



**22nd Stakeholder Group Meeting
GAS REGIONAL INITIATIVE – SOUTH SOUTH-EAST**

18 May 2017, 10:00 – 14:00

**Budapest, 52. Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út,
HEA premises, 1st floor, Conference room**

Draft Minutes v3

Link to meeting documents: <http://www.acer.europa.eu/Events/22snd-Stakeholders-Group-SG-Meeting-of-the-GRI-SSE/default.aspx>

Participants

No.	Surname	Name	Organisation
1.	Aved	Szilard	HEA
2.	Bárany	Martin	Net4Gas
3.	Bernthaler	Frederick	Gas Connect Austria
4.	Bliem	Martin	Gas Connect Austria
5.	Brzeczowski	Stanislaw	Gas-System
6.	Bütösi	Lajos	MGT
7.	Cvetkovic	Mileva	AERS
8.	Dobracki	Jacek	URE
9.	Galletta	Riccardo	ACER

10.	Golonka	Karolina	Gas-System
11.	Heiter	Ákos	HEA
12.	Hesseling	Dennis	ACER
13.	Ilersic	Marko	Plinovodi
14.	Ischia	Alessandro	E-Control
15.	Jermanova	Viktoria	EWRC
16.	Kovacs	Kornél	CEEGEX
17.	Kovacs	Márk Ferenc	CEEGEX
18.	Korosi	Tamás	HEA
19.	Kryvonoh	Tetiana	NERC (Ukrainian NRA)
20.	Lont	Pawel	EFET
21.	Maffeis	Paolo	PRISMA
22.	Marsenic	Branislava	Energy Community Secretariat
23.	Menditti	Francesco	TAG
24.	Oshchepkova	Irina	ENTSOG
25.	Popadic	Aleksandar	AERS
26.	Rubini	Davide	EFET
27.	Sedlacek	Milan	Eustream
28.	Sekova	Andrea	Eustream
29.	Svoboda	Martin	ERU
30.	Szirják	Bianka	Ministry of National Development, Hungary
31.	Tobescu	Florin	ANRE
32.	Tomic	Milenko	State Electricity Regulatory Commission Bosnia and Herzegovina

1. Welcome; Approval of the Agenda and Minutes

Chairman Mr Kőrösi welcomed the participants on behalf of the organizer co-chair HEA. The agenda of the 22nd SG meeting and the Minutes of the 21st SG meeting were approved.

2. Update on Gas Regional Initiative developments

2.1 Outcome on 31st RCC on GRI SSE

A short summary on the outcome of the 31st RCC on GRI SSE has been presented by Mr. Dennis Hesselning. The topics of the RCC and the SG are identical.

2.2 CAM NC and CMP implementation in GRI SSE

Mr. Tobescu (ANRE) presented the Romanian situation with regard to CMP. There were some changes concerning the interim schedule recently and mechanisms were revised. The NRA is waiting for some replies from the TSO concerning OSBB system. There was no congestion at IP Negru Vodă. Transgaz has introduced the SCADA control system.

Since Mr. Cioffo was absent, Mr. Galletta has presented the Italian NRA's updates. They have adopted provisions to introduce the Firm Day Ahead Use-It-Or-Lose-It (FDA UIOLI) mechanism at IPs with EU countries in August 2016. The subsequent approval of changes to the Italian TSO' code has been issued in January 2017. On 1st April 2017 the starting of the provisions of the Snam code has also been approved by Italian NRA.

Mr. Kőrösi (HEA) mentioned that there will be some technical meetings between ACER and MEKH Hungarian NRA to analyze the Hungarian situation and misinterpretations. Mr. Hesselning added some information on CMP developments in Hungary.

Mr. Kőrösi summarized also the Bulgarian NRA's presentation. EWRC has approved all necessary documents for effective implementation of the new balancing regime. TSO Bulgartransgaz has been applying the balancing regime in its entirety since the beginning of May but there will be a test period till October. During this period the imbalance charge will only be communicated to shippers and not applied. With regard to CAM NC the RBP is in operation since December 2016 on 4 IPs 3 with RO and 1 with EL. First auction procedures on daily, monthly, quarterly and yearly capacity products are being held on regular bases in compliance with the published tender calendar. At EL-BG IP 3 mcm/d interruptible capacity is available in both directions, 1 mcm/d bundled firm capacity will be offered in EL-BG direction.

2.3. Discussion with stakeholders

Mr. Rubini (EFET, Shell) has commented on the not satisfactory functioning of the Bulgarian balancing regime which does not provide enough flexibility for shippers, therefore the application may create opposite results. He has also mentioned anomalies of CAM NC implementation in Romania: there have been cases when auctions were cancelled / not held.

