



**NetConnect
Germany**

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Press Release

First gas year with monthly settlement of network balancing accounts now ended

Ratingen (Germany), 19 December 2013. The first gas year (GY) in which NetConnect Germany (NCG) has been financially settling network balancing accounts on a monthly basis – a mechanism which was introduced as of 1 October 2012 – has now come to a close. Overall, in GY 2012/2013 NCG issued 393 invoices covering a sum total of around € 52.000.000. As required under the Cooperation Agreement these advance payments will be offset against any payments owed by or to the exit network operators under the SLP quantity reconciliation procedure, which is yet to be carried out.

Whereas in the winter months of GY 2012/2013 the monthly share of network balancing accounts which were settled financially moved between 5% and a maximum of 13%, this figure dropped, as expected, to around 2% in the summer months due to the summer/winter effect resulting from the use of standardised load profiles. The only exception was July 2013, a month when atypically low allocations resulted in the financial settlement of 107 network balancing accounts, around 21% of all network balancing accounts established in the NCG market area. Ultimately, NCG issued at least one invoice each for approximately 40% of all network balancing accounts in the NCG market area in GY 2012/2013.

In addition to issuing monthly financial settlement invoices, NCG also submitted about 3100 notifications to the German federal regulator Bundesnetzagentur and publicly listed around 20 network operators by name under the compulsory reporting scheme. Network operators are publicly listed by name if their monthly imbalances in percentage terms exceed +/- 50%.

NetConnect Germany handles the operational management of the market area cooperation between bayernets GmbH, Fluxys TENP GmbH, Thyssengas GmbH, Open Grid Europe GmbH, GRTgaz Deutschland GmbH and terranets bw. Its gas market area, which stretches from the North Sea coast down to the Alps, is the largest German market area, with around two thirds of all end-user gas volumes in Germany being transported via the NCG market area.

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