German gas TSOs start consultation of 2014 Network Development Plan

- Investments to grow to €2.7 bn by 2024
- Focus on L gas/H gas conversion

Berlin, 17 February 2014. Germany’s gas Transmission System Operators (TSOs) today published the third national Network Development Plan (NDP) to start its consultation phase. The draft is based on the scenario framework confirmed by Bundesnetzagentur, the German national regulatory authority last October. The plan covers the decade starting 2015 for which investments worth about €1.7bn till the year 2019 were proposed, reaching a total of €2.7bn by 2024.

In general, the current plan confirms the findings of the previous 2013 NDP. Over the period until 2014 the new NDP calls for additional system development after more precise information has been obtained on demand in the future course of L gas/H gas market conversion. As a result, there will be more demand for H gas supplies. Also, higher capacity needs for underground gas storage facilities have to be covered.

Security of supply aspects are again a top priority of Germany’s 2014 NDP with the accent on L gas to H gas market conversion, including practical proposals to define conversion phases for areas still supplied with L gas.

In both the gas and power sectors, gas-fired power stations are vital to maintaining today’s high supply security. The dynamic capacity product specially designed for these plants by German TSOs has the potential to meet the needs of this difficult to predict market.
Market participants are invited to comment on the draft published on the TSO homepage www.fnb-gas.de by 7th March 2014 and attend a detailed presentation at a day's consultation workshop to be held by the TSOs in Berlin on 24th February 2014.

Vereinigung der Fernleitungsnetzbetreiber Gas e. V. (FNB Gas) is the association of German transmission system operators, i.e. the operators of the major supra-regional and cross-border gas pipelines. The Association was established at the end of 2012 and has operated an office in Berlin since April 2013. One main focus of the Association’s activities is the Network Development Plan Gas, which has been drawn up annually by the transmission system operators since 2012. Furthermore, the Association represents its members as a point of contact for politicians, media and the public.

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