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THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION OF

GAZ DE FRANCE ESS (UK) LTD

(As altered by special resolution dated 13 April 1992)

1. *The Company's name is "GAZ DE FRANCE ESS (UK) LTD".
2. The Company's Registered Office is to be situated in England & Wales.
3. The Company's objects are:

(A) 1. To carry on all or any of the business of manufacturers, distributors, suppliers, processors, bottlers, packers, importers, exporters and merchants of, agents for, and dealers in natural gas, liquid gases and fuels of all kinds, chemical substances and products of every description.

2. To carry on all or any of the business of buyers, sellers, transporters, suppliers, distributors, and brokers of all types of electricity, electrical power and associated energy sources.

3. To carry on all or any of the businesses of manufacturers, designers, installers, servicers, distributors, hirers, letters on hire, engineers and agents for the sale of, and dealers in equipment, apparatus, accessories, goods and requisites of every description, general merchants, agents, factors and traders; to carry out researches, investigations and experimental work of every description; and to manufacture, buy, sell, import, export and deal in plant, machinery, implements, vehicles, vessels, tankers, containers, supplies and requisites of every description likely to be required for the purposes aforesaid or which may be conveniently dealt with or are necessary in connection with such businesses, or are likely to be required by any of the customers of, or persons having dealings with the Company.

* On 8 May 1992 the Company's name was changed from "TORPELO LIMITED" to "VOLUNTEER ENERGY LIMITED", on 24 May 2000 further changed to "VOLUNTEER ENERGY GROUP LIMITED" and on 29 May 2002 the name was changed to the above.



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CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears in the records of the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Washington, D. C.

Witness my hand and the seal of the Department of the Interior, at Washington, D. C., this 18th day of June, 1901.

Director of the Land Office

(B) To carry on any other trade or business which can, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, be advantageously carried on by the Company in connection with or as ancillary to any of the above businesses or the general business of the Company, or further any of its objects.

(C) To purchase, take on lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire and hold for any estate or interest any lands, buildings, easements, rights, privileges, concessions, patents, patent rights, licences, secret processes, machinery, plant, stock-in-trade, and any real or personal property of any kind for such consideration and on such terms as may be considered expedient.

(D) To erect, construct, lay down, enlarge, alter and maintain any roads, railways, tramways, sidings, bridges, reservoirs, shops, stores, factories, buildings, works, plant and machinery necessary or convenient for the Company's business, and to contribute to or subsidise the erection, construction and maintenance of any of the above.

(E) To borrow or raise or secure the payment of money for the purposes of or in connection with the Company's business, and for the purposes of or in connection with the borrowing or raising of money by the Company to become a member of any building society.

(F) To mortgage and charge the undertaking and all or any of the real and personal property and assets, present or future, and all or any of the uncalled capital for the time being of the Company, and to issue at par or at a premium or discount, and for such consideration and with and subject to such rights, powers, privileges and conditions as may be thought fit, debentures or debenture stock, either permanent or redeemable or repayable, and collaterally or further to secure any securities of the Company by a trust deed or other assurance.

(G) To issue and deposit any securities which the Company has power to issue by way of mortgage to secure any sum less than the nominal amount of such securities, and also by way of security for the performance of any contracts or any obligations of the Company or of its customers or other persons or corporations having dealings with the Company, or in whose businesses or undertakings the Company is interested, whether directly or indirectly.

(H) To receive money on deposit or loan upon such terms as the Company may approve, and to guarantee the obligations and contracts of any person or corporation.

(I) To make advances to customers and others with or without security, and upon such terms as the Company may approve and generally to act as bankers for any person or corporation.

(J) To grant pensions, allowances, gratuities and bonuses to officers, ex-officers, employees or ex-employees of the Company or its predecessors in business or the dependants or connections of such persons, to establish and maintain or concur in establishing and maintaining trusts, funds or schemes (whether contributory or non-contributory) with a view to providing pensions or other benefits for any such persons as aforesaid, their dependents or connections,

and to support or subscribe to any charitable funds or institutions, the support of which may, in the opinion of the Directors, be calculated directly or indirectly to benefit the Company or its employees, and to institute or maintain any club or other establishment or profit sharing scheme calculated to advance the interests of the Company or its officers or employees.

(K) To draw, make, accept, endorse, negotiate, discount and execute promissory notes, bills of exchange and other negotiable instruments.

(L) To invest and deal with the moneys of the Company not immediately required for the purposes of its business in or upon such investments or securities and in such manner as may from time to time be determined.

