

Consultation

“Cost-Benefit-Analysis“

according to Art 38 Balancing Network Code

1. Legal Basis

By April 16th, 2014, the Commission Regulation (EU) 2014/312 of 26 March 2014 establishing a network code on Gas Balancing of Transmission Networks – better known as Balancing Network Code (“BAL NC”)¹ – entered into force.

The aim of the BAL NC is to reach an increasing competitiveness of a fully functioning and interconnected internal energy market, which contributes to ensuring the supply of affordable and sustainable energy to the Union's economy and ensuring that all consumers can purchase energy at the keenest prices. Therefore, the BAL NC provides, inter alia, requirements for information provision to implement a market-based balancing regime (see Whereas Clause 3 and Whereas Clause 8).

Art 38 BAL NC obliges Transmission Network Operators to assess the following costs and benefits including a breakdown of costs and benefits among the categories of affected parties:

- a) increasing the frequency of information provision to network users;
- b) reducing the related timelines of information provision;
- c) improving the accuracy of the information provided.

2. Considerations

GAS CONNECT AUSTRIA GmbH together with the second Austrian Transmission System Operator Trans Austria Gasleitungen GmbH raised all balancing data, which are provided to customers and prepared a questionnaire according to the above-mentioned necessary criteria. Those documents were coordinated with AGGM Austrian Gas Grid Management AG. The evaluation of the returned responses are the basis for the

¹ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32014R0312&qid=1506584402538&from=EN>.

consultation results. On this basis, the national regulatory authority shall decide on any relevant changes of information provision. The Transmission System Operators will therefor forward the results to the Regulatory Authority.

3. Subject of the Consultation

3.1 Scope

The subject of this consultation is the questionnaire, which has to be completed and returned to one of the Transmission System Operators (GAS CONNECT AUSTRIA GmbH or Trans Austria Gasleitungen GmbH) **until November 3rd, 2017 at the latest**. To facilitate the completion the questionnaire refers to the according slides in the presentation “CBA_2017”, with which the status quo in regards to the information provision was raised.

4. Consultation Period

This consultation is open to all market participants until **November 3rd, 2017** at the latest.

If you decide to return your response to GAS CONNECT AUSTRIA GmbH, we kindly ask you to send us only one joint consultation response per company in each case by letter or e-mail until November 3rd, 2017 at the latest to the following address:

GAS CONNECT AUSTRIA GmbH
"Cost-Benefit-Analysis"
attn.: Maria Schwarz
Floridsdorfer Hauptstraße 1
1210 Vienna

or via E-Mail: Consultation.Art38BALNC@gasconnect.at

Unfortunately, responses, which are not filed in due time – therefore until November 3rd, 2017 at the latest – cannot be considered.

After expiry of the consultation period the consultation responses received will be published accordingly for transparency reasons (if desired in anonymized form). In case a consultation response shall be treated confidential, we kindly ask you to state that expressly by answering question 2 accordingly.