Ms. Jermanova (EWRC) reiterated that there is a test period till October in the balancing regime and the entry-exit methodology is being discussed with the TSO. Their response is expected in the coming days.

Mr. Tobescu (ANRE) said it happened that there were not enough participants to hold the auction and that was the reason of cancellation. They are ready to have a closer look in case more detailed information is provided.

3. GRI SSE Work Plan 2015-2018

3.1. Survey on tariffs in the SSE GRI

E-Control and AEEGSI have conducted a survey concerning the newly approved Tariff network code in order to assess the tariff systems in SSE GRI countries and in Energy Community Contracting Parties. Mr. Ischia presented the results of their findings by highlighting the most important questions included in their questionnaire (tariff charges, cost methodologies, entry/exit cost split, charge etc.) The survey was very successful as almost all the respective countries participated in it.

ACER is also working on a similar project in the EU countries, based on the Tariffs NC. Mr. Hesseling added that it is important that the study explains what the meaning behind the various values is.

Mr. Ilersic (Plinovodi representative) corrected the figure of corporate tax percentage in SI which is higher than the indicated 8%¹.

Shell representative brought up the issue of the Italian government's plan to reduce the spread between the country's PSV gas hub and the Dutch TTF (so-called 'Corridor of liquidity') but none of the participants was aware of the details.

3.2. ROHUAT incremental capacity

Mr. Ischia (E-Control) explained the current status of ROHUAT (BRUA) project and the rules of the related open-season procedure that aims to explore market need for delivering gas from the Romanian Black Sea region to Austria via the territory of Hungary starting from year 2022. The ROHUAT project has two phases: the first to be completed by 2019 and making possible 1.75 bcm/y of transport capacity, the second to be completed in 2022 with a technical capacity of 4.4 bcm/y. All the interconnectors between the respective countries are included in the open-season procedure and both directions except for AT->HU. The start of the binding open-season procedure is expected on 29th of May 2017 and a maximum of 4 economic tests will be conducted depending on the level of submitted bids as well as the execution of step-back right by the shippers. By the end of next year, the latest, the success of the open-season procedure will be run.

Mr. Rubini (EFET) was concerned about the current change in the top management of Romanian TSO Transgaz just before launching the open-season procedure. Mr. Tobescu explained that there was only a change of roles between the CEO and a member of the board.

¹ The correct figure is 19%. (Source: <http://www.investslovenia.org/business-environment/taxes-accounting/>)

3.3. Licensing

Mr. Kőrösi informed the participants that the objective of the project is to develop a proposal for the definition of a cluster of minimum criteria that can be supported by all regulatory regimes in the field of natural gas wholesale trade licensing in the GRI SSE region in order to minimize administrative burdens to cross-border wholesale trade while maintaining the transparency of licensing regimes and maintain sufficient regulatory supervision for all concerned NRAs. HEA's presentation focused on the summary of the comments received since the last circulation of the material.

The Hungarian authority stressed that the aim is not to create a new kind of regulation but to introduce a system in which each other's' registrations are recognised by other NRAs based on a minimum set of requirements. The application of the system is voluntary. The comments received during the last round of consultation as well as final adapted proposal will be shared with ACER and NRAs in the region by the end of May. NRAs are invited to endorse distributed proposal in mid-June.

3.4. Bundling of capacity at BG-GR IP and

3.5. BAL interim measures between BG and EL

There was no real update and progress concerning the above issues. It was even questioned whether there is a need for these projects (next to the regular NC implementation process). Communication is needed with involved BG and GR parties in order to find out whether these issues still have to be on the agenda or should be deleted.

4. Overview of gas developments in the Energy Community

Five Member States (BG, HU, PL, RO, EL) have signed declarations on the implementation of NCs in IPs between EC Contracting Parties (CP) and EU MSs. CPs are also expected to sign declarations.

Ms. Marsenic also reported on Gas 2020 initiative which is a mixture of deliverables consisting of infrastructure (PECI, PMI), legal (TSO unbundling, balancing, transparency) and market issues (IO, Capacity platform, BAL, TAR). The next CESEC monitoring report on implementation of Action Plan 2.0 is expected in July 2017. There is a need to amend CESEC MoU with the involvement of DG ENER.

With regard to unbundling and certifications there is a slow progress in SRB and in UKR.

Finally Ms. Marsenic informed about the Energy Community Treaty Reforms.

5. AOB

Mr. Ischia indicated the intention of the Italian and Austrian NRAs to jointly elaborate a new project on the aspects of storage and LNG.

Mr. Galletta has shown the audience where to find material and presentations on ACER homepage related to the current meeting.

6. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 30th of November in Belgrade, hosted and organized by AERS.