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Germany**

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Press Release

Launch of VTP market consultation in the market area NetConnect Germany

Ratingen (Germany), 11 June 2015. From 15 to 26 June 2015 NetConnect Germany GmbH & Co. KG (NCG) will again be running a market consultation on the virtual trading point operated in the NCG market area (NCG VTP). In conducting the market consultation NCG complies with the German federal regulator Bundesnetzagentur's decision of 23 August 2011 on the levying of fees for use of the virtual trading point, under which NCG is required to consult market participants annually on the VTP services it provides. The fee is levied to ensure that day-to-day operations at the NCG VTP can be maintained while enabling a continuous development of the trading hub.

The aim of the market consultation is to survey VTP customers as to their satisfaction with the VTP services and to derive measures for the VTP's further development. NCG expects that, among other things, the market consultation will provide new insight as to any additional potential there may be for optimising the VTP services with a view to further improving the VTP's attractiveness and liquidity.

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 GmbH. 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.

Your contact

NetConnect Germany GmbH & Co. KG
Kaiserswerther Straße 115
40880 Ratingen (Germany)

Ina Domin
T +49 (0) 2102 59796 - 18
F +49 (0) 2102 59796 - 59
presse@net-connect-germany.com
www.net-connect-germany.com