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## Press Release

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### **NetConnect Germany completes first round of penalty invoices for late reconciliation quantity notices**

**Ratingen (Germany), 8 January 2015.** NetConnect Germany GmbH & Co. KG (NCG) has issued its first round of penalty invoices relating to the quantity reconciliation process pursuant to paragraph 9 of article 50 of the network code governing third-party access to the German gas networks, the Cooperation Agreement VII. The article applies to quantity reconciliation notices to be submitted on or after 1 October 2014 and imposes a penalty on network operators who fail to submit their reconciliation quantity notices for either non-daily metered “SLP” or intra-day metered “RLM” exit points within the relevant time limits. A penalty payment was charged in respect of 16 of the 506 network balancing accounts registered in the market area NCG, with a total invoice sum of around €9000.

The penalty payments must be borne by the relevant network operators and are booked to the balancing neutrality account by the market area manager. The invoiced penalty payments relate to the reconciliation quantity notices due in October 2014 for the delivery periods July 2014 (RLM reconciliation quantities and SLP reconciliation quantities for networks where SLP exit points are reconciled annually as of the reference date 31 July or on a rolling basis) and July 2013 (SLP reconciliation quantities for networks where SLP exit points are reconciled in monthly batches). All relevant reconciliation quantity notices received on or before 2 January 2015 have been taken into account.

NCG hopes that the introduction of this incentive mechanism will improve the reliability and timeliness of data provision by the network operators.

**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](mailto:presse@net-connect-germany.com)  
[www.net-connect-germany.com](http://www.net-connect-germany.com)