**Annex 1**

**to**

**Regional Coordination System for Gas**

**as**

a common network operation tool to ensure coordination of

network operation in emergency conditions

**Incidents Classification Scale**

1. **Overview**

Art. 8 (3) (a) of Regulation n°715/2009 stipulates that ENTSOG “shall adopt common network operation tools to ensure coordination of network operation in normal and emergency conditions, including a common incidents classification scale…”.

This document presents the incidents classification scale as part of the Regional Coordination System for Gas (a common network operation tool to ensure coordination of network operation in emergency conditions) and describes procedures how to use it. The incident classification scale is used by all ReCo Teams´ members.

Depending on the type of incidents or crisis level declared in Members States TSOs have agreed the way how to inform each other. In a general way, information will be provided by the TSO responsible for the system in which the incident or crisis level has occurred.

This document refers to cooperation and exchange of information between TSOs in case of incident with regional impact.

Using a five-degree scale (1 to 5) which lists criteria and thresholds for action, each TSO will have to act accordingly. Each TSO is required to inform the relevant ReCo Team if the causes or consequences of incidents are covered by the criteria and are in the range of thresholds.

This document is without prejudice to further obligations of TSOs mentioned in Regulation (EU) 2015/703 establishing a network code on interoperability and data exchange rules, provisions of valid interconnection agreements, REMIT obligations (e.g. UMMs), national rules as well as emergency plans and preventive action plans for a relevant Member State and the related Risk Group(s).

1. **Incidents Classification Scale Description**

The incident classification scale specifies 5 levels of severity corresponding to events or situations of growing seriousness.

Each criterion describes “factually” an event or a situation. Only events or situations with significant impact are classified.

**Level 1** for local incidents with no regional impact (see 3.1. for details)

**Level 2** for potential risks, warnings (see 3.2. for details)

**Level 3** for incidents with significant effects (see 3.3. for details)

**Level 4** for incidents reflecting or leading to the emergency crisis level (see 3.4. for details)

**Level 5** for incidents when the application of solidarity measures is requested (see 3.5 for details)

* 1. **Level 1** for incidents with no regional impact
     1. **Description.**

**Level 1** is assigned to local or national events with consequences on local level or national level with low effect on reliability and on the gas market. Incidents in **Level 1** are below any crisis level and could be handled by one TSO (or by group of TSOs using swap options), or by adjacent TSOs within 2 balancing zones (or between two Member States) without impact on other balancing zones, or by a national adjacent infrastructure operator (SSO, LSO, production, etc).

No crisis level declared in any Member State.

Regional cooperation is not needed.

* + 1. **Action regarding ReCo System for Gas**
    - No requirement to inform the ReCo Team(s)
    - No requirement for the ReCo Team Meeting
  1. **Level 2** for potential risks (incidents, events, etc), warnings
     1. **Description.**

Level 2 is assigned to potential events (may happen in future) and unavailability to execute data exchange, and includes:

* Potential significant disruption of the flow in the next hours/days with a significant impact on demand/supply situation in a balancing zone(s).
* Potential significant loss of firm capacity in the next hours/days with significant impact on demand/supply situation in a balancing zone(s).
* Upcoming cold spell (once in 20 years) (considered in assessments aligned with the Regulation 2017/1938)
* Unavailability to execute data exchange with adjacent TSOs, network users, auction offices, gas hubs for more than 6 hours
* Other potential risks for the gas flow and firm capacity at IPs which other TSOs are recommended to be informed of (e.g. gas quality issues) with a significant impact on demand/supply situation in a balancing zone(s).
* Early warning crisis level declared in a Member State

Out of scope: Planed activities or information about events without significant impact on the security of gas supply provided by other communication channels.

* + 1. **Actions of the affected TSO (s) or facilitators regarding ReCo System for Gas**
    - To the extent allowed by their crisis management procedure and/or internal rules, the affected TSO directly informs the ReCo Team(s)’s Members via e-mail:

information about the incident level

existing or possible consequences of the incident

short description of the situation

other useful information

* + - The affected TSO(s) is not required to arrange the ReCo Team Meeting
    - Facilitators of ReCo Team(s) may arrange the meeting if there is high demand for information by other TSOs (several calls/emails from TSOs about the incident)
  1. **Level 3** for incidents with significant effects
     1. **Description**

**Level 3** isassigned to events with a significant effect on gas transmission operation and reliability, as well as on the gas market, and includes:

* Incident causing disruptions of a gas flow with significant impact on demand/supply situation in a balancing zone(s).
* Incident causing loss of firm capacity with significant impact on demand/supply situation in a balancing zone(s).
* Disruption of gas production and/or storage facility and/or LNG facility leading to gas flow changes via IPs with adjacent TSOs (including import points) or LSOs with a significant impact on demand/supply situation in a balancing zone(s).
* Lack of capacity at entry points (including production, storage, LNG, etc) to cover the high demand
* Alert crisis level declared in a Member State
  + 1. **Actions of the affected TSO (s) or facilitators regarding ReCo System for Gas**
    - To the extent allowed by their crisis management procedure and/or internal rules, the affected TSO directly informs the ReCo Team(s)’s Members via e-mail:

information about the incident level according to the ICS

existing or possible consequences of the incident

short description of the situation

other useful information

**or**

* + - The affected TSO calls the facilitator and asks to set up the ReCo Team Meeting if regional coordination and cooperation are needed
    - Facilitators of ReCo Team(s) may also call the meeting if there is high demand for information (several calls/emails from TSOs about the incident)
  1. **Level 4** for incidents reflecting the emergency crisis level
     1. **Description**

Level 4 is assigned to emergency crisis level conditions in a Member State, and includes:

* Market cannot cover the demand. Deficit of gas supply.
* Non-Market based demand side measures are taken (e.g. curtailment of the flow to consumers)
* Non-Market based supply side measures are taken (e.g. usage of storage or LNG)
* Regional cooperation and coordination are needed
* Emergency crisis level declared in a Member State
  + 1. **Action for the affected TSO (s) regarding ReCo System for Gas**
    - To the extent allowed by their crisis management procedure and/or internal rules, the affected TSO directly informs the ReCo Team(s)’s Members via e-mail:

information about the incident level according to the ICS

existing or possible consequences of the incident

short description of the situation

other useful information

**or**

* + - The affected TSO calls the facilitator and asks to set up the ReCo Team Meeting if regional coordination and cooperation are needed
    - Facilitators of ReCo Team(s) may also call the meeting if there is high demand for information (several calls/emails from TSOs about the incident)
  1. **Level 5** for incidents when the application of solidarity measures is requested

**3.4.1. Description**

* Level 5 is assigned to conditions when a Member State is requesting the application of the solidarity measures

**3.4.2.** **Action for the affected TSO(s) regarding ReCo System for Gas**

* The affected TSO calls the facilitator and asks to set up the ReCo Team Meeting
* TSOs have to execute the agreed measures to apply solidarity in accordance with provisions of the Regulation 2017/1938 and the technical, legal and financial arrangements regarding applying solidarity.

1. **Incident Analysis**

Each time a new incident occurs which requires the involvement of a ReCo Team Meeting, it is important to review the situation, actions of players and learn from the case. Therefore, ENTSOG together with the ReCo Team(s)’ members will carry out a retrospective and detailed analysis after each event. Based on the analysis results, improvements to this Annex and to the ReCo System for Gas (as a CNOT for emergency conditions) as well as recommendations for improving the coordination and cooperation with other parties (producers, gas storage operators, LNG system operators, etc) and stakeholders (the Gas Coordination Group, the European Commission, the Competent Authorities of MS) may be suggested.