

OGA POLICY STATEMENT – MAINTENANCE STRATEGIES ON FISCAL MEASUREMENT SYSTEMS

Section 5.2 of the current issue of the DECC Measurement Guidelines [1] identifies 3 possible approaches to maintenance:

- Time-based
- Risk-based
- Condition-based

In Section 5.2.4, Operators are 'strongly encouraged to consider' abandoning time-based strategies in favour of a 'risk-based' or 'condition-based' approach, or a strategy combining elements of each.

The Oil & Gas Authority (OGA) now takes the view that as part of a wider approach to reduce operating costs, strategies for the maintenance of fiscal measurement instrumentation should take account of the likelihood and consequences of measurement error, i.e.:

- Diagnostic facilities, where these exist, should be used so that intervals between successive calibrations may be extended where there is evidence that no significant change in instrument performance has taken place.
- The strategy should take account of the financial exposure resulting from measurement errors.

In other words, an approach combining 'risk-based' and 'condition-based' elements, rather than a simple 'time-based' approach, should now be adopted whenever possible. Where such an approach is not already in place, Operators are invited to present their proposals for adopting such an approach to OGA for review.

Where Operators consider that they are constrained (for example, by pipeline or contractual requirements) in their ability to adopt such an approach, this should be brought to OGA's attention.

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Aberdeen, Aug 2015

References:

- [1] *DECC Guidance Notes for Petroleum Measurement* (Issue 9.1, Dec 2014) – available at <https://www.gov.uk/oil-and-gas-measurement-of-petroleum>