

ERGEG Gas Focus Group/Storage TF

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

Questionnaire for SSOs

Introduction

The objective of this questionnaire is to collect information from SSOs to assist in monitoring the implementation of the GGPSSO as requested by the European Commission.

The GGPSSO set out the minimum requirements for the provision of fair and non-discriminatory access to gas storage (in accordance to the Gas Directive¹). Monitoring implementation of the GGPSSO is therefore important in understanding how access to gas storage is being provided.

Not all requirements under the GGPSSO are due to be implemented from 1 April 2005 – however it will be important to understand what progress SSOs are making towards implementing these later requirements.

The deadline for the completion of the questionnaire is 20 June 2005.

If there are late or incomplete submissions after date they will be considered as "nil" returns. SSOs are required to indicate the date from which GGPSSO requirements were met –particularly where this after 1 April 2005.

In order to ensure that all interested parties are consulted, ERGEG will also send out questionnaires to national regulatory authorities and storage users. The view of storage users will be particularly important in assessing implementation of the GGPSSO.

¹ Directive 2003/55/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning common rules for the internal market in natural gas and repealing Directive 98/30/EC



ERGEG 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. 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 to the questionnaire and other documents associated with the GGPSSO will be published on the ERGEG website. Any requests to keep information confidential will be considered in accordance with the relevant section of the GGPSSO that deals with the publication of the information. If you want any information to be treated as confidential this should be objectively justified and outlined clearly – taking into account the requirements of the GGPSSO. Any information that is to be treated as confidential should be placed in a separate appendix.

Please note that in order to allow for maximum common understanding of data, the answers provided by SSOs will be reviewed by the national regulatory authority.

Given that ERGEG's initial report will be published in September, we request that SSOs provide an addendum to their original submission if there are significant changes to the information that they provide, between 20 June and the beginning of September (1 September). This will ensure that the report is as up to date as possible and avoid misrepresenting the position of the SSOs.

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

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Questionnaire

General

l	Business name of respondent: VNG - Verbundnetz Gas AG		*	Formatiert: Nummerierung und Aufzählungszeichen
2	Is access to your storage system provided:			
	(a) on a regulated basis			
	(b) on a negotiated basis	\boxtimes		
	(c) both (please provide comments below)			
	notes:			
3	Is access provided:			
	(a) to a given storage facility	\boxtimes	7	
	(b) to a group of storage facilities in the same balancing zone			
	(c) other (please provide comments below)			
<u>if yo</u>	notes: ou answer that access is provided to a given storage facility/to a group of storage, please following answers will be interpreted accordingly If access to storage is not provided to individual storage facilities, please provided many groups how many sites within group) and specify how this is arranged:	_	w	
	ou answer that access is provided to a given storage facility/to a group of storage, please following answers will be interpreted accordingly	_	w	
	ou answer that access is provided to a given storage facility/to a group of storage, please following answers will be interpreted accordingly If access to storage is not provided to individual storage facilities, please provided many groups, how many sites within group) and specify how this is arranged:	_	w	
1	ou answer that access is provided to a given storage facility/to a group of storage, please following answers will be interpreted accordingly If access to storage is not provided to individual storage facilities, please provid many groups, how many sites within group) and specify how this is arranged: answer: n/a	_	w 	
1	ou answer that access is provided to a given storage facility/to a group of storage, please following answers will be interpreted accordingly If access to storage is not provided to individual storage facilities, please provid many groups, how many sites within group) and specify how this is arranged: answer: n/a How many system users own capacity rights (date of reference: 1 April 2005)?	_	N	
1 5	ou answer that access is provided to a given storage facility/to a group of storage, please following answers will be interpreted accordingly If access to storage is not provided to individual storage facilities, please provid many groups, how many sites within group) and specify how this is arranged: answer: n/a How many system users own capacity rights (date of reference: 1 April 2005)? answer: 1	_	w	



2.2

ERGEG - Questionnaire SSO

2 Roles and responsibilities of Storage System Operators

Please specify if you are (GGPSSO 1.1): (a) a separate entity (i.e. ownership unbundling) (b) a separate entity (i.e. legal unbundling) (c) part of a "combined operator" (i.e. combined transmission, LNG, storage and distribution storage operator, legally unbundled from other activities not relating to transmission, LNG, storage and distribution system operations) (d) part of a vertically integrated company (i.e. unbundling of accounts) \boxtimes In the case of a SSO being part of a vertically integrated company: please provide details on the ownership structure. If an ownership diagram is available, please attach it to the completed questionnaire. details: please note attachement - structure of shareholders (b) please specify if you have drawn up a document setting out all the terms and \boxtimes conditions relating to storage use by the affiliate company (GGPSSO 1.3).

