

Minutes of the 38th ECRB Gas Working Group Meeting

Thursday, 9 February 2017, 10:00 – 16:30,
Energy Community Secretariat, Am Hof 4, 5th floor, 1010 Vienna

1. Opening and Agenda of the 38th ECRB GWG meeting

Related document: Draft agenda of the 38th GWG meeting

Discussion: Ms. Elena Stratulat welcomed the meeting participants and introduced herself as the new ECRB Gas Working Group Chair for the period 2017-2018. Regarding the meeting agenda, she proposed to include discussion on the Work Program 2017 under Any Other Business. The participants agreed with the proposed amendment and approved the agenda.

Conclusions: The agenda has been approved with abovementioned amendment.

2. Minutes of the 37th ECRB GWG meeting

Related document: Draft minutes of the 37th GWG meeting

Discussion: Ms. Stratulat invited participants to provide comments on the draft minutes of the previous GWG meeting.

Conclusions: The minutes have been approved without changes.

3. Designation of a Deputy Chair

Related document: -

Discussion: Ms. Stratulat reminded participants that, as prescribed by the ECRB Internal Rules of Procedure, the working group should appoint a Deputy Chair for the next period, and invited them to provide nominations. Ms. Tetiana Kryvonoh (NEURC, Ukraine) stated that she would be willing to prolong her position of Deputy Chair for the next period. The Chairwoman welcomed the application of Ms. Kryvonoh and invited participant to agree with the nomination. The participants unanimously agreed with the proposal.

Conclusions/Action points: GWG members appointed Ms. Tetiana Kryvonoh as the GWG Deputy Chair.

4. Update on national developments

Related document: -

Discussion: the following updates were provided:

HERA: new tariffs for distribution introduced as of January 2017.

AERS: new distribution tariff methodology approved; Yugorosgaz preliminary and conditionally certified as TSO by the NRA.

AEEGSI: implementation of Network Codes ongoing.

ANRE: 3 new regulations prepared: on access to networks, on investments and on public procurement.

NEURC: Law on NRA came into force; kWh as unit introduced instead of m³; discussions on introducing daily balancing ongoing.

ERC: market rules being amended as to include missing capacity allocation and balancing related rules; entry-exit tariff methodology under preparation.

ERE: working on compliance program of the transmission system operator for natural gas (Albgas), contract on the provision of services of the compliance officer as well as on guidelines on criteria for determination of access to natural gas storage facilities; TAP Network Code under preparation with IT and GR NRAs; preparation for the start of certification Albgas Albania; other secondary legislation acts.

ERO: Rulebook on authorization procedure for construction of new infrastructure under preparation; Energy Strategy to be approved soon.

GNERC: working on new gas law; parts of network code related to connection and metering under development.

E-Control: new 4- years regulatory period for transmission tariffs started as of January 2017; bundling of cross-border capacity AT-IT; market integration process RO-HU-AT under preparation; wholesale market study to be finalized soon, presentation in March.

Conclusions/Action points: for information

5. Report 35th ECRB

Related document: -

Discussion: Mrs. Marsenic informed participants that:

- ECRB approved two GWG deliverables, namely: a report on compliance with the requirements of the gas interoperability Network Code; and a report on treatment of distribution losses.
- Mr. Vistica announced that his GWG chairmanship ceased end of 2016 and thanked ECRB and the GWG members for the fruitful cooperation. ECRB thanked Mr. Vistica for his contribution to the work of the ECRB.
- ECRB elected WG Chairs for 2017-2018:

1. Customer and Retail Markets Working Group: Mr. Edin Zametica
2. Electricity Working Group: Mr. Nenad Stefanovic
3. Gas Working Group: Ms. Elena Stratulat

Conclusions/Action points: for information

6. Update on recent gas related Energy Community developments

Related document: -

Discussion: Mrs. Marsenic informed participants that:

- Implementation of EU Network Codes: 5 neighboring EU MSs (Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Romania and Poland) signed the declaration on implementation of Network Codes on IPs with EnC CPs; currently discussions with the European Commission on proposing Network Codes to the PHLG.
- Changes to the Energy Community Treaty discussed in the last PHLG meeting, to be continued in 2017.
- The Secretariat received application for an opinion on preliminary certification of Serbian gas TSO Yugorosgaz by AERS end December 2016, deadline for providing opinion is 4 months.

Conclusions: for information only

7. TF 1 – Gas Transmission Tariffs

Related document: presentations ENTSO, E-Control, CRE

Discussion: TF1 Co- Leader, Mr. Ischia, provided the background of the future work on transmission tariffs and invited representatives of ENTSO, E-Control and CRE to present the Tariff Network Code and its impact on tariffs in Austria and France. The following presentations were provided:

- Tariff NC overview, by E-Controls and CRE
- Main tasks for implementation of tariff NC, by ENTSO
- Tariff NC implementation- Austrian case, by E-Control
- French transmission tariffs, by CRE
- Capacity weighted distance- case study, by E-Control

Mr. Ischia informed participants about the next steps: draft questionnaire shall be sent to the GWG for comments end February- beginning of March; finalized questionnaire will be presented in the next GWG and ACER GRI SSE RCC meeting; data collection will be done afterwards.

