
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1996 No. 275

The Gas (Northern Ireland) Order 1996

PART II

GAS SUPPLY AND ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES

Major pipe-lines, gas storage facilities and gas processing facilities

Increase of capacity, etc. of pipe-line

36.—(1) If in the case of a pipe-line operated by a person holding a licence under Article 8(1) (a) (“the operator”) it appears to the Director, on the application of a person other than the operator, that the pipe-line can and should be modified—

- (a) by installing in it a junction through which another pipe-line may be connected to it; or
- (b) by modifying apparatus and works associated with a high pressure pipe-line so as to increase the capacity of the pipe-line,

then, subject to paragraph (3), the Director may, after giving to the operator an opportunity of being heard about the matter, give directions to the operator in accordance with paragraph (2) in consequence of the application.

(2) Directions under paragraph (1) may—

- (a) specify the modifications which the Director considers should be made in consequence of the application;
- (b) specify the sums or the methods of determining the sums which the Director considers should be paid to the operator by the applicant for the purpose of defraying the cost of the modifications;
- (c) specify the arrangements which the Director considers should be made by the applicant, within a period specified in the directions, for the purpose of securing that those sums will be paid to the operator if he carries out the modifications;
- (d) require the operator, if the applicant makes those arrangements within the period specified under sub-paragraph (c), to carry out the modifications within a period specified in the directions.

(3) Where the Director proposes to give directions under paragraph (1), it shall be his duty before doing so to give to the applicant particulars of the modifications which he proposes to specify in the directions.

(4) The obligation to comply with any directions under paragraph (1) is a duty owed to any person who may be affected by a contravention of them.

(5) Where a duty is owed by virtue of paragraph (4) to any person, any breach of the duty which causes that person to sustain loss or damage shall be actionable at the suit or instance of that person.

(6) In any proceedings brought against any person in pursuance of paragraph (5), it shall be a defence for him to prove that he took all reasonable steps and exercised all due diligence to avoid contravening the directions in question.

(7) Without prejudice to any right which any person may have by virtue of paragraph (5) to bring civil proceedings in respect of any contravention or apprehended contravention of any directions under paragraph (1), compliance with any such directions shall be enforceable by civil proceedings by the Director for an injunction or for any other appropriate relief.

(8) In this Article “high pressure pipe-line” means any pipe-line which—

- (a) has a design operating pressure exceeding 7 bar gauge; or
- (b) is of a class specified by order made by the Department.