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**Gas Regional Initiative
GRI Coordination Group**

GRI Progress Report

Autumn 2014

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1 Context

National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs) and ACER have given a new impetus to regional and cross-regional work through the Gas Regional Initiative (GRI) since ACER took over its coordination in 2011. In 2013 NRAs revised their Work Plans 2011-2014, reflecting the updated status of regional projects and their planned deliverables and milestones. In 2014 they are preparing new Work Plans for the coming years, ensuring the continuity of regional projects on the priority areas identified by them under the guidance of the Agency.

In parallel to the work done at regional level, an important step forward was taken towards a higher cross-regional integration with the publication on 1 March 2013 of the Roadmap for the early implementation of the Network Code on capacity allocation mechanisms (CAM Roadmap) and its subsequent updates in October 2013 and October 2014. The CAM Roadmap, a joint effort by ACER and ENTSOG in cooperation with TSOs and NRAs, aims to facilitate the early application of the CAM Network Code provisions before it becomes legally binding in November 2015. In 2014, the Agency and ENTSOG have also started to follow up the early implementation of the Balancing Network Code in EU Member States in order to identify issues and implementation practices.

2 From Quarterly to Progress reports: rationale and objectives

In 2014, the Agency has decided to shift from the former practice of issuing quarterly reports to progress reports on a biannual basis, to be released in the spring and in the autumn. This stems from a decision to reprioritise internal resources in a more effective way and to increase the efficiency in reporting on progress in GRI developments. This new way of regional reporting is implemented both in ERI and GRI and goes in the direction of a proposal raised by GRI members in the past.

The online GRI Progress reports keep on monitoring progress in the implementation of regional activities planned in the regional Work Plans¹, with a focus on the priority areas determined by the Lead NRAs under the guidance of the European Commission and ACER. These reports will also serve to keep track of work on the early implementation of Network Codes, such as in the areas of Capacity Allocation Mechanisms (CAM) and Balancing.

The GRI Progress reports will remain focused on the main developments and achievements made throughout the regions during the period at hand and will therefore not include all information on the background, previous developments and main features of the regional projects. For further information about these features, please consult the regional Work Plans 2011-2014¹ and previous GRI Quarterly reports² on the ACER website. The next GRI Progress reports will take as a reference the projects foreseen in the new Work Plans for 2015 and beyond, which are currently under preparation by Lead NRAs.

¹ http://www.acer.europa.eu/Gas/Regional_%20Intiatives/Gas_regional_work_plan/Pages/Gas-Regional-Work-Plans.aspx

² http://www.acer.europa.eu/Gas/Regional_%20Intiatives/Pages/Reports.aspx

3 Relevant developments in this period

Reassessment of the geographical composition of the SSE region

In ACER's Regional Initiatives Status Review Report 2013³, the Agency recommended opening a debate in the SSE region about its optimal geographical configuration and the possibility to split it into several regions, involving all relevant parties and authorities and including a consultation of stakeholders.

Following this recommendation, the SSE co-Lead NRAs started the process of reassessing the current geographical composition of the region in early 2014. They carried out a survey among all NRAs in the region and discussed the results internally and publicly with stakeholders at respectively the RCC and SG meetings held in Warsaw on 26 and 27 May.

The potential reassessment of the SSE composition was also a matter of debate at the 26th Madrid Forum in October, where ACER presented possible future new (sub)groupings under the GRI SSE umbrella. SSE Lead NRAs are expected to present the final outcome of the process at the RCC and SG meetings scheduled in Bucharest on 11 and 12 December.

Drafting of regional Work Plans in the South and SSE regions beyond 2014

Following an invitation from ACER, the Lead NRAs from the SSE and South regions are currently preparing new Work Plans for their respective regions beyond 2014. The updated South GRI Work Plan will cover the period 2015-2016 while the new SSE Work Plan will extend its horizon to 2015-2018. The two new Work Plans have been submitted to public consultation of stakeholders in the respective regions⁴ and their final version is expected to be published by the end of 2014. The present progress report of autumn 2014 does not take into account yet the new planning of projects starting in 2015. It follows up progress with respect to the projects contained in the Work Plans 2011-2014.

Cooperation with the Energy Community

In 2014, a new impetus has been given to the cooperation between the Agency and the Energy Community (EnC), in particular through the GRI South South-East region. During the period covered by this report, representatives from the EnC Secretariat started to take part in meetings of the GRI Coordination Group organised by the Agency and continued attending SSE Stakeholders Group meetings. This trend to further strengthen the cooperation between ACER and the EnC through the GRI will continue and new ways of cooperation will be pursued for the benefit of both organisations and of the EnC Contracting Parties.

