

Press Release

NetConnect Germany conducts supplemental tender process for external balancing contracts

Ratingen (Germany), 25 January 2016. NetConnect Germany GmbH & Co. KG (NCG) is currently inviting supplemental tenders for the provision of external balancing services in the delivery period from 1 February 2016, 06:00 hours to 15 February 2016, 06:00 hours. Bids are invited for the provision of gas quantities in the balancing zones L-gas east, L-gas west and H-gas south. The current tendering round is carried out as first measure to improve the security of the natural gas supply as called for in a policy paper published on 16 December 2015 by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi).

The supply security measures outlined in the BMWi paper include the use of existing long-term balancing products currently offered by the market area managers and the introduction of a new balancing product to tap into the demand-side flexibility potential provided by industrial customers. In relation to the existing long-term balancing products the BMWi paper demands that the quantities contracted through these products be increased so as to ensure that a secure supply can be maintained even under extreme regional supply/demand scenarios. In view of this background NCG is - for the first time - inviting supplemental tenders to secure its additional quantity requirements.

NCG plans to run further supplemental tender processes for long-term balancing products in the future where required to secure additional quantities needed to uphold supply security under extreme regional supply/demand scenarios. The company is also preparing to develop an additional balancing product in the near future, as envisioned in the BMWi policy paper.

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.

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The new product will be designed so as to cater to the requirements of industrial customers in order to allow them to participate in the balancing market and thus to ensure that they can deliver balancing services by providing demand-side flexibility in the case of supply constraints.

Interested bidders may submit indicative bids for the delivery period 1 February 2016, 06:00 hours to 15 February 2016, 06:00 hours between 25 January 2016, 12:00 hours and 28 January 2016, 12:00 hours. For tender details please visit the NCG website.

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