

Press release

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## **Publication of the neutrality charge for the gradual switchover to high calorific value gas in the market area GASPOOL**

Berlin (Germany). From 1 January 2015, a neutrality charge of 0,0282 €/kWh/h/a will be applied in the market area GASPOOL to recover the costs for switching over network areas from low to high calorific value gas quality. The charge is recalculated annually by GASPOOL based on the data reported by the market area's transmission system operators (TSOs) and published ahead of the start of the new gas year until 1 October each year.

Given the declining production of low calorific value gas in Germany and the Netherlands, future supplies to the supply areas currently using low calorific value gas can only be secured if they are switched over to high calorific value quality. The first switchovers are planned to be completed by 1 October 2015.

The costs are passed on to shippers and downstream network operators at all exit points of the transmission networks located within the market area GASPOOL and are thus borne equally by all natural gas customers. What costs may be taken into account by the network operators and how they are to be passed through to customers is set out in the seventh Cooperation Agreement (*Kooperationsvereinbarung VII*), which will come into force on 1 October 2014.

### About GASPOOL

GASPOOL Balancing Services GmbH is a Berlin-based joint venture of GASCADE Gastransport GmbH, Gastransport Nord GmbH, Gasunie Deutschland Transport Services GmbH, Nowega GmbH and ONTRAS 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. Following the integration of the market area H-Gas Norddeutschland, Jordgas Transport GmbH also joined the market area cooperation.