South-North Corridor Gas Regional Investment Plan (SNC GRIP) 2019 / 2021 Update on the status





According to Article 7 of European Directive 2009/73 as further detailed by Article 12 of Regulation (EC) 715/2009, the ENTSOG Transmission System Operators (TSOs) agreed on launching six regional groupings according to geographical areas (Regions) identified by TSOs on the basis of current and future interconnections, operations and infrastructure development needs. The established regional cooperation forms include the publication of Gas Regional Investment Plans (GRIPs) for the different Regions, consistent with national investment plans and ENTSOG TYNDP.

In this context, the TSOs of the South-North Corridor (SNC) Region have promoted a regional cooperation within ENTSOG which determined the elaboration of three SNC GRIP editions published between 2012 and 2017 as well as the organisation of consultations and workshops to gather stakeholders' feedback.

The reports provided stakeholders with a focussed understanding of existing infrastructure and possible future market and projects developments within the Region, with particular attention to the evolutions of the so-called SNC Reverse Flow projects in Italy, Switzerland, Germany and France, to open up the South-North Corridor and make available new sources of gas to Europe as a whole.

Specifically, the last published edition included the progressive advancements of the Reverse Flow projects which have been finalised between 2015 and 2018, making possible the first gas flows between Italy and Switzerland already in March 2018.

The full initiatives commissioning by end of 2018, representing also a successful example of Projects of Common Interest - PCIs implementation, made available further reverse flows capacities exploited several times in the last two years, opening the possibility to transport significant volumes towards Northern Europe and strengthening the integration of the EU gas market.

Having in mind these substantial accomplishments and the fact that the major projects at the basis of the SNC GRIPs moved from a planning phase to a full commissioning stage, the regional TSOs confirm the findings of the previously <u>published plan</u>¹.

The regional TSOs will continue their close collaboration taking into account both actual and potential regional needs. By way of example but not limited to, future evolutions could stem from the need for projects enabling decarbonization and the EU climate targets' achievement.

The regional TSOs stay ready to develop future common initiatives particularly in relation to the evolution of the energy markets, including developments of new gases.

This SNC GRIP communication answers the request included in the ACER Opinion N° 02/2021 of 3 May 2021 on the ENTSOG draft TYNDP 2020², calling for a short update on the status of regional TSO cooperation.

¹ <u>https://www.entsog.eu/sites/default/files/entsog-migration/publications/GRIPs/2017/entsog_GRIP_SNC_2017_web.pdf</u>

² <u>https://www.acer.europa.eu/Official_documents/Acts_of_the_Agency/Opinions/Opinions/ACER%200pinion%2002-</u>

^{2021%20}on%20the%20ENTSOG%20draft%20Ten-Year%20Network%20Development%20Plan%202020.pdf (section 3.8 Gas Regional Investment Plans – pages 22-23)



Editorial notes

The South-North Corridor Region (SNC Region) is composed of six countries and ten TSOs:

> Countries: Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and Switzerland.

> TSOs: Fluxys Belgium (Belgium), GRTgaz (France), Fluxys Deutschland (Germany), Fluxys TENP (Germany), terranets bw (Germany), Open Grid Europe (Germany), Snam Rete Gas (Italy), Creos (Luxembourg), FluxSwiss (Switzerland) and Swissgas (Switzerland).

> South-North Corridor GRIP available at the following link: <u>https://www.entsog.eu/sites/default/files/entsog</u> migration/publications/GRIPs/2017/entsog_GRIP_SNC_2017_web.pdf