



ACER Consultation on the Manual of Procedures on Fundamental Data Reporting

The EDF Group Response

August 1st, 2014

The EDF Group welcomes ACER's public consultation on the Manual of Procedures on Fundamental Data Reporting. The EDF Group is currently involved in storage and LNG systems operations (SSOs and LSOs). In this respect, we would like to raise the following concerns regarding the content of this manual.

General comments

Reporting Security: Some of the data required by ACER are commercially sensitive information. Procedures insuring that the safety and confidentiality of data transmission will be preserved should now be duly documented.

Content: The scope for the exact content, type and nature of the data to be reported need to be further clarified before discussing operational procedures and IT formats.

Reporting Responsibility: LSOs do not have, in practice, access to all the information related to the transactions done by market participants in the LNG terminals, and therefore should not be responsible for the reporting of these data.

Formats and Efficiency: Formats should be chosen so as to minimize unnecessary IT development costs, and data already publicly available should not be part of the scope of the data to be reported by LSOs or SSOs.

Double reporting avoidance: Some of data - such as nomination or inventory data - are already reported to TSOs or NRAs. They are also published (i.e. on companies' website, GLE platform, etc.) or will be published on national aggregated platforms. We believe that it could be worth to have guidance regarding the reporting of such data by these third parties on behalf of the system operators. Such reporting schemes should indeed be favored since it would reduce the risk of multiple reporting through different channels of the same information.

Reporting operational modalities: we would also like to raise the point that reporting operational modalities / specifications are still very unclear for us. Indeed, we wonder, in practice, how fundamental data will be sent to the Agency. The EDF Group believes that Chapter 4 needs to be more detailed.



Please provide us with your general comments on the purpose and structure of the draft Manual, annexed to the consultation paper

The EDF Group understands that the draft manual aims at giving general principles as to which entity shall report data to the agency and why. However both the structure and the content are not clear enough:

For example, the EDF Group does not understand why it is stated that LSOs should report on behalf of market participants, since it has not been clearly decided, neither in the Implementing Acts nor in REMIT. Moreover in some cases, there might be some information LSOs do not have access to. In any case, the obligations defined by the Manual of Procedures should not exceed the scope and nature of obligations defined by the Implementing Acts or in REMIT. Therefore, we propose to replace "shall be able" by "may" in the following sentence (Chapter 3.1.) *" On behalf of market participants, LNG System Operators **may** make available to the Agency information related to LNG facilities and cargoes"*.

Based on the information provided as of today by the ACER, we still are unable to assess what will be the effective impact on our IT systems.

It should also be highlighted that, beyond IT impacts, such provisions may lead to large impacts on the contracts themselves. Indeed, it should be assessed whether LSOs and SSOs will have to amend their contracts if they have to report commercially sensitive information or to oblige LNG or storage users to provide them with additional data regarding their own transactions in order to enable LSOs and SSOs to report them to the Agency.

Please provide us with your views on the attached data fields (see Annex I of the draft Manual) for the reporting of fundamental data. .

As regards the scope of reporting, we noted that the nature of the data required goes far beyond what is currently required in the Implementing Acts (version submitted to the REMIT Committee in July):

- Many details relating to the technical capacity of the LNG terminal in this manual go further the scope of the data to be provided by LSOs in the Implementing Acts;
- All the details relating to LNG users were not included in the scope of the data to be provided by LSOs in the Implementing Acts and the LSO may not have access to all of them.



Please provide us with your views on the attached electronic formats (see Annex II of the draft Manual) for the reporting of fundamental data.

As regards the reporting formats, we consider that we are not in a position to fully analyze them. Indeed, in order to read the electronic formats provided, we had to use an online xsd → xml converter. Please note that we were unable to open it with an Internet browser only.

Please also note that, in practice, the xml format is not always the one used by LSOs and SSOs for business purposes. We would recommend having in depth discussion on the use of the xml format with systems operators before taking any decision regarding this electronic format.

In order to avoid unnecessary costs or administrative burdens on reporting entities, the Agency intends to rely as much as possible on existing industry standards and data formats for the collection of fundamental data under REMIT. For the purpose of ensuring operational reliability, the Agency however reserves the right not to take over all future changes of such standards and data formats introduced by the industry. Any future changes of existing standards and data formats shall therefore be agreed between the Agency and relevant industry organization, before applying for the purpose of REMIT reporting. Please provide us with your views on the above approach.

Many of the data required are already available publicly on the LSOs websites or on GLE platform. All data already available should be directly collected by the Agency and not reported a second time by the market participants, thus avoiding an unnecessary burden.

Finally, we would like to highlight that choosing a format induces some irreversibilities for IT systems. Therefore any change of currently used format should be agreed upon by all reporting entities.

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