

PRESS RELEASE

ENTSOG starts the first network code development for Capacity Allocation – stakeholder participation essential

On the 27th of January 2011 the European Commission invited ENTSOG to develop the first European network code for Capacity Allocation Mechanisms (CAM). This will define how access to the European gas grid can be secured to enable the cross-border flow of gas. ENTSOG has been given twelve months to deliver these rules which must be submitted to the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER) by the end of January 2012.

ENTSOG has been making preparations for many months to ensure that it and the industry can deliver on the upcoming challenge.

Vittorio Musazzi, ENTSOG's General Manager said: "Today we have launched our project plan and held a kick-off session with stakeholders. We need fast feedback from stakeholders to ensure that we are all ready and committed for the upcoming challenges to deliver the first network code."

The draft plan defines the process that will need to be followed to ensure that the code can be developed in what will be very intensive activity over the 12 months. This is new territory for the European gas industry: it is essential that stakeholders are at an early stage actively involved in, and committed to the process. ENTSOG is therefore asking for the commitment of stakeholders to work in the process at this stage.

ENTSOG will lead an intensive set of Stakeholder Joint Working Sessions involving industry participants, starting in March, in which ideas for the detail of the network code will be shared and discussed.

Frank Roessler, ENTSOG's Capacity Subject Manager, said: "These interactive sessions will be crucial to establish a network code attracting broad stakeholder support. During the summer we will consult formally upon the network code but early stakeholder involvement will be essential to get a well-formed initial proposal".

Following the formal consultation, responses will be analysed to inform ENTSOG's final code recommendation to ACER.

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 want to be included in this e-mailing list.

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