

PRESS RELEASE

ENTSOG publishes Capacity Allocation “launch documentation” and enters draft network code development phase

The European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas (ENTSOG) has today published its “launch documentation” for the Capacity Allocation Methodology (CAM) network code. This code, the first of a number to be developed by ENTSOG, will help to define the manner in which system users gain access to the European gas grid, so as to develop a single European gas market.

The launch document provides a starting point for debate between ENTSOG and stakeholders on the key issues that will need to be resolved during the development of the network code. It includes concepts for auction design, bundling, booking platform, within-day allocation and the alignment of interruptible capacity. Some of these ideas have already been discussed with interested market participants during the second network code stakeholder meeting on the 9th of March 2011 in Brussels.

Vittorio Musazzi, the ENTSOG General Manager said: “The publication of the launch documentation marks the starting point of the interactive network code development phase in which the suggested concepts will be discussed with the market and the draft code will be developed.”

ENTSOG plans to hold five meetings over the next few months to debate key issues with stakeholders. Views received during these meetings will feed into the draft network code which is due to be published on the 21st of June 2011. This will be followed by an official consultation period.

Frank Roessler, the ENTSOG Capacity Subject Manager, is looking forward to continuing the close dialogue with the market, which will enable ENTSOG to develop the best possible code to support the European gas market. Mr Roessler said: “We have worked closely with stakeholders and look forward to their continued involvement to ensure we can deliver an effective network code.”

ENTSOG is required to deliver the network code within 12 months of being requested to do so – a challenging timescale. The process is complicated by the fact that other interlinked areas to be covered by the network code, such as balancing, congestion management and tariffs, have not yet been finalised. The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER) is currently consulting on its CAM framework guideline, which is based on the version produced by its predecessor ERGEG, and is due to deliver the final document after ENTSOG publishes its draft CAM network code. Therefore a key outstanding question, highlighted by a number of respondents to ENTSOG’s consultation on its project plan, is whether the ACER framework guideline will affect the work on the CAM network code, and if so how.

Notes to Editors

ENTSOG was founded on 1 December 2009 ahead of the applicability of Regulation (EC) 715/2009 which foresees its establishment. ENTSOG is based in Brussels and comprises 32 members from 22 EU countries.

ENTSOG is required to define rules, the network codes, which will define the manner in which system users gain access to the European gas grid so as to develop a single European gas market.

ENTSOG maintains a register and will pro-actively notify those on the register about developments in this and other areas of ENTSOG's work. Please write to info@entsog.eu if you would like to be included in this e-mail list.

Details of all ENTSOG's work can be found at www.entsog.eu.

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