Conclusions/Action points:

- TF Co- Leaders to prepare draft questionnaire by end February- beginning of March;
- ECRB Section to circulate draft questionnaire to GWG for comments;
- GWG members to provide comments in the defined deadline;
- TF Co- Leaders to present final questionnaire in the next GWG and GRI SSE RCC meeting.

8. TF2 – Regulatory treatment of network losses

Related document: -

Discussion: TF2 Leader, Mrs. Tubin, explained the idea behind the task force (ref. ECRB WP 2017) and provided brief information on envisaged activities i.e. inviting representatives of EU NRAs with experience in implementing incentive measures for network losses to the next GWG meetings.

Conclusions/Action points:

- TF Leader and ECRB Section to identify and invite relevant NRA(s) to the next GWG meeting.

9. Regulatory duties in context with implementation of Regulation 347/2013

Related document: presentations by the Energy Community Secretariat

Discussion: The Chairwoman invited Mr. Nenad Šijaković and Mr. Adam Balogh, infrastructure experts at the EnC Secretariat, to provide a presentation on the regulatory duties in context with implementation of infrastructure Regulation 347/2013 (ref. presentations).

Conclusions/Action points: Presentations of Mr. Balogh and Mr. Šijaković to be made available in the GWG members' area on the Energy Community website.

10. Gas Forum 2017

Related documents: -

Discussion: Mrs. Marsenic invited participants to provide proposals for the topics to be included in the agenda of the EnC Gas Forum 2017. Mr. Cioffo stated that draft results of the TF1 should be presented to the Gas Forum.

Conclusions/Action points: Secretariat to consider request inclusion of TF1 results in the agenda of the EnC Gas Forum.

11. AOB

Related document: -

Discussion: Ms. Stratulat proposed to include an additional topic in the WP 2017 related to monitoring of the outsourced activities by the regulated companies in the natural gas sector. However the meeting participants pointed out that their regulatory authorities did not have such a role and therefore could not provide input to the proposed task. Mr. Krug stated that E-Control determined a list of core TSO activities in the certification decision.

Mrs. Marsenic informed participants that the Administrative Agreement between ACER and the EnC Secretariat (ref. https://www.energy-community.org/portal/page/portal/ENC_HOME/DOCS/4462404/44185CEA79367BE3E053C92FA8C00A2C.pdf) was concluded, whereby one element of this agreement is that ACER Market Monitoring activity will include the EnC Contracting Parties. So far only inclusion of Ukraine data for gas wholesale part is confirmed. She also added that EnC Secretariat was waiting for final reply of ACER on the scope of the report. Ms. Stratulat proposed establishment of a new GWG task force on market monitoring that would become active in case ACER included only Ukraine in its scope for market monitoring. Mr. Pirveli and Ms. Kryvonoh expressed their readiness to take over the role of TF Co- Leaders in that case.

Conclusions/Action points: GWG agreed to include CP gas wholesale market monitoring in its 2017 activities: (a) subject to final information by ACER that this area will not be covered in its 2017 ACER Market Monitoring Report; in this context GWG invited the EnC Secretariat to inform on related ACER feedback-decision; and (b) subject to approval of the related GWG activities at the April 2017 ECRB meeting.

12. Next meeting

Next meeting will be organized end May 2017, back to back with the ACER GRI SSE SG and RCC meeting; final date is to be decided in cooperation with GRI SSE Co- Chairs and ACER.

Annex I- List of participants

Surname	Name	Institution
Stratulat	Elena	ANRE- GWG Chair
Balogh	Adam	ECS
Cioffo	Vincenzo	AEEGSI
Dimoska- Isajlovska	Julijana	ERC
Ischia	Alessandro	E-Control
Kinsella	Sean	ENTSOG
Krug	Markus	E-Control
Kryvonoh	Tetiana	NEURC
Leveille	Francois	CRE
Marsenic Maksimovic	Branislava	ECS
Martens	Andreas	ENTSOG
Oschchepkova	Irina	ENTSOG
Percebois	Laurent	ENTSOG
Pirveli	Ivane	GNERC
Popadic	Aleksandar	AERS
Saraqini	Astrit	ERO
Sijakovic	Nenad	ECS
Shuli	Maksim	ERE
Tubin- Mitrovic	Branka	AERS
Uftring	Felix	ENTSOG
Vistica	Nikola	HERA