

PRESS RELEASE FROM NATURE PUBLISHING GROUP

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Nature Publishing Group introduces post-cancellation rights to licensed web content

Nature Publishing Group (NPG) is amending its site license policy to provide customers with post-cancellation rights to content associated with their licensed publications, subject to payment of an annual access fee. At the same time, the period of content associated with site licenses will be redefined.

Currently the content accessible via a site license includes all content published during the site license period, plus specified archive content; usually back to 1997, or the first issue of the journal on the nature.com platform. This will be maintained for licenses starting in 2006.

For full details of how much content is licensed with each publication, please go to:

http://npg.nature.com/pdf/07_lic/summaries_content.pdf

The new licenses will provide post-cancellation rights to the licensed content. Therefore, all renewing customers will be granted post-cancellation rights to the content they can currently access via their site license.

Site licenses starting in 2007 will provide access to all content published during the license period, plus a specified back archive. The archive will generally include at least the four years of content preceding the license start date. Customers taking a new license from 2007 will be granted post-cancellation rights to all content published during the license period.

Customers now have the opportunity to decide how they wish to manage their archive collections, and whether they wish to license content in 2006 to guarantee post-cancellation rights to the available archives. New customers from 2007 will also have the opportunity to purchase additional archival content that will automatically include post-cancellation rights.

This policy will apply as far as possible to all journals published by NPG. Post-cancellation rights will not apply to those journals that offer open archives after 12 months, and some journals owned by scholarly societies may adopt different policies.

The access fee supports the costs of hosting content, and related customer service. Access fees for 2007 have not yet been confirmed, but the fees will be competitive with other providers of archiving solutions. Access fees will not apply for clients with a current license to the relevant title.

Post-cancellation rights and access *in perpetuity* have been much debated by librarians and publishers. With these changes we hope to reassure our customers that they will have ongoing rights to content for which they have paid license fees. Technical issues still prevent any guarantee of perpetual access *ad infinitum*, but with this new policy, we are providing a sustainable solution that will accommodate the needs of libraries for many years to come.

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Links:

Librarian Gateway: <http://npg.nature.com/libraries>
http://npg.nature.com/pdf/07_lic/summaries_content.pdf