GASPOOL: Reliable flexibility and a liquid wholesale market as the basis for a secure procurement of control energy*

Berlin, 11.02.2013: The continuous frosty period which began in the middle of January has resulted in the German gas market using large amounts of control energy. However, the amount of control energy required is still much smaller than in February 2012. The procurement of external control energy from sources including the Leipzig-based European Energy Exchange (EEX) as well as the flexibility products used by GASPOOL play an important role in ensuring supply security within the GASPOOL market area.

By procuring control energy via the EEX spot market, GASPOOL is actively implementing large parts of the forthcoming target model, even though it does not come into force until 1 October 2013. Under the terms of this standardized, nationwide model, control energy should be procured primarily via the energy exchange in Leipzig. This will result in a considerable increase in liquidity on the EEX spot market. Additional security is provided by the flexibility products used by GASPOOL for which reliable partners such as storage facility operators are available.

The use of control energy is managed round the clock by GASPOOL Dispatching in Berlin. From here, GASPOOL also oversees its trading activities on the EEX energy exchange. With the help of control energy, GASPOOL compensates for the difference between entry and exit gas volumes within its market area. The need for control energy increases on a regular basis during the winter months.

Based in Berlin, **GASPOOL Balancing Services GmbH** is a jointly owned subsidiary of DONG Energy Pipelines GmbH, GASCADE Gastransport GmbH, Gastransport Nord GmbH, Gasunie Deutschland Transport Services GmbH, Nowega GmbH and ONTRAS – VNG Gastransport GmbH.
The purpose of the company is to operate the GASPOOL market area in Germany. The market area encompasses approx. 350 downstream natural gas transport networks.
Due to the integration of the H-Gas Norddeutschland market area, Jordgas Transport GmbH also participates in this market area cooperation.