

Mr Günther Oettinger,
Commissioner for energy,
European Commission

Mr Alberto Pototschnig,
Director, ACER

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Network Code on Balancing

Delivery of the documents to European Commission and ACER

Dear Commissioner Oettinger, Dear Mr Pototschnig,

The European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas (ENTSOG) works to promote the completion and functioning of the internal market and cross-border trade for gas and to ensure the optimal management, coordinated operation and sound technical evolution of the European natural gas transmission network.

ENTSOG is glad to deliver today the Network Code for Gas Balancing on Transmission Networks as requested by the European Commission (EC)'s letter sent on 4 November 2011.

During the network code development period, ENTSOG has worked together with the EC, the Agency for the Cooperation of the Energy Regulators (ACER) and with all the stakeholders interested in this topic in order to prepare a robust and forward looking text for the implementation of the internal market.

ENTSOG has consulted extensively, and from an early stage, with all interested stakeholders including before and throughout the extensive development and consultation activity that has informed this submission.

At the same time, continuous discussions took place between ENTSOG, ACER and the EC. Learning from the experience of earlier developments, ACER provided a confidential response to ENTSOG's formal consultation in June. ENTSOG sought to address ACER's feedback and supplied working draft revised texts to ACER. ACER subsequently wrote to ENTSOG on 2 October 2012 with a series of issues that it requested ENTSOG investigate. ENTSOG has had informal discussions with ACER and refinements have been made to the network code that ENTSOG understands will address ACER's essential requirements.

Additionally in September 2012, ENTSOG published the refined draft Balancing network code and held a stakeholder support process during which stakeholders were invited to state whether they supported the document drafted. Respondents indicated strong support for both the content of the proposed network code and the ENTSOG process that enabled the delivery of the proposed network code. ENTSOG continues to aspire to be a fair partner to all and of making TSOs' experience available for the pursuit of appropriate solutions

Therefore, in accordance with the decision of our General Assembly yesterday ENTSOG submits the attached documents as foreseen in Regulation (EC) 715/2009 in due time and in accordance with the invitation letter received from the European Commission. ENTSOG is ready to support the institutions in the further part of the process and during the implementation phase pursuant to Regulation (EC) 715/2009.

The Balancing network code is without doubt an essential element to ensure a proper functioning and more integrated market. ENTSOG therefore anticipates close co-operation with ACER, EC and wider stakeholders to ensure the timely implementation of the Balancing network code and the establishment of sufficient conditions to deliver market based balancing and a properly functioning short-term wholesale market.

Yours sincerely,



Vittorio Musazzi
ENTSOG General Manager

Attachments: references