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Online trading of control energy

“GABi Gas Control Energy Initiative” discusses GASPOOL control energy portal

Berlin. Market area operator GASPOOL is actively promoting control energy trading. At a recent meeting of the control energy initiative “GABi Gas”, which is comprised of local and regional gas suppliers and gas traders, Ludger Hümbts and Jörg Kreher from GASPOOL in Berlin presented the online control energy portal “REPO”. “At the moment energy trading alone cannot provide the market area with sufficient control energy at all times, so our GASPOOL online portal for control energy offers a convenient solution”, GASPOOL Director Hümbts explains. “The new control energy portal puts the procurement of control energy on a broader footing. It is more flexible, faster and more transparent than the conventional bidding processes”, Jörg Kreher added. “GASPOOL has thus taken another step in the right direction. The portal gives all potential suppliers of control energy a place to offer their services”, Initiative advisor Olaf Däuper says happily. The “Initiative Regelenergie GABi Gas” is pushing for bidding process conditions to be standardized in all market areas and for the market to be opened to as many suppliers as possible, including the small suppliers, in order to ensure a transparent and flexible control energy market.

Since the launch of GASPOOL on 1 October, external control energy within the market area has been procured exclusively online. “Our control energy portal marks the first step towards mapping the actual shortages on the German natural gas market. Compared to the existing spot markets, the volumes physically traded on control energy markets are relatively large”, Hümbts explained. A large physical supply of gas for the markets like this is immensely important for the smooth running of spot and derivatives markets for natural gas. “The portal gives dealers up-to-the-minute information on actual shortages and allows a more precise estimation of risks”, Kreher continued. “This way we can increase gas trading even more.”

Although it is one of the largest markets in Europe, so far the German natural gas market has been geared primarily towards foreign spot

markets. “We are confident about the future development of trading based on the broad interest shown by our business partners and the offers submitted in the first few days”, those responsible at GASPOOL said inviting other traders to register with the online portal at www.gaspool.de.

“Initiative Regelenenergie GABi Gas” is an independent group of local and regional gas suppliers and gas traders, some of which have already established themselves on the market for external control energy either individually or together with other suppliers. The initiative has been examining the conditions in the individual market areas very closely since the launch of the control energy market for gas a year ago and represents the suppliers’ interests, in particular those of alternative suppliers, on the new market vis-à-vis the balancing group operators and regulatory authorities.

GASPOOL is a subsidiary of pipeline network operators DONG Energy Pipelines GmbH, Gasunie Deutschland Transport Services GmbH, ONTRAS – VNG Gastransport GmbH and WINGAS TRANSPORT GmbH & Co. KG and is based in Berlin. The purpose of the company is to operate a broad market area for H-gas in Germany. The former market areas H-Gas-Norddeutschland, ONTRAS and WINGAS TRANSPORT GASPOOL merged to form the GASPOOL market area on 1 October 2009. The integration of H-Gas Norddeutschland also brings StatoilHydro Deutschland GmbH into the market area cooperation. The new market area comprises almost 300 downstream natural gas transport networks.

More information at: www.gaspool.de

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Lawyers Becker Büttner Held (BBH)

The law firm BBH is a leading provider of consulting services for companies in the field of energy and infrastructure as well as their customers. The firm’s goal is not to find solutions to isolated legal questions but to determine the economic context and create long-term solutions for clients.

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