4 Early implementation of Network Codes

4.1 Capacity allocation mechanisms (CAM) – the CAM Roadmap process

The CAM Roadmap in a nutshell

³ http://www.acer.europa.eu/Official_documents/Publications/Pages/Publication.aspx

⁴ The Public Consultation of the South GRI WP 2015-2016 can be found on ACER website: http://www.acer.europa.eu/Gas/Regional_%20Intiatives/South_GRI/Public_Consultations/Pages/PC-on-the-Work-Plan-2015-2016.aspx

The CAM Roadmap jointly developed by ACER and ENTSOG aims at facilitating the early implementation of the provisions from the Network Code on Capacity Allocation Mechanisms (CAM NC), before it becomes legally binding in November 2015. It builds on pilot projects at cross-border interconnection points in Member States and monitors their implementation. These projects allow testing the NC provisions, exchanging experiences between the parties involved and drawing lessons from the process, paving the way towards the timely implementation of the CAM NC across Europe as a step towards the IEM.

The CAM Roadmap was first published on 1 March 2013. It was subsequently updated and a new version was published on 11 October 2013 on the ENTSOG and ACER websites.

Progress review

During the period covered by this report, ENTSOG and ACER have developed a new version of the CAM Roadmap, updated by October 2014, which takes stock of the achievements in the pilot projects during 2014 and shows the upcoming milestones for 2015. The new version also includes a review of the most relevant issues identified during the early implementation of the NC and is accompanied by an annex with updated information on the application of CAM NC provisions at European IPs. The new CAM Roadmap version of October 2014 is available on the ACER and ENTSOG websites⁵.

The concrete developments and achievements in the CAM pilot projects over the period covered by this report can be consulted in the CAM Roadmap. Where relevant, these are also mentioned in the sections corresponding to the regional developments in this report (sections 5 and 6).

4.2 Balancing

ACER-ENTSOG joint report on the early implementation of the BAL NC

At its 25th meeting in May 2014, the Gas Regulatory Forum (Madrid Forum) invited ACER and ENTSOG to follow up the early implementation of the Balancing Network Code by identifying potential issues, promoting the exchange of best practices at national level and supporting cross-border cooperation in the relevant areas. The Forum invited ACER to collect national implementation plans and present to the Madrid Forum the implementation situation, with a focus on the interim measures planned.

Progress review

Following this invitation from the Madrid Forum, ACER and ENTSOG worked together during the first quarters of 2014 in order to review the state of play in each Member State and the steps and measures planned until full implementation of the NC. In July they jointly submitted a questionnaire to NRAs and TSOs, respectively, in order to get a single response per country. Based on the outcome of the responses collected, a joint report was published in October on the ACER and ENTSOG websites⁶ and its main findings were presented to the 26th meeting of the Madrid Forum on 16 October.

⁵ http://www.acer.europa.eu/Gas/Regional_%20Initiatives/CAM_roadmap/Pages/default.aspx
<http://www.entsog.eu/publications/capacity-allocation-cam#2-CAM-NC-EARLY-IMPLEMENTATION-DOCUMENTS-AND-MEETINGS>

⁶ http://www.acer.europa.eu/Gas/Framework%20guidelines_and_network%20codes/Pages/Balancing-rules.aspx
http://www.entsog.eu/public/uploads/files/publications/Balancing/2013/ACER-ENTSOG_Report_BAL_NC_Early_Implementation-Final_22-Oct-2014.pdf

5 Progress in regional projects – South region

5.1 Capacity allocation mechanisms (CAM)

The project in a nutshell

The final goal on CAM for 2014 in the South region is to have in place joint coordinated mechanisms for the allocation of cross-border capacity at the interconnection points between the three countries, i.e. to early implement the Network Code on CAM published on 15 October 2013 and applicable as of 1 November 2015.

