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GASPOOL Balancing Services

Press Release

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Market area managers present common target model for a standardised German balancing gas market

A major step has been made towards implementation of the common target model aimed at harmonising the balancing products and procurement procedures of the German market area managers GASPOOL Balancing Services and NetConnect Germany.

Over the last months the two market area managers have been working – in close cooperation with the transmission system operators and the federal German regulator Bundesnetzagentur – on a common target model that harmonises the procedures for procuring balancing gas throughout Germany. A decisive factor in the development of the model has been the promotion of liquidity in the wholesale markets while at the same time ensuring system stability and security of supply in Germany.

In the course of an information event held in June 2012 in Bonn, the preliminary target model was presented to national and international traders and was subsequently provided for consultation on the websites of the market area managers. The responses received during the consultation were later published on the market area managers' websites.

Based on the received responses the model has been further specified and modified to accommodate the needs of the market. The exchange-based procurement of balancing gas within a market area manager's own market area has been awarded the highest rank in the merit order list, a move which is intended to maximise the share of balancing gas procured from the wholesale market.

The procurement of balancing gas in adjacent market areas, however, has been downgraded to a merit order rank of 2 and the procurement of title products via the bilateral platforms of the market area managers has been removed completely from the target model.

Furthermore, the target model defines rules for the configuration and use of standardised and non-standardised balancing products traded on the exchanges and on bilateral platforms operated by the market area managers.

Full implementation of the target model will be achieved by 1 October 2013 at the latest.

All relevant information on the target model as well as the comments by market participants can be accessed on www.gaspool.de and www.net-connect-germany.de.

NetConnect Germany GmbH & Co. KG:

NetConnect Germany GmbH & Co. KG offers a range of products and customer-friendly services for network operators, balancing group managers and shippers across different market areas throughout Germany and handles the operational management of the market area cooperation between bayernets GmbH, Fluxys TENP GmbH, GRTgaz Deutschland GmbH, Open Grid Europe GmbH, terranets bw and Thyssengas GmbH. Its market area, which stretches from the North Sea coast down to the Alps, is the largest German market area.

For further information please visit: www.net-connect-germany.de

GASPOOL Balancing Services GmbH

GASPOOL Balancing Services GmbH is a Berlin-based joint venture of DONG Energy Pipelines GmbH, GASCADE Gastransport GmbH, Gastransport Nord GmbH, Gasunie Deutschland Transport Services GmbH, Nowega GmbH and ONTRAS – VNG Gastransport GmbH. The object of the company is the operation of the GASPOOL market area in Germany, which connects around 350 downstream natural gas transportation networks. As a result of the integration of the market area H-Gas Norddeutschland jordgas Transport GmbH is also a partner in the market area cooperation.

For further information please visit: www.gaspool.de

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