



NSI West Gas Regional Group meeting

2nd of March 2015, 10h00-16h30

The Commission updated on the process of evaluation, assessment and adoption of the second list of PCIs. The delegated act is expected to be adopted by the Commission end of November. The Commission also informed that the public consultation launched on 22nd of December 2014 will be extended until the 31st of March, in line with the request expressed by stakeholders at the 22nd of January cross regional groups meeting.

1. The TYNDP process (ENTSOG)

In the first part of its presentation, ENTSOG updated the Regional Group on the state of play of the TYNDP 2015. Following the request expressed in the previous cross-regional group meeting, ENTSOG provided examples of data that would be available for an assessment of PCI candidates. ENTSOG informed that the new TYNDP will be published by mid-March.

In the second part of the presentation, ENTSOG presented the summaries of comments made by the Members of the Regional Groups to the PS-CBA templates. ENTSOG also informed that:

- the final versions of the PS-CBA templates will be distributed (to the promoters) at the end of the first week or beginning of second week of March. (*The Financial Analysis and the Qualitative Analysis templates were sent on 12 March by the European Commission on behalf of ENTSOG*),
- the promoters will receive the CBA modelling results from ENTSOG on 27 March. Following the timeline set by Commission the promoters would have 3 weeks to finalise the CBA-PS and provide it to Commission.

Following the ENTSOG request, the Members of the RG expressed their opinion that project promoters should be allowed to decide whether to consider extraordinary maintenance as CAPEX or OPEX.

2. Project evaluation process and tools (JRC)

The Joint Research Centre (JRC) made a presentation on the updated methodology and presented an overview of the comments to the methodology submitted by the Members of the Regional Groups. The Members of the RG have been informed that:

- final comments to the methodology might be submitted to ENER-B1-Projects@ec.europa.eu by 9 March
- a new version of the methodology will be prepared and distributed by 16 March. This new version of the methodology will be presented and discussed at the next meeting of the RG.

The Members of the RG agreed that the modelling results prepared by ENTSOG will be provided to promoters on 27 March. They also agreed that these results should be made available by ENTSOG to JRC as soon as possible in March to further develop and carry out checks on the methodology. The decision of the NSI West Gas Regional Group is consistent with the decisions taken in other Regional Groups.

3. Project presentations & discussion on projects

Project promoters presented their PCI candidates for the 2nd Union List of PCIs. All projects have been presented except the LNG Terminal of Gioia Tauro and the Cornegliano UGS (a presentation of the Cornegliano UGS has been sent to the Commission on 5th of March).

The Commission recalled that two projects commissioned in 2015 will not be assessed. These two projects are the following: UGS Bordolano (UGS-F-259) and Support to the North West market (TRA-F-213).

The Commission informed that the Kinsale UGS project promoters informed the Commission about their wish to withdraw from the PCI evaluation process.

The Commission asked the Spanish Ministry to provide a substantiated reasoning for not supporting the UGS Bages. The substantiated reasoning was provided by the Spanish Ministry to the Commission on 4th of March.

The Commission informed about the deletion of group GR_7B_ West at the request of the Irish NRA, as expressed at the 22nd of January cross-regional groups meeting. The Irish NRA also asked that the Physical reverse flow at Moffat Interconnection Point (TRA-N-059) is taken out from the group GR_8 West. The Physical reverse flow at Moffat Interconnection Point (TRA-N-059) is assessed in GR_7A_West.

The grouping of the MIDCAT project remains to be further discussed.

Edison asked for the inclusions of a new group combining GR_1_West and GR_3_West to better capture some non-modelled benefits such as the gasification of islands. This request seems not to respond with the general EU policy objectives under the TEN-E Regulation.

4. Feedback from ACER/NRAs

Following a request of the Commission, ACER made a presentation outlining ACER's and NRAs' views on the cost allocation of 'enabler projects' and commissioning dates of projects. There was no extensive discussion on this point.

5. Next steps:

The Commission summarised key points of the meeting and informed that a next RG meeting would be held either between 18-20 or 30-31 March; *(the meeting will take place on 31st of March; an invitation has been sent out)*.