(M) To pay for any property or rights acquired by the Company, either in cash or fully or partly paid-up shares, with or without preferred or deferred or special rights or restrictions in respect of dividend, repayment of capital, voting or otherwise, or by any securities which the Company has power to issue, or partly in one mode and partly in another, and generally on such terms as the Company may determine.

(N) To accept payment for any property or rights sold or otherwise disposed of or dealt with by the Company, either in cash, by instalments or otherwise, or in fully or partly paid-up shares of any company or corporation, with or without deferred or preferred or special rights or restrictions in respect of dividend, repayment of capital, voting or otherwise, or in debentures or mortgage debentures or debenture stock, mortgages or other securities of any company or corporation, or partly in one mode and partly in another, and generally on such terms as the Company may determine, and to hold, dispose of or otherwise deal with any shares, stock or securities so acquired.

(O) To enter into any partnership or joint-purse arrangement or arrangement for sharing profits, union of interests or co-operation with any company, firm or person carrying on or proposing to carry on any business within the objects of this Company, and to acquire and hold, sell, deal with or dispose of shares, stock or securities of any such company, and to guarantee the contracts or liabilities of, or the payment of the dividends, interest or capital of any shares, stock or securities of and to subsidise or otherwise assist any such company.

(P) To establish or promote or concur in establishing or promoting any other company whose objects shall include the acquisition and taking over of all or any of the assets and liabilities of this Company or the promotion of which shall be in any manner calculated to advance directly or indirectly the objects or interests of this Company and to acquire and hold or dispose of shares, stock or securities of and guarantee the payment of the dividends, interest or capital of any shares, stock or securities issued by or any other obligations of any such company.

(Q) To purchase or otherwise acquire and undertake all or any part of the business, property, assets, liabilities and transactions of any person, firm or company carrying on any business which this Company is authorised to carry on.

(R) To sell, improve, manage, develop, turn to account, exchange, let on rent, royalty, share of profits or otherwise, grant licences, easements and other rights in or over, and in any other manner deal with or dispose of the undertaking and all or any of the property and assets for the time being of the Company for such consideration as the Company may think fit.

(S) To amalgamate with any other company whose objects are to include objects similar to those of this Company, whether by sale or purchase (for fully or partly paid-up shares or otherwise) of the undertaking, subject to the liabilities of this or any such other company as aforesaid with or without winding up, or by sale or purchase (for fully or partly paid-up shares or otherwise) of all or a controlling interest in the shares or stock of this or any such company as aforesaid, or by partnership, or any arrangement of the nature of partnership, or in any other manner.

(T) To distribute among the members in specie any property of the Company, or any proceeds of sale or disposal of any property of the Company, but so that no distribution amounting to a reduction of capital be made except with the sanction (if any) for the time being required by law.

(U) To do all or any of the above things in any part of the world, and either as principals, agents, trustees, contractors or otherwise, and either alone or in conjunction with others, and either by or through agents, trustees, sub-contractors or otherwise.

(V) To do all such things as are incidental or conducive to the above objects or any of them.

And it is hereby declared that in the construction of this clause the word "company" except where used in reference to the Company shall be deemed to include any person or partnership or other body of persons, whether incorporated or not incorporated, and whether domiciled in Great Britain or elsewhere, and that the objects specified in the different paragraphs of this clause shall, except where otherwise expressed therein, be in nowise limited by reference to any other paragraph or the name of the Company, but may be carried out in as full and ample a manner and shall be construed in as wide a sense as if each of the said paragraphs defined the objects of a separate, distinct and independent company.

4. The liability of the members is limited.

5. *The Company's share capital is £52,500,000 divided into 52,500,000 shares of £1 each.

* The authorised share capital of the Company was increased from £100 to £1,000,000 by ordinary resolution passed on 13 April 1992. It was then increased to £1,500,000 by ordinary resolution passed on 14 April 1999 and was further increased to £5,500,000 by ordinary resolution passed on 28 December 2001. Finally it was increased to that shown above on 23 December 2003.

The shares in the original or any increased capital may be divided into several classes, and there may be attached thereto respectively any preferential, deferred or other special rights, privileges, conditions or restrictions as to dividend, capital, voting or otherwise.

