, **Sch.** (subject to transitional provisions in arts. 3-20)

# 92 Standards of performance: procedures.

After section 33BA of the 1986 Act (which is inserted by section 91 above) there is inserted—

# "33BAA Procedures for prescribing or determining standards of performance.

- (1) Before prescribing standards of performance in regulations under section 33A or 33AA, or determining standards of performance under section 33B or 33BA, the Authority shall—
  - (a) arrange for such research as the Authority considers appropriate with a view to discovering the views of a representative sample of persons likely to be affected and consider the results;
  - (b) publish a notice of its proposals in accordance with subsections (2) and
    (3) and consider any representations which are duly made in respect of those proposals; and
  - (c) consult the Council and other persons or bodies mentioned in subsection (4).
- (2) The notice required by subsection (1)(b) is a notice—
  - (a) stating that the Authority proposes to prescribe or determine standards of performance and setting out the standards of performance proposed;
  - (b) stating the reasons why it proposes to prescribe or determine those standards of performance; and
  - (c) specifying the time (not being less than 28 days from the date of publication of the notice) within which representations with respect to the proposals may be made.
- (3) A notice required by subsection (1)(b) shall be published in such manner as the Authority considers appropriate for the purpose of bringing it to the attention of those likely to be affected by the proposals.
- (4) The persons or bodies to be consulted by the Authority under subsection (1) (c) are—
  - (a) gas suppliers (in the case of standards of performance under section 33A or 33B) or gas transporters and gas suppliers (in the case of standards of performance under section 33AA or 33BA); and
  - (b) persons or bodies appearing to the Authority to be representative of persons likely to be affected by the regulations or determination.
- (5) The Authority shall make arrangements for securing that notices under subsection (1)(b), regulations under section 33A or 33AA and determinations under section 33B or 33BA are made available to the public by whatever means it considers appropriate."

#### **Commencement Information**

I4 S. 92 in force for specified purposes at 16.5.2001 by S.I. 2001/1781, art. 2, **Sch.** (subject to transitional provisions in arts. 3-10); s. 92 in force for all remaining purposes at 1.10.2001 by S.I. 2001/3266, art. 2, **Sch.** (subject to transitional provisions in arts. 3-20)

#### 93 Information with respect to levels of performance.

- (1) Section 33C of the 1986 Act is amended as follows.
- (2) In subsection (1), paragraph (c) (and the word "and" preceding it) shall cease to have effect.
- (3) After subsection (1) there is inserted—
  - "(1A) The Authority shall from time to time collect information with respect to
    - the compensation made by gas transporters under section 33AA;
    - the levels of overall performance achieved by gas transporters."
- (4) In subsection (2)(b) the words "or 33BB above" shall cease to have effect.
- (5) After subsection (2) there is inserted—
  - "(2A) At such times as the Authority may direct, each gas transporter shall give the following information to the Authority
    - as respects each standard prescribed by regulations under section 33AA, the number of cases in which compensation was made and the aggregate amount or value of that compensation; and
    - as respects each standard determined under section 33BA, such information with respect to the level of performance achieved by the transporter as the Authority may direct."
- (6) Subsection (3) shall cease to have effect.

# **Commencement Information**

S. 93 in force at 1.10.2001 by S.I. 2001/3266, art. 2, Sch. (subject to transitional provisions in arts. 3-20)

#### 94 Information to be given to customers.

For section 33D of the 1986 Act there is substituted—

# "33D Information to be given to customers about overall performance.

- (1) The Authority may make regulations requiring such information as may be specified or described in the regulations about
  - the standards of overall performance determined under section 33B or 33BA: and
  - the levels of performance achieved as respects those standards, to be given by gas suppliers or gas transporters to customers or potential customers of gas suppliers.
- (2) Regulations under this section may include provision
  - as to the form and manner in which and the frequency with which information is to be given; and
  - requiring information about the matters mentioned in subsection (1)(a) or (b) and relating to gas transporters to be given by gas transporters

to gas suppliers and by gas suppliers to their customers or potential customers."

# **Commencement Information**

S. 94 in force for specified purposes at 16.5.2001 by S.I. 2001/1781, art. 2, Sch. (subject to transitional provisions in arts. 3-10); s. 94 in force for all remaining purposes at 1.10.2001 by S.I. 2001/3266, art. 2, Sch. (subject to transitional provisions in arts. 3-20)

# **Changes to legislation:**

Utilities Act 2000, Cross Heading: Gas performance standards is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 15 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

View outstanding changes

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters: Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 5(3A) inserted by 2023 c. 52 s. 197(2)
- s. 33(1)(f) word omitted by 2018 c. 14 s. 6(10)(a) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The word "or" is already omitted present (19.7.2018) by virtue of 2018 c. 21, ss. 11(2), 13(2))