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Germany**

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Press Release

NetConnect Germany to tender contracts for the supply of extraterritorial networks via the Netherlands

Ratingen (Germany), May 18th 2016. NetConnect Germany GmbH & Co. KG (NCG) is conducting a tender process for gas deliveries from November 2016/ January 2017. Tenders are invited for the provision of gas quantities via the Netherlands at the cross-border interconnection point Tegelen located on the German-Dutch border, with delivery to be made in the period from November 2016 up to and including March 2017, as well as at the German-Dutch cross-border interconnection points Dinxperlo and Haanrade, with delivery here to be made from January 2017 up to and including December 2017.

NCG is carrying out this tender process to secure the possibility of supplier switching at end user level whilst continuing to meet market liberalisation requirements. In choosing this approach NCG ensures that the network areas downstream from the cross-border interconnection points Tegelen, Dinxperlo and Haanrade can be integrated into the NCG market area despite their having no physical connection to the German gas network, and thus enables suppliers to supply customers located in these network areas via the NCG market area. Gas deliveries to end users in these network areas are not part of the scope of the tender.

Interested bidders may submit indicative bids to NCG between May 18th, 2016, 2 p.m. and June 2nd, 2016, 2 p.m. For tender details, please visit the NCG website.

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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