

9 July 2013

## **Refined draft Network Code Interoperability and Data Exchange Rules**

### **Stakeholder Support Process**

#### **Introduction**

This document explains the purpose of the Stakeholder Support Process (SSP) for the refined draft Network Code on Interoperability and Data Exchange Rules and the request for stakeholder engagement.

The formal SSP encouraging stakeholders to provide responses, in particular to the questions included in the on-line Stakeholder Support Questionnaire, will be open for 2 weeks starting on 9 July 2013. The Stakeholder Support Process Questionnaire should be completed and submitted online no later than by 17:00 UTC on 23 July 2013 (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BC6QN8L>).

#### **Purpose of the Stakeholder Support Process**

The SSP<sup>1</sup> gives stakeholders the opportunity to express their support of or disapproval with the refined draft Network Code Interoperability and Data Exchange Rules before ENTSOG's final internal approval and subsequent submission to the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER).

Indeed, as set out in ENTSOG's project plan for the Interoperability and Data Exchange Rules Network Code development process issued in September 2012, the SSP is designed to inform ENTSOG's decision-making process on the level of support from the stakeholders regarding the refined draft network code and therefore whether to recommend it for submission to ACER for its opinion.

ENTSOG also hopes that the SSP will help to continue the valuable dialogue with market participants regarding the overall Network Code development process. Respondents are encouraged to express their views regarding the process and ENTSOG will use these views to further refine the processes.

ENTSOG has developed the draft Network Code through a process of continuous consultation with stakeholders. It considers that the resulting document is robust and workable, taking due consideration of the Framework Guidelines and subsequent ACER and EC feedback.

Stakeholders are invited to state whether the rules set out in the refined draft Network Code, implemented in a harmonised way across the European Union, are considered to represent positive progress in facilitating the creation of the internal energy market.

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<sup>1</sup> ENTSOG is carrying out the Stakeholder Support process in line with articles 26(4) and 28(6) of its Rules of Procedure.

**Stakeholder engagement requested**

ENTSOG encourages stakeholders to participate in this process and to respond to the on-line Stakeholder Support Questionnaire, in order to ensure the widest possible representation from the market.

The response form includes questions, allowing stakeholders to indicate whether they support particular themed sections of the refined draft Network Code Interoperability and Data Exchange Rules. These sections are:

- Chapter I: General Provisions
- Chapter II: Interconnection Agreements
- Chapter III: Units
- Chapter IV: Gas Quality
- Chapter V: Odourization
- Chapter VI: Data Exchange
- Chapter VII: Dispute resolution
- Chapter VIII: Final provisions

There is space available for respondents to provide brief reasoning for their responses.

Finally, I would like to use this opportunity to thank all stakeholders that have been actively involved in the development of the refined draft Network Code on Interoperability and Data Exchange Rules. We believe that the work carried out and the results reached are a good contribution to the further integration of the European Union gas market.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "S. Kamphues".

Stephan Kamphues  
ENTSOG President