Progress review

| Project / activity | Meeting the deadline in the WP 2011-14? | Progress achieved by Autumn 2014 | Pending issues / actions |
|---|---|---|---|
| CAM harmonisation in the region | Completed | <p>The first coordinated mechanism to allocate capacity products according to the CAM NC took place in March 2014.</p> <p>This pilot project follows the calendar and procedure of the NC. Firm bundled and unbundled yearly products were auctioned at the two virtual interconnections points (FR-ES and PT-ES borders) simultaneously via the PRISMA platform.</p> <p>In June 2014 quarterly products were auctioned.</p> <p>TSOs in the region have made public the auction calendar for the period March 2014 - September 2015 to allocate capacity products at the two VIPs using PRISMA.</p> <p>Monthly products have been auctioned in September 2014 and October 2014.</p> | Preparing the first day-ahead and within-day capacity auctions in the two VIPs for November 2015. |
| Participating in the Roadmap for the early implementation of the CAM NC (CAM Roadmap) | Completed | The South region project has been updated in the new CAM Roadmap version of October 2014. | |

5.2 CMP harmonisation proposal

The project in a nutshell

The goal of the South region on CMP for 2014 is having in place coordinated and harmonised CMPs at all interconnections in the region. The activities planned to reach this goal were the design of a CMP pilot project on the interconnection between France and Spain and the extension of this coordinated CMP mechanism to the cross-border capacity between Spain and Portugal. TSOs in the region would develop a detailed plan (Roadmap) in order to reach a harmonised approach for the implementation of the new CMP guidelines which entered into force on 1 October 2013.

Progress review

| Project / activity | Meeting the deadline in the WP 2011-14? | Progress achieved by Autumn 2014 | Pending issues / actions |
|---|---|---|--|
| CMP harmonisation in the South region (Over-subscription and buy-back, capacity surrender, long-term UIOLI) | Completed (regarding the development of CMP rules in the three countries) | <p>Harmonised CMP implementation in France and Spain, compatible with CAM NC, has been completed.</p> <p>In 2013 and early 2014, the French and Spanish regulators approved in their respective countries pieces of legislation developed in a coordinated way to implement CMP at their interconnections.</p> <p>In Q2 2014, the relevant CMP provisions in Portugal (Procedures for the Access to the System's Infrastructures) were approved by ERSE. These rules are aligned with the mechanisms approved in Spain.</p> | <p>Development of detailed procedures for the application of OS&BB at the interconnections.</p> <p>In Q4 2014, the TSOs are working in cooperation to define the OSBB proposal to be presented to regulators by the end of the year.</p> |
| CMP harmonisation in the South region (including firm short-term UIOLI) | N/A | Not started yet | Implementation of short-term UIOLI (if necessary) aimed for July 2016 |

5.3 Investment in new Infrastructure

The project in a nutshell

The goal in this area of work is the creation of a permanent framework for cooperation between TSOs in the region, ENTSOG and stakeholders, for the elaboration of the Community-wide and Regional Investment plans, update of the South GRIP and its implementation and identification of the projects of common interest in the region.

Progress review

| Project / activity | Meeting the deadline in the WP 2011-14? | Progress achieved by Autumn 2014 | Pending issues / actions |
|--|---|---|------------------------------------|
| Regular update and publication of project status of Open Seasons 2013 and 2015 | Expected | The update of project status will be published on ACER website once received the required information from the three TSOs involved. | Information to be received by TSOs |
| Drafting of the South Regional Investment Plan (GRIP) 2013-2022 | Completed | The final South GRIP for the period 2013-2022 was published ⁷ on 27 March 2014. | None |

5.4 Security of supply

The project in a nutshell

The goal for 2014, defined in the updated Work Plan 2011-2014, is to contribute to the implementation of Regulation 994/2010, providing a forum where relevant authorities of the three countries can present progress on this issue and exchange experiences that can help them to reach this target. It also aims to promote both regional and cross regional cooperation in security of supply matters with an active participation of stakeholders.

Progress review

| Project / activity | Meeting the deadline in the WP 2011-14? | Progress achieved by Autumn 2014 | Pending issues / actions |
|---|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Contribution to the implementation of Regulation 994/2010 and exchange of experiences | Permanent activity | No significant recent developments | None |

5.5 Balancing

The project in a nutshell

This project aims to allow the region to be in full compliance with the provisions of the Balancing Network Code, by contributing to the finalisation of the code with the experience gained at national and regional level, investigating the use of gas markets in the region for the procurement of gas for balancing purposes, analysing the current configuration of the balancing zones in the region and their possible integration and, as a result, launching a pilot project for a common balancing platform, integrating balancing systems in the region.

