

Press Release

ACER and ENTSOG have assessed and closed issue on implementation of Virtual Interconnection Points for gas on the Gas Network Codes Functionality Platform

(Brussels, 28 August, PR0167-18) ACER and ENTSOG have assessed and closed the issue on implementation of Virtual Interconnection Points for gas on the Gas Network Codes Functionality Platform and published the related documents.

According to Article 19(9) of the EU Network Code on Capacity Allocation Mechanisms (CAM NC), Virtual Interconnection Points have to be established by 1 November 2018. Virtual Interconnection Points are several physical points grouped together to allow users to buy a single capacity service.

ACER and ENTSOG were notified of an issue in relation to the implementation of such Virtual Points on the Joint Functionality platform.

Transmission System Operators (TSOs) are planning to implement different models to deal with Virtual Interconnection Points. These models vary, in particular on how to deal with existing capacity contracts and their transfer to the Virtual Interconnection Points. Such a variety of implementation models is mainly due to differing legal interpretations of the Network Code.

At the Gas Committee meeting on 20 June 2018, ACER and ENTSOG proposed two options to the European Commission (EC). The aim was to create legal certainty and harmonised implementation across Europe. Both approaches foresaw an amendment of the CAM NC.

As a follow up, the EC addressed a letter to ACER and ENTSOG giving their interpretation of Article 19(9) CAM NC, stating that an amendment of the Article is not required to infer its meaning and ensure its correct implementation. The letter included EC's view that the transfer of contracted and available capacity to the Virtual Interconnection Point is implicitly required according to Article 19(9) CAM NC.

Find out more about the Gas Network Codes Functionality Platform and the issue [here](#).

The related documents are also available on the ENTSOG website, [here](#).

Should you require any further information please contact Ms Carmel Carey, Communication Adviser (+32 2 894 5136, ENTSOG.Communications@entsog.eu).

Editorial notes

- > ENTSOG was founded on 1 December 2009 in line with Regulation (EC) 715/2009. The current number of Members, Associated Partners and Observers can be found [at this link](#).
- > In line with Articles 6, 7 and 8 of the Regulation (EC) 715/2009, ENTSOG has the task of formulating network codes in a number of areas and of adopting various communications: a non-binding community-wide Ten-Year Network Development Plan on biennial basis; Winter and Summer Supply Outlooks; common network operation tools; recommendations relating to the coordination of technical cooperation between community and third-country-TSOs; annual work programmes and annual reports.