

EREGEG Gas Focus Group/Storage TF

Guidelines for Good Practice for Gas Storage System Operators (GGPSSO)

Questionnaire for National Regulatory Authorities

Introduction

The objective of this questionnaire is to collect information from national regulatory authorities (NRAs) to assist in monitoring the implementation of the GGPSSO as requested by the European Commission.

The questionnaire for NRAs will be particularly helpful in:

- understanding if certain requirements of the GGPSSO, where the relevant national regulatory authority (RNRA) is involved are implemented;
- complementing the information received from SSO thanks to the SSO questionnaire;
- identifying areas where implementation of the GGPSSO is lagging behind because of inadequate institutional arrangements;
- putting forward proposals to review some requirements of the GGPSSO, if and where there is room for improvement.

The objective of this questionnaire is NOT to duplicate the information collected from SSOs, as national regulatory authorities are also asked to review the answers for their questionnaire (questionnaire for SSOs).

Where no answer can be provided for a particular question, you are asked to indicate the reason (e.g. NRA or RNRA not competent according to national legislation).

The deadline for completion of the questionnaire is **30 May 2005**.

EREGEG intends to publish an initial report on the implementation of the GGPSSO in September 2005 and it expects to present these findings at the next Madrid Forum. The views of storage users will be particularly important in assessing implementation

– therefore ERGEG intends to issue a final report on implementation after it has an opportunity to consider responses to its initial report.

To help ensure transparency, responses –as well as other documents associated with monitoring the GGPSSO- will normally be published on the ERGEG website.

Given that ERGEG's initial report will be published in September, we request that NRAs provide an addendum to their original submission if there are significant changes to the information that they provide, between 30 May and the beginning of September (1 September). This will ensure that the report is as up to date as possible.

Any question on this questionnaire should be directed in the first instance to:

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Questionnaire

1 General

1.1 Name of National Regulatory Authority: **CREG**

1.2 Is TPA to storage implemented in your country and how:

(a) national legislation passed before the Directive 2003/55/EC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) article 19 of the Gas directive transposed into national law	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) TPA implemented by SSOs, in the absence of a national legal framework	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d) no TPA	<input type="checkbox"/>

1.3 Does your National Regulatory Authority (NRA) regulate:

(a) tariffs for TPA to storage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) terms and conditions for TPA to storage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(c) other (<i>please provide comments below</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes:	

1.4 Please provide a list of any other Relevant National Regulatory Authorities (RNRA) involved in regulation of TPA to storage (e.g. Ministry)

answer: The CREG is competent in all domains which concern the implementation of the GGPSSO; however, according to the latest modifications to the Gas Act, to be implemented in the coming months, other authorities will (after 1 april 2005) become involved in the regulation of storage, e.g. the "Commission Bancaire, Financière et des Assurances" (financial markets authority) concerning the independence of the directors of the SSO; the Ministry for Energy concerning security of supply and investment planning; and the Government concerning the granting of exemptions to new infrastructure projects.

1.5 Please specify who is the authority legally competent for dispute settlement with respect to the issues mentioned in article 19 of the gas Directive:

(a) your regulatory authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) another RNRA (<i>please specify below</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes:	
(c) NRA or RNRA not competent according to national legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>

2 Scope and objective of the GGPSSO

2.1 Are you aware of any conflicts between the requirements of the GGPSSO and national legislation (GGPSSO Scope and Objective)?

answer:	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes: CREG is not aware of any conflict, with the exception of some timing issues, where the deadline imposed by the GGPSSO is shorter than the deadline imposed by national legislation.	

2.2 If the answer is “yes”, please provide details on (GGPSSO Scope and Objective):

(a) the exact nature and extent of the conflict	
(b) whether you have been notified	
(c) whether another RNRA has been notified (please specify which)	
(d) if notification has been made public	

2.3 Did you require the SSO(s) to demonstrate that it (they) meet(s) the requirements of the GGPSSO (GGPSSO Scope and Objective)?

answer:	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes: No	

2.4 If “no”, is it because:

(a) it has already been required by another RNRA (<i>please specify below</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes:	
(b) your NRA is not competent to require that, according to national legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) other (<i>please specify below</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes: No specific demonstration is necessary as the remit of the CREG includes continuous monitoring of the SSO performances	

3 Roles and responsibilities of Storage System Operators

3.1 If a SSO in your country is part of a vertically integrated company:

(a) did you require that the SSO(s) make available a document setting out all the terms and conditions relating to storage use by the affiliate company (GGPSSO 1.3):	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes: No	

