CHAPTER IV GAS QUALITY

4.1. Handling Gas Quality Differences

4.1.1. The business rules contained in this section 4.1 shall be applicable to IPs where:

(i) gas is capable of physically flowing from one TSO’s network (the “Exporting Network”) into another TSO’s network (the “Importing Network”); and

(ii) the range of any gas quality parameter that applies in respect of the Importing Network is different from the range that applies for that parameter in respect of the Exporting Network such that it could prevent gas from physical flowing from the Exporting Network to the Importing Network.

4.1.2. Where the conditions specified in paragraph 4.1.1 are satisfied in respect of any IP, the TSO of the Exporting Network and the TSO of the Importing Network shall cooperate as further specified in these business rules.

4.1.3. TSOs shall not later than twelve months after the entry into force of this Network Code endeavour to agree if there is a barrier at IP and discuss potential solutions.

4.1.4. TSOs shall, at a frequency of not less than once in every subsequent calendar year, conduct a review which shall include but may not be limited to:

(i) consideration of whether the difference or differences in specification has prevented, or could in the future prevent gas from physically flowing across the IP; and

(ii) where a solution to address differences in gas quality specifications between TSO’s networks is already in place, consideration of the effectiveness of such solution and whether any modification or additional solution may be required.

4.1.5. TSOs may jointly agree that a solution to manage differences in gas quality specifications pertaining to their networks is required at an IP. If TSOs fail to reach agreement then the measures under the Dispute Resolution section will apply.

4.1.6. Where the TSOs agree that a solution is required, the TSOs shall inform their NRAs and jointly develop technically feasible and economically efficient options to address the situation, subject to prior agreement with their NRAs in respect of recovery of the cost for this work.
4.1.7. The TSOs shall jointly produce a cost-benefit analysis of the potential options and potential cost recovery mechanisms and submit such analysis for public consultation.

4.1.8. Having due regard to the views of stakeholders as expressed during the consultation, TSOs, working together with their NRAs, shall endeavour to reach a common view about which, if any, of the potential options and associated cost recovery mechanisms should be implemented.

4.1.9. TSOs may commence implementation activities in respect of any solution following the approval by the relevant NRAs of the solution and its associated cost allocation and funding arrangements.

4.2. Short Term Monitoring

4.2.1. The following parties shall be considered as eligible to potentially receive gas quality information services from a TSO (an “Eligible Customer”):
   (i) Network Users having a direct contractual relationship with that TSO and also having a contractual relationship with directly connected end-users whose operational processes can be affected by gas quality changes;
   (ii) any end-user directly connected to that TSO’s network, whose operational processes can be affected by gas quality changes;
   (iii) any DSO directly connected to that TSO’s network; and
   (iv) any SSO directly connected to that TSO’s network, whose operational processes can be affected by gas quality changes.

4.2.2. Where a Member State’s national rules do not provide for any direct contractual relationship between a TSO and its directly connected end-users, any Network User that has a gas shipping contract in force with an Eligible Customer on that TSO’s network or any supplier that has a gas supply contract in force with an Eligible Customer on that TSO’s network shall only itself be an Eligible Customer.

4.2.3. Within 6 months from the entry into force of the Network Code, each TSO shall define the criteria of Eligible Customers that will receive this gas quality information. The criteria of Eligible Customers shall be available on TSO’s website.

4.2.4. TSOs shall evaluate gas quality information of the network under their responsibility and especially from entry points and the co-mingling points and provide affected Eligible Customers with pertinent indicative information.
4.2.5. TSOs shall publish on their website, with a frequency of at least one hour during the gas day near real time values of Wobbe Index and Gross Calorific Value for gas entering a TSO’s network at a physical interconnection point.

4.2.6. Any gas quality information that is provided by the TSO pursuant to this section of the Network Code shall be indicative and provided on a reasonable endeavours basis and the TSO shall have no liability to any counterparty for any loss that may be incurred as a result of incorrect or inaccurate information provision.

4.3. Long Term Monitoring

4.3.1. ENTSOG shall prepare on biennial basis a Long term Gas Quality Monitoring Outlook to identify the potential trends of main gas quality parameters and their potential variability over the next 10 years.

4.3.2. Based on the regional cooperation established within ENTSOG in accordance with Article 12(1) for the preparation of the Gas Regional Investment Plans, ENTSOG shall define relevant regions for the purpose of the outlook.

4.3.3. The outlook shall cover at least the Wobbe index, additional gas quality parameters may be included after consultation with stakeholders.

4.3.4. The outlook shall identify potential new supply sources including indigenous and biogas production from a gas quality perspective.

4.3.5. For every considered gas quality parameter and every region, the analysis shall result in a range within which the parameter is likely to evolve.

4.3.6. The outlook shall be consistent and aligned with the current ENTSOG Union-wide Ten Year Network Development Plan. This shall materialize through the selection of most relevant cases for long term gas quality monitoring purpose focusing on the year plus five and ten. The stakeholder engagement process on which the Union-wide Ten Year Network Development Plan is built shall be enlarged to the gas quality topic. Through this process, stakeholders shall provide to ENTSOG their views on the evolution of gas quality parameters of supplies.

4.3.7. In order to define the input data to be used in the outlook, namely the reference values of gas quality parameters for the respective supply sources, an analysis of the previous years shall be carried out. Such data may be replaced by stakeholders’ inputs as resulting from the stakeholder engagement process.