⁷ <http://www.entsog.eu/publications/gas-regional-investment-plan-grips#SOUTH>

Progress review

| Project / activity | Meeting the deadline in the WP 2011-14? | Progress achieved by Autumn 2014 | Pending issues / actions |
|--|---|--|---|
| Contributing to FG-NC, with regional experience and lessons learned | Permanent activity | Identification of aspects to be harmonised simultaneously with CAM NC early implementation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gas day - Nomination / renomination schedule | These issues are not yet crucial, but will become more relevant when day-ahead and intra-day capacity will be auctioned |
| Investigation of the use of the gas markets in the region for balancing purposes | To be started | Not started by the end of this period | The feasibility and timing of this analysis will depend on the timely and successful development of the gas hub in the Iberian peninsula |
| Analyse the current configuration of balancing zones and possible merging of areas | Ongoing | A process is ongoing for analysing the integration of market areas in France, on two time horizons: creation of a trading region in the South of France by April 2015 and integration of the three balancing zones by 2018. The integration of balancing areas between Spain and Portugal is also under analysis. Regulators (CNMC and ERSE) are evaluating the responses to the public consultation of study on market models for ES-PT markets integration (see area of work 5.7 “developing hub-to-hub trading in the South region”) | CRE has analysed the outcome of the public consultations run in 2014 on the proposals for market integration in the South of France as of April 2015 ⁸ and for integration of the three balancing zones by 2018 ⁹ . The answers to these public consultations have been made available on CRE’s website. CNMC is currently preparing the legal act (“Circular”) to regulate the gas balancing regime according to the European Network Code. |
| Pilot project for a common balancing platform in the three countries | To be started | Not started by the end of this period | Not defined yet |

5.6 Tariffs

The project in a nutshell

⁸ <http://www.cre.fr/en/documents/public-consultations/creation-of-a-joint-grtgaz-tigf-marketplace-as-of-1-april-2015>

⁹ <http://www.cre.fr/en/documents/public-consultations/creation-of-a-single-gas-marketplace-in-france-in-2018>

The objective is the harmonisation of transmission tariff structures, initially at cross-border points between Portugal and Spain, through the realisation of a joint study for comparing the current tariff regimes in both countries, and in particular for gas consumed in one country with entry in the adjacent one, to analyse the existence of “pancaking” and to identify other possible obstacles and proposals for improvement.

Each country will be working on developing a national entry-exit system following European guidelines. A common task for launching tariff harmonisation proposals is to be initiated after these national regulatory processes are concluded.

Progress review

| Project / activity | Meeting the deadline in the WP 2011-14? | Progress achieved by Autumn 2014 | Pending issues / actions |
|--|---|--|----------------------------------|
| Joint study on tariff regimes in Spain and Portugal | Yes | Completed (in 2012) | None |
| Proposal for tariff harmonisation in Spain and Portugal | Yes | A “CNMC Circular” (legal act) establishing the new methodology for tariffs in Spain is under preparation. It was submitted to public consultation in January 2014, until 22 March 2014. The applicable tariffs in Portugal (in place until July) were reviewed during Q2 2014. | Next actions still to be defined |
| Further studies to evaluate the current tariff structures and propose improvements | To be started | Planned progress at national level in line with the results of the previous study | Next actions to be defined |

5.7 Interoperability

The project in a nutshell

The project seeks to contribute to the development of the NC in this area, building on the regional experience and harmonising interoperability aspects in line with the outcome of the FG and the NC developed on this area.

Progress review

| Project / activity | Meeting the deadline in the WP 2011-14? | Progress achieved by Autumn 2014 | Pending issues / actions |
|---|---|---|--------------------------|
| Contribution with regional experience to the development of FG-NC | Permanent activity | Contribution to FG-NC process through ACER groups | None |

| | | | |
|---|---------|---|--|
| Analysis of interoperability aspects and procedures that need to be harmonised among the three countries (in line with FG-NC) | Ongoing | Identification of aspects to be harmonised simultaneously with CAM NC early implementation, BAL NC and INT NC: - Gas day - Data exchange - Nomination / renomination procedures at IPs | The harmonisation of the gas day is being discussed at national level in Spain and Portugal. These issues will become more relevant when day-ahead and intra-day capacity will be auctioned |
| Harmonisation of communication protocols between TSOs, gas day, programming and nomination schedules, quality standards, etc. | Ongoing | Developments in internal TSOs IT systems are in progress. | Harmonised data exchange for nomination and renomination schemes will be established by November 2015. |

5.8 Developing hub-to-hub trading in the South region

The project in a nutshell

The goal of the project is the promotion and endorsement of organised gas markets (hubs) and the development of hub-to-hub gas trading in the region. Spanish and Portuguese NRAs are analysing possible models for the creation of an organised gas market (hub) in the Iberian Peninsula (MIBGAS).

