



# Gas Act 1986

## 1986 CHAPTER 44

### PART I

#### GAS SUPPLY

#### *[<sup>F1</sup> Modification of licences]*

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 23 and preceding cross-heading substituted (1.3.1996) by [1995 c. 45, s. 10\(1\), Sch. 3 para. 21](#); S.I. [1996/218, art. 2](#)

#### **[<sup>F2</sup>23 Modification of conditions of licences**

- (1) The Authority may make modifications of—
  - (a) the conditions of a particular licence;
  - (b) the standard conditions of licences of any type under section 7, 7ZA, or 7A(1) or (2).
- (2) Before making any modifications under this section, the Authority must give notice—
  - (a) stating that it proposes to make modifications;
  - (b) setting out the proposed modifications and their effect;
  - (c) stating the reasons why it proposes to make the modifications; and
  - (d) specifying the time within which representations with respect to the proposed modifications may be made.
- (3) The time specified by virtue of subsection (2)(d) may not be less than 28 days from the date of the publication of the notice.
- (4) A notice under subsection (2) must be given—

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- (a) by publishing the notice in such manner as the Authority considers appropriate for the purpose of bringing the notice to the attention of persons likely to be affected by the making of the modifications, and
  - (b) by sending a copy of the notice to—
    - (i) each relevant licence holder,
    - (ii) the Secretary of State,
    - (iii) the Health and Safety Executive, <sup>F3</sup> ...
    - (iv) [<sup>F4</sup>Citizens Advice, and
    - (v) [<sup>F5</sup>Consumer Scotland].]
- (4A) The Authority must consider any representations which are duly made.]
- (5) If, within the time specified [<sup>F6</sup>by virtue of subsection (2)(d)] , the Secretary of State directs the Director not to make any modification, the Director shall comply with the direction.
- [<sup>F7</sup>(6) Subsections (7) to (9) apply where, having complied with subsections (2) to (4A), the Authority decides to proceed with the making of modifications of the conditions of any licence under this section.
- (7) The Authority must—
- (a) publish the decision and the modifications in such manner as it considers appropriate for the purpose of bringing them to the attention of persons likely to be affected by the making of the modifications,
  - (b) state the effect of the modifications,
  - (c) state how it has taken account of any representations duly made, and
  - (d) state the reason for any differences between the modifications and those set out in the notice by virtue of subsection (2)(b).
- (8) Each modification has effect from the date specified by the Authority in relation to that modification (subject to the giving of a direction under paragraph 2 of Schedule 4A).
- (9) The date specified by virtue of subsection (8) may not be less than 56 days from the publication of the decision to proceed with the making of modifications under this section.
- (10) In this section “relevant licence holder”—
- (a) in relation to the modification of standard conditions of licences of any type, means the holder of a licence of that type—
    - (i) which is to be modified by the inclusion of any new standard condition, or
    - (ii) which includes any standard conditions to which the modifications relate which are in effect at the time specified by virtue of subsection (2)(d); or
  - (b) in relation to the modification of a condition of a particular licence (other than a standard condition), means the holder of that particular licence.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F2** S. 23(1)-(4A) and heading substituted for s. 23(1)-(4) and heading (10.11.2011) by [The Electricity and Gas \(Internal Markets\) Regulations 2011 \(S.I. 2011/2704\)](#), regs. 1(1), **41(3)** (with reg. 42)

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- F3** Word in s. 23(4)(b)(iii) omitted (1.4.2014) by virtue of [The Public Bodies \(Abolition of the National Consumer Council and Transfer of the Office of Fair Trading’s Functions in relation to Estate Agents etc\) Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/631\)](#), art. 1(3), **Sch. 1 para. 4(5)(a)** (with Sch. 1 para. 28, 2 paras. 13-15)
- F4** S. 23(4)(b)(iv)(v) substituted for s. 23(4)(b)(iv) (1.4.2014) by [The Public Bodies \(Abolition of the National Consumer Council and Transfer of the Office of Fair Trading’s Functions in relation to Estate Agents etc\) Order 2014 \(S.I. 2014/631\)](#), art. 1(3), **Sch. 1 para. 4(5)(b)** (with Sch. 1 para. 28, 2 paras. 13-15)
- F5** Words in s. 23(4)(b)(v) substituted (13.1.2022) by [The Consumer Scotland Act 2020 \(Consequential Provisions and Modifications\) Order 2022 \(S.I. 2022/34\)](#), art. 1(1), **Sch. para. 2(5)** (with art. 5)
- F6** Words in s. 23(5) substituted (10.11.2011) by [The Electricity and Gas \(Internal Markets\) Regulations 2011 \(S.I. 2011/2704\)](#), regs. 1(1), **41(4)** (with reg. 42)
- F7** S. 23(6)-(10) substituted for s. 23(6)-(13) (10.11.2011) by [The Electricity and Gas \(Internal Markets\) Regulations 2011 \(S.I. 2011/2704\)](#), regs. 1(1), **41(5)** (with reg. 42)

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 23 modified (26.12.2023) by [Energy Act 2023 \(c. 52\)](#), **ss. 80(2)**, 334(3)(b)

### [<sup>F8</sup>23A Modification of conditions under section 23: supplementary

- (1) Subsections (2) and (3) apply where at any time the Authority modifies the conditions of licences of any type under section 23.
- (2) If the conditions modified are standard conditions, the Authority must—
  - (a) also make (as nearly as may be) the same modifications of those conditions for the purposes of their incorporation in licences of that type granted after that time, and
  - (b) publish the modifications in such manner as it considers appropriate for the purpose of bringing them to the attention of persons likely to be affected by the making of the modifications.
- (3) The Authority may make such incidental or consequential modifications of any conditions of licences of any type as it considers necessary or expedient.
- (4) The modification of part of a standard condition of a particular licence under section 23 does not prevent any other part of the condition from continuing to be regarded as a standard condition for the purposes of this Part.
- (5) The modification of a condition of a licence under this section has effect subject to the giving of a direction under paragraph 2 of Schedule 4A in relation to the decision to which the modification relates.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F8** S. 23A inserted (10.11.2011) by [The Electricity and Gas \(Internal Markets\) Regulations 2011 \(S.I. 2011/2704\)](#), regs. 1(1), **41(6)** (with reg. 42)

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**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(e) and word inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 185\(3\)](#)
- s. 5(1)(ca) inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 168\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 5(10A) inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 168\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 5(11A)(11B) inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 185\(4\)](#)
- s. 7B(5FA) inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 185\(13\)](#)
- s. 7AC inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 185\(6\)](#)
- s. 8AA(11B) inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 185\(14\)](#)
- s. 15A inserted by [1992 c. 43 s. 17](#)
- s. 23D(2)(d) and word inserted by [2013 c. 32 s. 138\(4\)\(c\)\(iii\)](#)
- s. 27(1ZA)(aa) inserted by S.I. 2019/93, Sch. 1 para. 2(2)(b) (as substituted) by [S.I. 2019/1245 reg. 17](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)
- s. 28(8A) inserted by [2023 c. 52 Sch. 14 para. 3\(3\)](#)
- s. 41E(6)(d) and word inserted by [2013 c. 32 s. 138\(4\)\(f\)\(ii\)](#)
- Sch. 4B para. 9B and cross-heading inserted by [2023 c. 52 Sch. 14 para. 4](#)