PRESS RELEASE

Draft 2018-2028 Gas NDP: network development proposal confirmed by consultation participants

- German gas TSOs submit revised post-consultation version of NDP to Federal Network Agency
- Market participants welcome focus on role of gas infrastructure in future energy system

Berlin, 29 March 2018. The German gas transmission system operators (TSOs) have today submitted their draft 2018-2028 Gas Network Development Plan (NDP) to the German national regulatory authority Bundesnetzagentur (Federal Network Agency). The document, which is also published on the website of the TSO association FNB Gas, sets out the TSOs’ detailed plans for the future development of the German network to ensure a secure supply of natural gas in the period to 2028.

33 responses had been received by the TSOs during a public consultation on the NDP conducted beforehand, with a majority of market participants expressing their support for the network development proposal put forward by the TSOs. The network development projects described in the 2018-2028 NDP include measures for the provision of an additional 66 GW in exit capacity required on Germany’s borders and for building another 70 GW in exit capacity to facilitate the gas quality switchover process currently under way, in the course of which supply areas presently receiving low CV gas are being converted to high CV quality.

The 2018-2028 NDP is the first to include a separate chapter on the way in which the gas infrastructure can help promote delivery of the German energy transition process towards a sustainable energy system. Respondents to the consultation welcomed the TSOs’ proposal to focus more closely on sector coupling issues not only in the current NDP but also in future editions.

In revising their earlier draft of the 2018-2028 NDP the TSOs have added the input parameters for the TENP supply security scenario to the NDP database (database cycle “2018 – Draft NDP”). In addition, a number of planned new gas-fired power stations have been matched to the corresponding network development projects.

According to statements by the Federal Network Agency and the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs, the Dutch government is not expected to make any final statements as to the future gas production output in the Netherlands and the associated impact on exports to Germany until early summer 2018. The switchover plans currently included in the draft 2018-2028 NDP therefore remain unchanged for the time being.

Overall, the TSOs propose to expand today’s transmission network by adding 1,390 km of new pipelines and installing 499 MW in new compressor capacity so that the German and central European transportation needs can be met. The planned projects will require investments totalling €7 billion over the period to 2028.

The TENP supply security scenario will now be modelled by the TSOs, with the consultation expected to open on 2 July 2018.
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About FNB Gas:
The Berlin-based association Vereinigung der Fernleitungsnetzbetreiber Gas e.V. (FNB Gas) was founded in 2012 by the German gas transmission system operators (TSOs), i.e. the network companies operating the major supra-regional and cross-border gas transportation pipelines. One key focus of the association's activities is the Gas Network Development Plan, which has been drawn up annually by the TSOs since 2012. The association also acts as a central point of contact for policymakers, the media and the general public on behalf of its members.


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