3.2 If “no”, is it because:

(a) it has already been required by another RNRA (<i>please specify below</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes:	
(b) your NRA is not competent to require that, according to national legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) other (<i>please specify below</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes: terms and conditions for access to storage are subject to approval by the CREG and applicable to all storage system users	

3.3 Are standard storage contracts or the storage code approved or monitored by (GGPSSO 1.2.b):

(a) your regulatory authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) another RNRA (<i>please specify below</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes:	

(c) no approval or monitoring (i.e. NRA or RNRA not competent according to national legislation)	<input type="checkbox"/>
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4 Necessary TPA services

4.1 Is any exclusion of storage capacity from TPA approved or monitored by (GGPSSO 3.1):

(a) your regulatory authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) another RNRA (<i>please specify below</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes:	
(c) no approval or monitoring (i.e. NRA or RNRA not competent according to national legislation)	<input type="checkbox"/>

4.2 Are the rules for excluding some storage capacity from TPA – and substantiated reasons – public (GGPSSO 3.1)?

answer:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
notes: The rules are described in the "main conditions" of the SSO (published on his website), and the calculations made according to those rules are transparent to the CREG	

4.3 Please indicate if, according to national legislation, Public Service Obligations (PSO) in your country are placed on (relating to GGPSSO 3.2):

(a) the SSO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) the shippers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(c) no party responsible for PSO according to national legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d) other (<i>please specify below</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes: The SSO must grant priority access rights to suppliers of specific categories of end-customers; operational rules of the SSO oblige the storage users to maintain minimal levels of inventory (gas in storage) during the winter period.	

4.4 Did you require that, if a party is responsible for PSOs, it shall demonstrate that their requested capacity reservation is no more than what is required to satisfy the relevant PSOs (GGPSSO 3.2)?

answer:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
notes:	

4.5 If “no”, is it because:

(a) it has already been required by another RNRA (<i>please specify below</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes:	
(b) your NRA is not competent to require that, according to national legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) no party responsible for PSO according to national legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d) other (<i>please specify below</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes:	

4.6 Where some services have not been introduced, because of substantial IT development, was the decision monitored by:

(a) your regulatory authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) another RNRA (<i>please specify below</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes:	
(c) not monitored (i.e. up to the SSO) (i.e. NRA or RNRA not competent according to national legislation)	<input type="checkbox"/>

5 Storage capacity allocation and congestion management

5.1 Storage capacity allocation is regulated by:

(a) your regulatory authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) another RNRA (<i>please specify below</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes:	
(c) not regulated	<input type="checkbox"/>

5.2 Storage capacity allocation is monitored by:

(a) your regulatory authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) another RNRA (<i>please specify below</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes:	
(c) not monitored (i.e. NRA or RNRA not competent according to national legislation)	<input type="checkbox"/>

5.3 Is your national regulatory authority – or another RNRA (*please specify below*) – involved in designing, applying or monitoring congestion management mechanisms

answer:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
notes: The congestion management rules are subject to approval by the CREG	

6 Confidentiality requirements

6.1 Are confidentiality requirements of the GGPSSO (i.e. confidentiality of commercially sensitive information from storage users' accounts, no information available to the SSO concerning its storage business shall be passed to other parts of any of the company in advance of being provided to all market participants) monitored by:

(a) your regulatory authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) another RNRA (<i>please specify below</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes:	
(c) not monitored (i.e. NRA or RNRA not competent according to national legislation)	<input type="checkbox"/>

7 Transparency requirements

7.1 When some information is not published (aggregate use of storage, because some users fear it would harm their commercial interest), interested parties may require that the decision not to publish is reviewed by (GGPSSO 6.2):

(a) your regulatory authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) another RNRA (<i>please specify below</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes:	
(c) no specific legal framework for such requests	<input type="checkbox"/>

7.2 Where the SSO has not published specific data (e.g. for reasons of cost, to avoid any potential market abuse or to avoid any significant harm to their commercial interest), did the SSO notify (GGPSSO 6.3)

(a) your regulatory authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) another RNRA (<i>please specify below</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes:	
(c) no notification	<input type="checkbox"/>

8 Tariff structure and derivation

8.1 Where regulated, tariffs for access to storage facilities, both in the case of direct access to a specific storage site and access to a group of storage sites are:

(a) set or approved by your regulatory authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) set or approved by another RNRA (<i>please specify below</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
notes:	