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European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas founded – first milestones in the implementation of the Third Energy Package

The European Gas Transmission System Operators gathered in Brussels today (December 1st 2009) to found the “European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas (ENTSOG)”. This is the first implementation to arise since the Third Energy Package came into force earlier this year.

Today’s foundation involved 31 companies from 21 European countries and will build upon recent work completed by the European Gas TSOs. Initiatives will include delivering enhanced transparency, Ten Year Network Development Plans, pilot Network Code developments in capacity, development of market based approaches for balancing, IT and Communications Roadmap and procedures to harmonize publication of maintenance information. Progressively ENTSOG will increase its scope as more resources are recruited.

At today’s foundation, the President and Management Board were also appointed. The Management Board comprises 12 senior executives reflecting a fair geographical balance across Europe.

Stephan Kamphues, the first President of ENTSOG said: “This is an important step that will contribute to the development of the single internal European gas market. TSOs will work to promote the internal market, cross-border trade and a sound and coordinated operation and evolution of the natural gas transmission networks in the European Union.”

Vittorio Musazzi, from GNL Italia/Snam Rete Gas, was also appointed today as the General Manager of ENTSOG. He stated: “TSOs are making good steps forward to delivering progress towards the single European gas market. We are looking forward to working in close co-operation with regulators, Commission and all stakeholders to ensure that implementation of the Third Package delivers benefits to the market and reflects a fair balance of interest across all stakeholders.”

Background Facts & Figures:

- The ENTSOG is envisaged within the Third Package. Regulation (EC) 715/2009 defines the ENSOG role to develop network codes for a European Gas Market, to prepare and publish a ten-year network development plan and to cooperate intensively with market and government stakeholders.
- European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas is based in Brussels. Initially it comprises 31 members from 21 countries. Others will join shortly.

- Management Board:
 - 1) Mr. Stephan Kamphues, E.ON Gastransport, Germany (fulfilling the role of the President)
 - 2) Mr. Ralph Bahke, ONTRAS, Germany
 - 3) Mr. Torben Brabo, Energinet.dk, Denmark
 - 4) Mr. Francisco de la Flor, Enagas, Spain
 - 5) Mr. Philippe Garnier, GRTgaz, France
 - 6) Mr. Wim Groenendijk, gas transport services, Netherlands
 - 7) Mr. Dimitris Kardomateas, DESFA, Greece
 - 8) Mr. Paolo Mosa, Snam Rete Gas, Italy
 - 9) Mr. Vladimir Outrata, RWE Transgas Net, Czech Republic
 - 10) Mr. Walter Peeraer, Fluxys, Belgium
 - 11) Mr. Graeme Steele, National Grid, United Kingdom
 - 12) Mr. Harald Stindl, OMV Gas, Austria

- Vittorio Musazzi, from Snam Rete Gas has been appointed as General Manager

- An adviser team of six people is being recruited to deliver on the ENTSOG 2010 AWP programme which will be published shortly and to manage TSO participation in ENTSOG's work

- A website will shortly be established [www.entsog.eu]

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