

Press Release

North West European Gas Transmission Operators publish Gas Regional Investment Plan (GRIP) 2017

Today the North West European Transmission System Operators (TSOs) have published their Gas Regional Investment Plan 2017 (NW GRIP 2017). It is the third edition of this regional statement on long-term gas infrastructure development and related topics. The NW GRIP 2017 is the first of six Gas Regional Investment Plans to be published by TSOs in the coming months.

(Brussels, PR0127) Besides the usual update of all elements related to infrastructure development in the Region, the NW GRIP 2017 focuses for the first time on two specific topics of high relevance to the NW Region.

Special attention is paid to the on-going energy transition with potential pathways for the gas markets and gas infrastructure in the NW Region towards a sustainable future. A specific section highlights a selection of key projects and initiatives undertaken by the NW Region TSOs and other stakeholders in the energy sector to pave the way for a sustainable future.

The new edition also features a specific regional analysis on the conversion of L-gas markets to H-gas as an add-on to the European-wide assessment in the ENTSG TYNDP 2017. As the only region where L-gas is produced and consumed, the announced phasing out of the Groningen field and the decline of L-gas production in Germany will soon require considerable infrastructure investments to allow the L-gas to H-gas market conversion in large parts of Belgium, France and Germany.

Pascal De Buck, ENTSG board member and managing director & CEO of Fluxys said: *“The TSOs of the Northwest region operate a vital part of the European gas system and this new edition of our regional investment plan confirms this role in the future. The new section focusing on the energy transition is of particular interest from a forward looking perspective: it highlights the key*

importance of gas and gas infrastructure to successfully integrate renewable energy while keeping the overall energy system robust and affordable both for power generation, heating and mobility.”

René Oudejans, Interim CEO of Gasunie Transport Services commented: *“It is our aim to optimally serve the market, as efficiently as possible. The coming period, the security of supply will be an important focus. In the mid-term we are facing the logistic challenge to convert the L-gas markets to H-gas and in the longer term, the energy transition is even a bigger challenge. Maintaining the level of security of supply thereby is of eminent importance.”*

NW GRIP 2017 documents and further information

- [A consultation document](#) has also been published and we invite all stakeholders to give their feedback on this document to help develop it further.
- The NW GRIP 2017 as well as the consultation document is available on the [ENTSOG website](#) and the websites of the NW Region TSOs.

Should you require any further information please contact the coordinators of the NW GRIP:

- Geert Smits: geert.smits@fluxys.com
- Piet Nienhuis: p.nienhuis@gastransport.nl

Editorial notes

- > ENTSOG was founded on 1 December 2009 in line with Regulation (EC) 715/2009. The current number of Members, Associated Partners and Observers can be found [at this link](#).
- > In line with Articles 6, 7 and 8 of the Regulation (EC) 715/2009, ENTSOG has the task of formulating network codes in a number of areas and of adopting various communications: a non-binding community-wide Ten-Year Network Development Plan on biennial basis; Winter and Summer Supply Outlooks; common network operation tools; recommendations relating to the coordination of technical cooperation between community and third-country-TSOs; annual work programmes and annual reports.