Launch of consultation on 2016 Gas Network Development Plan: German gas TSOs recommend to develop networks in line with expansion of Nord Stream pipeline

- Network development proposal put forward by TSOs provides robust framework to respond to changes in supply sources
- Network development plan (NDP) is first to model two alternative distributions of supply sources for high CV gas
- TSOs plan to invest €4.4 billion in the period to 2026
- Next NDP not until 2018

Berlin, 15 February 2016. The 2016 Gas Network Development Plan (NDP) published today by the German gas transmission system operators (TSOs) is the first NDP to present two alternative cases for the distribution of supply sources for gas of high calorific value quality ("H-gas"). The new, second scenario builds on the expansion of the Nord Stream pipeline, which could deliver a considerable proportion of the additional demand for H-gas in Germany expected in the future. “In the years to come we will see more and more changes in the sources that deliver the natural gas we need to meet our energy demand. The German TSOs respond to this challenge by proposing a robust case for network development that promotes security of supply,” explains Inga Posch, managing director of the TSO association FNB Gas.

The development of the gas transmission infrastructure in Germany now proposed reflects the general need to convert low CV gas (L-gas) networks to high CV quality to respond to a large-scale decline in domestic production output and dwindling imports of L-gas and the requirements arising from an alternative distribution of supply sources. The German TSOs propose to carry out the following specific measures:

- In order to provide the additional capacity required in 2022, the TSOs plan to invest approximately €3.6 billion to build 744 kilometres of new gas transmission pipelines and some 425 MW of new compressor capacity.
- Building the new capacity needed in 2027 will entail an additional capital expenditure of €0.8 billion (with overall investments then totalling €4.4 billion), which will raise the scale of planned new build projects to a total of 802 kilometres of new pipelines and around 526 MW of new compressor capacity.

In publishing the current, fifth edition of the NDP since 2012 the TSOs meet their responsibility to develop the networks in a transparent manner whilst ensuring that the projects proposed are reasonable from a macroeconomic perspective. The next NDP will not be produced until 2018, in line
with a decision by the German government. “In granting us a longer time frame the German policymakers have given us an opportunity to bring our plans in better alignment with those at European level, which allows us to gain an even stronger pan-European perspective,” emphasises Ralph Bahke, chairman of the board of FNB Gas.

Market participants are invited to comment on the consultation document, which is published on the FNB Gas website (www.fnb-gas.de), by submitting their responses to info@fnb-gas.de by 4 March 2016. The 2016 NDP will also be presented in detail at an all-day consultation workshop to be held by the TSOs in Berlin on 25 February 2016.

About FNB Gas:
Vereinigung der Fernleitungsnetzbetreiber Gas e.V. (FNB Gas), established in late 2012 and located in Berlin, is the association of German gas TSOs (major supraregional and cross-border transmission system operators). An essential part of its work has been to coordinate the drawing up of network development plans for gas by TSOs since 2012. In addition, FNB Gas acts as a contact when dealing with the political community, the media and the public.


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Network development projects proposed by the TSOs in the 2016 NDP

Source: TSOs

German transmission systems
Pipelines not yet in operation
Compressor stations not yet in operation
Storage connections other countries
Storages connected to transmission systems
Modelling results pipelines
Modelling results compressor stations
NDP project ID