THE COMPANIES ACTS 1985 to 1989

PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF

GAZ DE FRANCE ESS (UK) LTD

(Adopted by special resolution dated 23 December 2003)

CERTIFICATION
WE HEREBY CERTIFY that this print
incorporates all alterations made to this
Company's Articles of Association by way
of filed resolutions and complies with the
requirements of Section 18 of the
Companies Act 1985

1. PRELIMINARY

1.1 The regulations contained in Table A in the Schedule to the Companies (Tables A to F) Regulations 1985 (SI 1985 No. 805) as amended by the Companies (Tables A to F) (Amendment) Regulations 1985 (SI 1985 No. 1052) and as further amended by The Companies Act 1985 (Electronic Communications) Order 2000 (SI 2000 No. 3373) (such Table being hereinafter called "Table A") shall apply to the Company save in so far as they are excluded or varied hereby and such regulations (save as so excluded or varied) and the Articles hereinafter contained shall be the Articles of Association of the Company. Any regulations previously applicable to the Company under any former enactment shall not apply to the Company.

1.2 In these Articles the expressions:-

"the Act"

means the Companies Act 1985, but so that any reference in these Articles to any provision of the Act shall be deemed to include a reference to any statutory modification or re-enactment of that provision for the time being in force; and

"subsidiary company"

means a company which is a subsidiary of another within the meaning of section 736 of the Act except that a company shall not be regarded as a subsidiary of another by reason only of the fact that that other is a member of it and has the right to appoint or remove a majority of its board of directors and the definition of "holding company" in the said section shall be construed accordingly.

CERTIFICATION

OF THE

RECORDS

OF THE

STATE

OF

NEW

YORK

COMPARISON ACT 1892

2. ALLOTMENT OF SHARES

2.1 Notwithstanding any other provisions contained in this article 2, for so long as the Company is a subsidiary company, the directors shall not be entitled to exercise any of the powers, authorities, rights or discretions conferred on them by this article 2 without the prior consent of the Company's holding company. Authority given to the directors for the purposes of or pursuant to section 80 of the Act shall not constitute a consent pursuant to the provisions of this article 2.1.

2.2 Shares which are comprised in the authorised but unissued share capital of the Company shall be under the control of the directors who may (subject to section 80 of the Act and to article 2.4 below) allot, grant options over or otherwise dispose of the same, to such persons, on such terms and in such manner as they think fit.

2.3 In accordance with section 91(1) of the Act sections 89(1) and 90(1) to (6) (inclusive) of the Act shall not apply to the Company.

2.4 The directors are generally and unconditionally authorised for the purposes of section 80 of the Act to exercise any power of the Company to allot and grant rights to subscribe for or convert securities into shares of the Company up to the amount of the share capital of the Company authorised but unissued at the date of adoption of these Articles at any time or times during the period of five years from the date of adoption and the directors may, after that period, allot any shares or grant any such rights under this authority in pursuance of an offer or agreement so to do made by the Company within that period. The authority hereby given may at any time (subject to the said section 80) be renewed, revoked or varied by ordinary resolution.

3. SHARES

3.1 The lien conferred by regulation 8 in Table A shall attach also to fully paid-up shares, and the Company shall also have a first and paramount lien on all shares, whether fully paid or not, standing registered in the name of any person indebted or under liability to the Company, whether he shall be the sole registered holder thereof or shall be one of two or more joint holders, for all moneys presently payable by him or his estate to the Company. Regulation 8 in Table A shall be modified accordingly.

3.2 The liability of any member in default in respect of a call shall be increased by the addition at the end of the first sentence of regulation 18 in Table A of the words "and all expenses that may have been incurred by the Company by reason of such non-payment".

4. GENERAL MEETINGS AND RESOLUTIONS

4.1 Every notice convening a general meeting shall comply with the provisions of section 372(3) of the Act as to giving information to members in regard to their right to appoint proxies; and notices of and other communications relating to any general meeting which any member is entitled to receive shall be sent to the directors and to the auditors for the time being of the Company.

4.2 Regulation 37 in Table A shall be read and construed as if the last sentence were omitted therefrom.

4.3.1 No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present. Subject to article 4.3.2 below, two persons entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted, each being a member or a proxy for a member or a duly authorised representative of a corporation, shall be a quorum.

4.3.2 If and for so long as the Company has only one member, that member present in person or by proxy or (if that member is a corporation) by a duly authorised representative shall be a quorum.

4.3.3 If a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for a general meeting the general meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place or to such other day and at such other time and place as the directors may determine; and if at the adjourned general meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed therefor such adjourned general meeting shall be dissolved.

4.3.4 Regulations 40 and 41 in Table A shall not apply to the Company.

4.4.1 If and for so long as the Company has only one member and that member takes any decision which is required to be taken in general meeting or by means of a written resolution, that decision shall be as valid and effectual as if agreed by the Company in general meeting, subject as provided in article 4.4.3 below.