Progress review

| Project / activity | Meeting the deadline in the WP 2011-14? | Progress achieved by Autumn 2014 | Pending issues / actions |
|---|---|---|--|
| Hub development: Models for integration of Spain and Portugal in an Iberian gas hub | Expected | The “Study about models for the integration of the Spanish and Portuguese gas markets in a common Iberian natural gas hub” prepared by CNMC and ERSE has been submitted to public consultation until September 2014 ¹⁰ . | NRAs are analysing the responses received. A roadmap for the implementation of the chosen solution will be prepared accordingly. |
| Hub-to-hub gas trading in the region | Planned for 2015 | Working Group established in Spain with stakeholders’ participation to revise regulation in order to foster the development of the Iberian gas hub. | Next steps to be defined in view of the hub development in 2015 |

¹⁰

http://www.acer.europa.eu/Gas/Regional_%20Intiatives/South_GRI/Public_Consultations/Pages/PC-on-the-integration-of-the-ES-PT-gas-markets.aspx

6 Progress in regional projects – South South-East region

6.1 Interoperability

The projects in a nutshell

Adoption of common standards

In order to improve system interoperability, all the regional systems within the GRI SSE should adopt, based on EASEE-gas common business practices (CBPs), the same units for measuring gas as well as a harmonized definition of the gas day, also taking into account possibilities for early NC/FG implementation with regard to interoperability and other areas.

Sub-regional integration / Harmonisation of procedures

On the route from the Slovak border to Germany via the Czech Republic, there is no harmonisation or agreement between TSOs regarding units for bookings and allocation, OBAs, ISO norms for measuring / allocating gas or nomination procedures based on a single definition of the gas day, which causes risks and imbalances for shippers. The aim of this project is to harmonise procedures on the route from Velké Kapušany to Germany and back to Slovakia or Austria (Baumgarten).

Progress review

| Project / activity | Meeting the deadline in the WP 2011-14? | Progress achieved by Autumn 2014 | Pending issues / actions |
|--|---|--|---|
| All TSOs adopt standards with special reference to gas-day definition, units and OBAs | Not started | No significant developments during this period | Project to be discontinued in the new Work Plan 2015-2018. Work on Interoperability issues will be continued under a dedicated Implementation Group. |
| Harmonisation of TSO's procedures decreasing shippers' risk and imbalances in CZ/SK/DE | Not started | No significant developments during this period | Project to be discontinued in the new Work Plan 2015-2018 |

6.2 Enabling market integration

The projects in a nutshell

Structure of future regional balancing and trading zones in the SSE region & implementation of the Gas Target Model

This analysis is undertaken through two studies: a “macroeconomic” study on possibilities for cross-border market integration in Europe, focussing on an analysis of macroeconomic welfare benefits of market integration evaluating two case regions (AT-SK-CZ and AT-IT); and a second study on the identification of possible implementation steps of the measures proposed in the Gas Target Model in the GRI SSE region, from an institutional and practical perspective (analysis of the creation of a Trading region in CEE, called CEETR).

Development of a Roadmap towards the creation of a common regional gas market in V4 countries

This project aims to analyse market integration within the Visegrad Region (V4 - Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary) leading to the elaboration of a 'Roadmap towards the common regional V4 gas market'. Following the endorsement of the Roadmap by V4 Prime Ministers in June 2013, the implementation phase is carried out within the GRI SSE region ensuring consistency with other projects in the region on the same field.

Progress review

| Project / activity | Meeting the deadline in the WP 2011-14? | Progress achieved by Autumn 2014 | Pending issues / actions |
|---|---|--|---|
| Structure of future regional balancing and trading zones in the SSE region & implementation of the Gas Target Model (CEETR project) | Project on hold (first phase completed, second phase not started) | No developments during this period | Delay in the launch of phase 2 was due to lack of clarity about overlap with other projects in the region and to lack of involvement by some of the project participants. The future of this project is at this stage uncertain. For the time being, the project CEETR is officially suspended. |
| Roadmap towards the creation of a common regional gas market in V4 countries | Ongoing | At the Gas Forum meeting held on 17 February 2014, the V4 programme and work schedule was discussed. It was decided to focus on the harmonised implementation of network codes and the creation of conditions which support an increased usage of non-conventional gas supplies. After Slovakia took up the V4 presidency in July 2014, the focus will now be placed on SoS. Concrete actions were discussed in a meeting on 18 September. | In the next months the V4 Gas Forum will focus mainly on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - security of supply (the common preventive action and emergency plans); - NCs implementation; - elaboration of appropriate gas target model for V4 gas markets; - market requirements; - infrastructure development. Coordination between V4 and CEETR projects needs to be monitored. |
| Pilot project to analyse licensing regimes in V4 countries | New project | At the SSE RCC meeting of 27 March, it was decided to set up a pilot project to analyse licensing regimes in the V4 group (based on the study already planned under the V4 initiative). The Hungarian NRA coordinates this project. The first results in terms of licensing requirements existing in the V4 countries were presented at the RCC-SG meetings in Warsaw on 26-27 May 2014. | On the basis of the outcomes of the analysis, the V4 NRAs should start discussing about the possible harmonisation of the licensing regimes in the V4 countries. |

