



19 May 2014

Press Release

Transmission System Operators for Natural Gas of Central-Eastern Europe (CEE) publish their Gas Regional Investment Plan 2014-2023

The Transmission System Operators (TSOs) of the CEE region are pleased to release the second edition of the Gas Regional Investment Plan (GRIP) which was prepared following the requirements of Article 12(1) of the Regulation (EC) 715/2009.

The CEE GRIP is to provide a detailed insight into the natural gas infrastructure in the CEE region and serves to promote transparency by delivering updated information on technical characteristics of infrastructure currently under operation and investments foreseen in the upcoming decade. Additionally, it aims at sharing information which can further support decision-making in the investment processes.

Furthermore, the CEE GRIP goal is to provide a focused view on security of supply and market integration on a regional level. For these purposes, demand, supply and capacity developments are assessed and current and future investment needs in the CEE region identified. The plan also endeavours to capture wider gas market dynamics by looking at various supply scenarios.

The CEE GRIP 2014-2023 was jointly coordinated by the Polish TSO – GAZ-SYSTEM S.A. and the Austrian TSO – BOG GmbH.

Edwin Kaufmann and Stefan Königshofer, Managing Directors of BOG GmbH said: *With the CEE GRIP 2014-23, we provide an in depth analysis of the gas transmission network in Central-Eastern Europe, pointing out the high potential performance to deliver gas to the region and to serve as transit corridor for gas supplies for Western and Southern Europe. By implementing numerous improvements and considering stakeholder feedback on the 2012-21 edition, we put a valuable piece of information in the hand of the stakeholders in the gas market.*

Rafał Wittmann, Development Division Director of GAZ-SYSTEM S.A. and ENTSOG Board Member said: *The CEE GRIP results from a fruitful cooperation between the TSOs in Central-Eastern Europe. We believe that the report will prove to be a valuable source of information to the stakeholders and it will support investment planning and execution in order to deliver a proper natural gas infrastructure in between the CEE countries, with a view to create a flexible and diversified regional market.*

The involved TSOs constantly seek to enhance value of the CEE GRIP to the stakeholders. All interested parties are kindly invited to comment on the report in the public consultation launched today and during a workshop organised by ENTSOG in Vienna which is scheduled for 26th June 2014.

Written comments to the CEE GRIP should be submitted by 13th June to the following email address: cee.grip@gaz-system.pl.

The CEE GRIP 2014-2023 with the Annexes can be downloaded from the ENTSOG website (<http://www.entsog.eu/publications/gas-regional-investment-plan-grips#CENTRAL-EASTERN-EUROPE>) and the websites of the involved TSOs.

Editorial notes

The CEE region for this GRIP covers:

- 10 countries: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia.
- 18 TSOs: BOG GmbH, TAG GmbH, GAS CONNECT AUSTRIA GmbH (Austria), Bulgartransgaz EAD (Bulgaria), Plinacro d.o.o. (Croatia), NET4GAS, s.r.o. (Czech Republic), Gasunie Deutschland Transport Services GmbH, Gasunie Ostseebindungsleitung GmbH, GRTgaz Deutschland GmbH, ONTRAS Gastransport GmbH, Open Grid Europe GmbH, GASCADE Gastransport GmbH, terranets bw GmbH (Germany), FGSZ Ltd. (Hungary), GAZ-SYSTEM S.A. (Poland), Transgaz SA. (Romania), PLINOVODI d.o.o. (Slovenia), eustream, a.s. (Slovakia).

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Transgaz note in addition to the Press Release

The Gas Regional Investment Plan (GRIP) for Central-Eastern Europe (CEE) is the outcome of a process started in the spring of 2013 and mainly developed during the last year. Consequently, GRIP CEE does not include the latest updates of the National Transmission System development plan. However, the latest updates will be included in Transgaz' Ten Years Network Development Plan (TYNDP) 2014-2023 which is currently submitted for approval to the Romanian Energy Regulator. TYNDP 2014 - 2023 will be published after completion of the approval process. Moreover, the major projects of the company included in this plan will be part of the next edition of the TYNDP at EU level whose drafting is scheduled to be initiated this summer.