

GASPOOL to introduce separate balancing neutrality charges in accordance with GabiGas - RLM neutrality charge set to zero / SLP neutrality charge at 1.50 €/MWh

The VTP and gas quality conversion fees applied by the market area manager will be reduced at the start of the new gas year

Berlin (Germany). From 1 October 2015 GASPOOL Balancing Services GmbH is going to levy a neutrality charge of 1.50 €/MWh for SLP exit points in compliance with its obligations under the new administrative ruling on gas balancing issued by the German federal regulator Bundesnetzagentur ("GabiGas 2.0"). In the period until 1 April 2016 no balancing neutrality charge (0.00 €/MWh) will be applied for RLM exit points. In taking this decision the company implements the requirements imposed by the new GabiGas 2.0 ruling, which requires the market area managers (MAMs) to introduce separate balancing neutrality accounting mechanisms for exit points equipped with a supply meter installation which records hourly consumption ("RLM") and non-daily metered exit points where allocations are based on standard load profiles ("SLP"), respectively. In its ruling the regulator has also specified the duration of the neutrality accounting periods, with 6-month periods being prescribed for the first gas year and longer, 12-month periods for subsequent years. "Based on our projections we have decided to levy a balancing neutrality charge for SLP exit points, which has been set at an amount of 1.50 €/MWh. The different charges for RLM and SLP exit points are in essence a reflection both of the varying extent to which these types of exit points cause system imbalances and the underlying charging methodology. This result is in line with our expectations," explains Jörg Ehmke, the director of the company.

From the start of the new gas year GASPOOL has also decided to reduce the fee it charges for use of the GASPOOL Hub, the virtual trading point (VTP) of the GASPOOL market area, from 0.20 ct/MWh to 0.16 ct/MWh. The reduction in the fee has been possible thanks to the positive development of the GASPOOL VTP, which has evolved into an active and continuously liquid trading venue with a churn rate that recently passed the four-point mark in the high CV gas trading segment.

The gas quality conversion fee applied in the market area will be lowered from 0.88 €/MWh to 0.441 €/MWh from October 2015 in compliance with the mandatory phase-out of the fee prescribed by Bundesnetzagentur.

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.