

2nd Security of Supply Coordination Group - Gas Subgroup meeting

Energy Community Secretariat, Vienna: Am Hof 4, 5th Floor

Thursday, 27 February 2014, 09:00 – 16:00

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The meeting was attended by representatives of all Contracting Parties (CPs), excluding Ukraine, representatives of the Observers (Georgia, Turkey), the Participants (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Poland, the United Kingdom), the European Commission/DG Energy (Chair), as well as representatives of the Energy Community Secretariat (ECS).
- 1.2. The Chair of the Group welcomed all participants and presented the meeting's draft Agenda. The Secretariat briefed the Group on the follow up from the Group's last meeting and presented the tasks of the Group for 2014. The Group adopted the meeting's Agenda without changes, as presented by the Chair.

2. Security of Supply update

- 2.1. The Contracting Parties informed the Group on the progress made in between the meetings of the Group on the Security of supply measures. The Group recalled Albania and Montenegro of their obligations to send updated Security of Supply Statements to the Secretariats at earliest convenience. All Contracting Parties were invited to update a gas part of the Security of Supply Statement this year, by the next meeting.
- 2.2. Serbia presented its security of supply policy and legal framework, and highlighted its gas supply situation in the winter 2013/2014.
- 2.3. The Secretariat presented the overview of public service obligations related to security of gas supply in the Energy Community, based upon the submitted Security of Supply Statements. It underlined that the Statements provided only very general references to PSOs as such and invited the Contracting Parties to identify these obligations and communicate them to the Secretariat.

3. Infrastructure projects

- 3.1. The Secretariat briefed the Group on the work in the Energy Community related to infrastructure projects, which might have an impact on the security of supply, if constructed. The Projects of Energy Community Interest, as adopted by the Ministerial Council in October last year, were assessed according to the similar methodology like in EU, which means that contributing to security of supply was one of the important criteria. A progress in the studies financed from the EU funds (Interconnector Bulgaria – Serbia, Ionian-Adriatic Pipeline, South Interconnection Croatia – Bosnia and Herzegovina, LNG Krk, Gas to Power Study) was also reported. The Contracting Parties and the Participants informed on the progress materialised from their side in these projects.

4. Regulation 994/2010

- 4.1. The Group discussed in great detail options how to incorporate the main elements of Regulation 994/2010 in the Energy Community framework. Discussion took place for each presented element. The Chair introduced the respective part of the Regulation, transferring the experience from the EU Member States. The Secretariat presented an overview of the status quo of the respective provisions of Regulation 994/2010 (and of Directive 2004/67/EC if there are related comparable provisions) and the Contracting Parties and the Observers complement the Secretariat's overview with additional data and evaluated the necessity of these elements.
- 4.2. The Group requested from the Secretariat to draft a proposal for the Regulation's adaptation based on the discussion and to communicate such a proposal to the Group and to the PHLG members in the course of next week. The Group members are requested to send their comments to the Regulation adaptation's proposal to a respective PHLG member and to the Secretariat in order to have a meaningful discussion at the PHLG meeting on 19 March. Any further upgraded proposals after passing the discussion at the PHLG shall be communicated to the Group members in due time. The Group supports the initiative to have a final proposal for the adoption of the adapted Regulation in the Ministerial Council meeting in 2014.
- 4.3. Next meeting of the Security of Supply Coordination Group – Gas Subgroup is planned for 7 October 2014