

Utilities Act 2000

2000 CHAPTER 27

PART V

Amendment of the Gas Act 1986

Gas performance standards

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."