

Press Release

ENTSOG launches a formal public consultation on the development of CBA methodology for Projects of Common Interest

(Brussels, 25 July 2013, PR044-13) Today, the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas (ENTSOG) launches the formal public consultation on the draft Cost Benefit Analysis methodology (CBA) for Projects of Common Interest (PCIs) based on the Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 April 2013 on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure, which entered into force on 15 May 2013.

As the timescale for the formal development and consultation is very tight, ENTSOG started its work in 2012 and the basic concept of the CBA methodology had been presented in the "Scoping document for the Informal Public Consultation", released by ENTSOG for a preliminary public consultation during spring 2013. The document to stakeholders today is still under development and should be considered as a working document.

Vittorio Musazzi, ENTSOG General Manager, said: *"With the current formal public consultation procedure, we offer the whole stakeholder community the opportunity to provide their feedback on this first draft of the CBA methodology. Considering the scope of the CBA methodology and its application, it is crucial that a broad discussion and consensus of the gas industry and its stakeholders is achieved."*

The development of CBA methodology requires the involvement of all stakeholders in order to ensure its comprehensiveness and robustness, and transparency of the process. To achieve it, ENTSOG has engaged stakeholders since early phases of development, including through two Stakeholder Joint Working Sessions in line with its best practice. ENTSOG encourages all stakeholders to participate in the current formal public consultation which offers the opportunity to contribute substantially to the development of the CBA methodology.

The consultation starts today (25 July) and will be open until 2 September 2013.

The documents are available at:

<http://entsog.devsite.be/publications/cba-methodology#CBA-CONSULTATION-DOCUMENTATION>

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Editorial notes

- > ENTSOG was founded on 1 December 2009 in line with Regulation (EC) 715/2009. It currently comprises 41 members, three Associated Partners and four Observers.
- > In line with Articles 6, 7 and 8 of the Regulation (EC) 715/2009, ENTSOG has the task of formulating network codes in a number of areas and of adopting various communications: a non-binding community-wide Ten-Year Network Development Plan on biennial basis; Winter and Summer Supply Outlooks; common network operation tools; recommendations relating to the coordination of technical cooperation between community and third-country-TSOs; annual work programmes and annual reports.
- > According to Regulation (EU) No 347/2013, by 16 November 2013, ENTSOG is to publish and submit, for opinion, to Member States, the Commission and the Agency the methodology for an energy system wide CBA at Union level and a project specific cost-benefit analysis for PCIs. Within three months of the day of receipt of the last opinion, ENTSOG is to adapt the methodology taking due account of the opinions received and submit it to the Commission for approval. Within two weeks after of the approval by the Commission, ENTSOG is to publish the methodology on its website.
- > The part of the CBA methodology covering the energy system-wide analysis will be carried out by ENTSOG in the framework of the Ten-Year Network Development Plan (TYNDP) and the one relating to the individual project analysis is to be performed by the respective project promoters.
- > PCIs selected through the process defined in Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 will benefit from streamlined permitting procedures and enabling regulatory framework and also be eligible for European financial assistance in the form of financial instruments or direct grants through the Connecting Europe Facility. Where applicable, the PCIs could benefit from cross-border cost allocation.