6.3 Security of Supply

The project in a nutshell

Member States and NRAs use the GRI SSE as a forum to exchange experiences on security of supply and in particular on the implementation of Regulation (EC) No 994/2010, regarding the risk assessments, preventive action plans and other obligations stemming from it.

Progress review

| Project / activity | Meeting the deadline in the WP 2011-14? | Progress achieved by Autumn 2014 | Pending issues / actions |
|---|---|--|---|
| Exchange best practice and consult SoS preventive action plans within the GRI SSE | Permanent activity | No significant developments during this period | <p>The project will be continued for the next 4 years period (2015-2018). In addition, two new pilot projects are planned to be launched:</p> <p>a) <i>Developing joint preventive action and emergency plans in the V4 subregion.</i> Cooperation within the scope of preventive action and emergency plans is one of the main priorities of the V4 Gas Forum.</p> <p>b) <i>Developing joint preventive action and emergency plans between Greece, Bulgaria and Romania.</i></p> <p>The final decision to start those two projects has not been taken yet.</p> |

7 Progress in regional projects – North-West region

The NW region does currently not have a lead NRA and therefore there is no regional planning or project development at present under the GRI umbrella.

8 Conclusions and way forward

This second edition of the GRI Progress report, which gives continuity to the previously released GRI Quarterly reports, currently on a biannual basis, has been carried out in cooperation with national regulatory authorities. The Agency appreciates their contribution to this report.

Uneven progress is observed across the different areas of work at regional level according to the Work Plans 2011-2014. Planning of future work for 2015 and beyond has started in the SSE and South regions and the final Work Plans for 2015-2016 (South) and 2015-2018 (SSE) are expected to be released by the end of 2014. The Agency is offering its guidance for such planning process. ACER will also pay special attention to the final outcome of the ongoing debate on the configuration of the SSE region in view of the permanent objective of streamlining all regional activities in different areas.

Next to the projects at regional level, the Roadmap for the early implementation of the CAM NC (CAM Roadmap), a joint effort by ACER and ENTSOG, has been updated again in October 2014, taking stock of the main developments and issues raised in the implementation of CAM pilot projects and providing an up-to-date picture of the extension of the CAM NC early implementation per IP and the prospects until full implementation due by 1 November 2015.

In the area of Balancing, after the publication of the Network Code¹¹ in March 2014 TSOs and NRAs have started to implement the NC provisions in their respective countries. ACER and ENTSOG have also started to follow up the implementation plans in the different Member States and will continue monitoring the process in order to identify any possible difficulties and anticipate any issues delaying a timely implementation. The report¹² jointly published in October 2014 presents an updated picture of the BAL NC implementation across Europe one year before the NC will become fully applicable.

Another Network Code that is expected to be adopted soon is the Network Code on Interoperability and Data Exchange. The proposal of Network Code has been submitted to the Comitology procedure and has received the favourable opinion of the Gas Committee on 4 November.

The present ACER online GRI Progress report aims to describe in a streamlined way the progress in GRI projects and activities with a special focus on the achievements reached during the period between April and October 2014. The next GRI Progress report is scheduled to be released in spring 2015.

¹¹ Commission Regulation (EU) No 312/2014 of 26 March 2014, establishing a Network Code on Gas Balancing of Transmission Networks:

http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2014.091.01.0015.01.ENG

¹² http://www.acer.europa.eu/Gas/Framework%20guidelines_and_network%20codes/Pages/Balancing-rules.aspx
http://www.entsog.eu/public/uploads/files/publications/Balancing/2013/ACER-ENTSOG_Report_BAL_NC_Early_Implementation-Final_22-Oct-2014.pdf



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