

FAQ gas storage neutrality charge

Why is the gas storage neutrality charge imposed?

The background to the survey is the amended Energy Industry Act, which provides for filling level specifications for gas storage facilities.

Why is the gas storage neutrality charge set at 0.59 EUR/MWh?

The gas storage neutrality charge will be collected by THE for the first time from 1 October 2022.

In accordance with the specifications, the entire period of validity of the corresponding legal basis (i.e. until 31 March 2025) for determining the costs and revenues will be taken into account by the MAM when determining the gas storage neutrality charge. In particular, against the background of the forecast costs and revenues and the resulting price spread, the gas storage neutrality charge is set at the level specified.

How long is the period for which the gas storage neutrality charge is determined?

The period for the gas storage neutrality charge will generally be 6 months. This does not apply to the first and last evy periods, for which a three-month period will be applied.

The background to the three-month periods (first and last) is, in particular, uncertainties regarding cost forecasts and THE's decision not to apply an additional liquidity buffer.

The first period will begin on 1 October 2022, the last period on 1 January 2025. In the period in between, the period will always begin on 1 January and 1 July of a year.

On which quantities is the gas storage neutrality charge is charged?

The gas storage neutrality charge is charged on all SLP allocation quantities, RLM allocation quantities and allocation exit quantities at cross-border interconnection points and virtual interconnection points.

Is the neutrality charge different in terms of amount for RLM, SLP etc.?

No, the gas storage neutrality charge is a uniform 0.59 EUR/MWh.

To whom will THE invoice the gas storage neutrality charge?

THE will carry out the settlement to the BGM in the market area.

Will the BGVs pass on the neutrality charge to the end customers?

THE cannot provide any information on this. THE settles the neutrality charge with the balancing group managers in the market area.

When is the gas storage neutrality charge billed?

The BGM will be invoiced on a monthly basis in a separate invoice after submission of the final data, i.e. after completion of the clearing procedures. THE is entitled to charge the BGM an appropriate down payment.

THE will not make use of this option for the time being.

There is only one ExitSo time series, i. e. with this one both quantities of border crossing points and storage are recorded. How is a distinction made?

The corresponding regulations have been drawn up across the associations and included in the cooperation agreement and the relevant guidelines.

When using exit points at storage facilities, the balancing group manager must conclude separately identified balancing groups (balancing group exempt from storage neutrality charge) with the MAM and the supplier must include or allocate its capacities at these exit points or these market locations in these balancing groups.

Network operators with at least one exit point at border crossings shall ensure that these exit points are not allocated to a separately marked balancing group (balancing group exempt from storage neutrality charge).

From the time when the time series type for injection into a storage facility (ExitSP) is applicable, the determination of the exit quantities from the network into the storage facility that are exempt from storage levies is carried out via this time series.

Are there any distributions of surpluses planned?

If surpluses on the gas storage neutrality account are determined within the period of validity of the law, they can be distributed to the BGM under certain conditions.

At the end of the statutory period, the neutrality account must be balanced at 0. Remaining costs would be settled vis-à-vis the BGM, remaining surpluses would be distributed to the BGM.

Does THE publish and, if so, when does it publish a calculation basis and system for forecasting the gas storage neutrality charge?

THE published a corresponding calculation basis document on September, 30th 2022 on their corporate website.

When will the corresponding neutrality account be published?

The balance of the neutrality account (cost and revenue items) is published as soon as all final values required for the publication of a settlement month are available.

The account is updated monthly.

The first publication of the neutrality account is scheduled for 1 October, i.e. THE will publish a corresponding start value here.

When will the gas storage neutrality charge valid from 1.1.2023 be published?

The gas storage neutrality charge is generally published six weeks before the start of the respective period.