4.4.2 Any decision taken by a sole member pursuant to article 4.4.1 above shall be recorded in writing and delivered by that member to the Company for entry in the Company's minute book.

4.4.3 Resolutions under section 303 of the Act for the removal of a director before the expiration of his period of office and under section 391 of the Act for the removal of an auditor before the expiration of his period of office shall only be considered by the Company in general meeting.

4.5 A member present at a meeting by proxy shall be entitled to speak at the meeting and shall be entitled to one vote on a show of hands. In any case where the same person is appointed proxy for more than one member he shall on a show of hands have as many votes as the number of members for whom he is proxy. Regulation 54 in Table A shall be modified accordingly.

4.6.1 Regulation 62 in Table A shall be read and construed as if the words "within the United Kingdom" were omitted therefrom.

4.6.2 Unless resolved by ordinary resolution that regulation 62 in Table A shall apply without the following modification, the appointment of a proxy and any authority under which the proxy is appointed or a copy of such authority certified notari ally or in some other way approved by the directors may be deposited or received at the place specified in regulation 62 in Table A up to the commencement of the meeting or (in any case where a poll is taken otherwise than at the meeting)

of the taking of the poll or may be handed to the chairman of the meeting prior to the commencement of the business of the meeting.

5. APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

5.1.1 Regulation 64 in Table A shall not apply to the Company.

5.1.2 The maximum number and minimum number respectively of the directors may be determined from time to time by ordinary resolution. Subject to and in default of any such determination there shall be no maximum number of directors and the minimum number of directors shall be one. Whenever the minimum number of directors is one, a sole director shall have authority to exercise all the powers and discretions by Table A and by these Articles expressed to be vested in the directors generally, and regulation 89 in Table A shall be modified accordingly.

5.2 The directors shall not be required to retire by rotation and regulations 73 to 80 (inclusive) in Table A shall not apply to the Company.

5.3 No person shall be appointed a director at any general meeting unless either:-

(a) he is recommended by the directors; or

(b) not less than 14 nor more than 35 clear days before the date appointed for the general meeting, notice signed by a member qualified to vote at the general meeting has been given to the Company of the intention to propose that person for appointment, together with notice signed by that person of his willingness to be appointed.

5.4.1 Subject to article 5.3 above, the Company may by ordinary resolution appoint any person who is willing to act to be a director, either to fill a vacancy or as an additional director.

5.4.2 The directors may appoint a person who is willing to act to be a director, either to fill a vacancy or as an additional director, provided that the appointment does not cause the number of directors to exceed any number determined in accordance with article 5.1.2 above as the maximum number of directors and for the time being in force.

5.5 Notwithstanding any other provisions of this article 5, for so long as the Company is a subsidiary company, its holding company may appoint any person to be a director or remove any director from office howsoever appointed.

6. CONSENT, APPOINTMENT OR REMOVAL BY HOLDING COMPANY

6.1 Every consent or any appointment or removal of a director under the powers conferred upon a holding company by these Articles shall be made by instrument in writing and signed by a director or the company secretary of such holding company and such instrument shall only take effect on the service thereof at the registered office of the Company. Every such instrument shall be annexed to the directors' minute book as soon as practicable after such service.

6.2 The Company may specify to its holding company an address for the purpose of receiving electronic communications in respect of any consent or any appointment or removal of a director under the powers conferred upon a holding company by these Articles. Thereafter an electronic communication to that address for any of the aforesaid purposes shall take effect on receipt at that address. A copy shall be annexed to the directors' minute book as soon as practicable after such service.

6.3 No person dealing with the Company shall be concerned to see or enquire as to whether the powers of the directors have been in any way restricted hereunder or as to whether any requisite consent of a holding company has been obtained and any restriction imposed by these Articles shall be subject to the provisions of the Act.

6.4 If the Company has more than one holding company then for the purpose of these Articles references to its holding company shall be read and construed as references to its immediate holding company.

7. BORROWING POWERS

7.1 The directors may exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money without limit as to amount and upon such terms and in such manner as they think fit, and subject (in the case of any security convertible into shares) to section 80 of the Act to grant any mortgage, charge or standard security over its undertaking, property and uncalled capital, or any part thereof, and to issue debentures, debenture stock, and other securities whether outright or as security for any debt, liability or obligation of the Company or of any third party.

8. ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

8.1 Unless otherwise determined by the Company in general meeting by ordinary resolution an alternate director shall not be entitled as such to receive any remuneration from the Company, save that he may be paid by the Company such part (if any) of the remuneration otherwise payable to his appointor as such appointor may by notice in writing to the Company from time to time direct, and the first sentence of regulation 66 in Table A shall be modified accordingly.

8.2 A director, or any such other person as is mentioned in regulation 65 in Table A, may act as an alternate director to represent more than one director, and an alternate director shall be entitled at any meeting of the directors or of any committee of the directors to one vote for every director whom he represents in addition to his own vote (if any) as a director, but he shall count as only one for the purpose of determining whether a quorum is present.

8.3 Regulation 66 in Table A shall be read and construed as if the last sentence were omitted therefrom.

9. GRATUITIES AND PENSIONS

9.1.1 The directors may exercise the powers of the Company conferred by its Memorandum of Association in relation to the payment of pensions, gratuities and

other benefits and shall be entitled to retain any benefits received by them or any of them by reason of the exercise of any such powers.

9.1.2 Regulation 87 in Table A shall not apply to the Company.

10. NOTICES

10.1 Regulation 112 in Table A shall be read and construed as if the third sentence was omitted therefrom.

10.2 Regulation 116 in Table A shall be read and construed as if the words "within the United Kingdom" were omitted therefrom.

11. MEETINGS

11.1 In this article "communication" and "electronic communication" shall bear the meanings set forth in the Electronic Communications Act 2000 or any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof.

11.2 A person in communication by electronic means with the chairman and with all other parties to a meeting of the directors or of a committee of the directors shall be regarded for all purposes as personally attending such a meeting provided that but only for so long as at such a meeting he has the ability to communicate interactively and simultaneously with all other parties attending the meeting including all persons attending by electronic means.

11.3 A meeting at which one or more of the directors attends by electronic means is deemed to be held at such place as the directors shall at the said meeting resolve. In the absence of a resolution as aforesaid, the meeting shall be deemed to be held at the place, if any, where a majority of the directors attending the meeting are physically present, or in default of such a majority, the place at which the chairman of the meeting is physically present.

12. PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS

12.1.1 Regulation 88 in Table A shall be read and construed as if the third sentence were omitted therefrom.

12.1.2 A director may vote, at any meeting of the directors or of any committee of the directors, on any resolution, notwithstanding that it in any way concerns or relates to a matter in which he has, directly or indirectly, any kind of interest whatsoever, and if he shall vote on any such resolution his vote shall be counted; and in relation to any such resolution as aforesaid he shall (whether or not he shall vote on the same) be taken into account in calculating the quorum present at the meeting.

12.1.3 Each director shall comply with his obligations to disclose his interest in contracts under section 317 of the Act.

12.1.4 Regulations 94 to 97 (inclusive) in Table A shall not apply to the Company.

13. THE SEAL

13.1 If the Company has a seal it shall only be used with the authority of the directors or of a committee of directors. The directors may determine who shall sign any instrument to which the seal is affixed and unless otherwise so determined it shall be signed by a director and by the secretary or second director. The obligation under regulation 6 in Table A relating to the sealing of share certificates shall apply only if the Company has a seal. Regulation 101 in Table A shall not apply to the Company.

13.2 The Company may exercise the powers conferred by section 39 of the Act with regard to having an official seal for use abroad, and such powers shall be vested in the directors.

14. INDEMNITY

14.1 Every director or other officer or auditor of the Company shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Company against all losses or liabilities which he may sustain or incur in or about the execution of the duties of his office or otherwise in relation thereto, including any liability incurred by him in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, or in connection with any application under section 144 or section 727 of the Act in which relief is granted to him by the Court, and no director or other officer shall be liable for any loss, damage or misfortune which may happen to or be incurred by the Company in the execution of the duties of his office or in relation thereto. But this article shall only have effect in so far as its provisions are not avoided by section 310 of the Act.

14.2 The directors shall have power to purchase and maintain for any director, officer or auditor of the Company insurance against any such liability as is referred to in section 310(1) of the Act.

14.3 Regulation 118 in Table A shall not apply to the Company.

15. TRANSFER OF SHARES

15.1 The directors may, in their absolute discretion and without assigning any reason therefor, decline to register the transfer of a share, whether or not it is a fully paid share.

15.2 For so long as the Company is a subsidiary company, no transfer of a share shall be registered without the prior consent of the Company's holding company.

15.3 The first sentence of regulation 24 in Table A shall not apply to the Company.