Please specify if you (GGPSSO 1.2.b): 2.3

(a)	have developed and use standard storage contracts	\boxtimes
(b)	have developed and use a storage code (approved by national relevant regulatory authority)	
(c)	consulted users in developing the standard storage contracts or the storage code	\boxtimes

Please provide details on how the consultation process for developing standard storage contracts/storage code was conducted (relating to GGPSSO 1.2.b) 2.4

(a)	bilateral contacts with some users	\boxtimes
(b)	bilateral contacts with all users and some prospects	\boxtimes
(c)	open consultation process, with some sort of public announcement (e.g. on company website, by press, at a conference)	
(d)	consultation process supervised by relevant national regulatory authority	
(e)	other (please specify below)	
	notes:	





3.3

3.4

3 Necessary TPA services

3.1 Please provide the following data in normalised cubic meters (date of reference: 1 April 2005) (GGPSSO 3.1)

		Space	Injecta	bility	Deliverability
(a)	technical capacity	2282 Mio. m³	1174 T	m³/h	2861 Tm³/h
(b)	available capacity	337 Mio. m³	246 Tı	m³/h	1279 Tm³/h
(c)	contracted or held capacity	1945 Mio. m³	928 Tı	m³∕h	1582 Tm³/h
(d)	any storage capacity not available to TPA on the grounds of article 2(9) of the Gas Directive, with substantiated reasons ²				
	notes:				
(e)	any other capacity excluded from TPA – other than the portion used for production operations and facilities reserved exclusively for the TSO				
	notes: the storage facility Burggraf-Bernsdorf belongs to exclusively reserved for TSO operations	Ontras (TSO) sir	nce 1Jan	uary 2	2006 and is
	,				
	ase indicate if Public Service Obligations (PSO) in PSSO 3.2, 3.5, 3.6-3-15): the SSO	your country a	are place	ed or	relating to
GGF	ase indicate if Public Service Obligations (PSO) in PSSO 3.2, 3.5, 3.6-3-15): the SSO	your country a	are place	ed or	
GGF (a)	ase indicate if Public Service Obligations (PSO) in PSSO 3.2, 3.5, 3.6-3-15):	your country a	are place	ed or	
(a) (b) (c)	ase indicate if Public Service Obligations (PSO) in PSSO 3.2, 3.5, 3.6-3-15): the SSO the shippers	your country a	are place	ed or	
(a) (b) (c)	ase indicate if Public Service Obligations (PSO) in PSSO 3.2, 3.5, 3.6-3-15): the SSO the shippers no PSO	your country a	are place	ed or	
(a) (b) (c) (d)	the SSO the shippers no PSO other	your country a	are place	ed or	
(a) (b) (c) (d)	ase indicate if Public Service Obligations (PSO) in PSSO 3.2, 3.5, 3.6-3-15): the SSO the shippers no PSO other notes:			ed or	
(a) (b) (c) (d) (d) (a)	ase indicate if Public Service Obligations (PSO) in PSSO 3.2, 3.5, 3.6-3-15): the SSO the shippers no PSO other notes: acity for Public Service Obligations (hereafter PSO):	A basis? (GGPS:	SO 3.2)		
(a) (b) (c) (d) (d) (a)	the SSO the shippers no PSO other notes: acity for Public Service Obligations (PSO) in PSO is storage capacity needed for any PSO offered on a TP/	A basis? (GGPS:	SO 3.2)		
(a) (b) (c) (d) Cap (a)	ase indicate if Public Service Obligations (PSO) in PSSO 3.2, 3.5, 3.6-3-15): the SSO the shippers no PSO other notes: acity for Public Service Obligations (hereafter PSO): is storage capacity needed for any PSO offered on a TP/ ny capacity needed for any PSO is NOT offered on a TP/	A basis? (GGPS:	SO 3.2)		

² Storage facility means a facility used for the stocking of natural gas and owned and/or operated by a natural gas undertaking, including the part of LNG facilities used for storage but excluding the portion used for production operations, and excluding facilities reserved exclusively for transmission system operators in carrying out their functions



Please provide the following data in normalised cubic meters for PSO, where NOT offered on a TPA 3.5 basis (date of reference: 1 April 2005) Space Injectability Deliverability (a) normalised cubic meters n/a n/a n/a Do you offer the following services on the primary market (GGPSSO 3.3, 3.5, 3.7): 3.6 (a) bundled services (SBU) of space and injectability/deliverability \boxtimes a service which includes an obligation for the SSO to allocate the gas which has \boxtimes injection and withdrawal are possible at any time \boxtimes notes: 3.7 Are the following services separately charged (GGPSSO 3.3., 3.5, 3.7)? a service which includes an obligation for the SSO to allocate the gas which has been nominated (b) injection and withdrawal are possible at any time notes: 3.8 Where some services have NOT been introduced, please state why (GGPSSO 3.4.b, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7): Obligation for the SSO to allocate according to nominations consistent with the use of the interconnected gas transmission system not compatible with the balancing regime of the interconnected gas (b) transportation system Injection and withdrawal possible at any time (c) storage technical constraints (d) economically use of the storage infrastructure consistent with the use of the interconnected gas transmission system (e) not consistent with PSOs (f) 3.9 If any of these services (please specify) has not been introduced for any other reason, please explain why explanation: 3.10 Where there are limitations on the offer of services on the ground of either storage technical constraints or the economically efficient use of the storage infrastructure:

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reasons for limitations: minimum flow of measurement equipment (in connection with a separate TSO

was it made public and substantiated (GGPSSO 3.4.b)?

agreement this can be solved)



	account market demand. If "yes", please provide details on how the consult ducted (GGPSSO 3.4.a)	ation process wa
(a)	bilateral contacts with some users	\boxtimes
(b)	bilateral contacts with all users and some prospects	\boxtimes
(c)	open consultation process, with some sort of public announcement (e.g. on company website, by press, at a conference)	
(d)	consultation process supervised by relevant national regulatory authority	

3.11 Please indicate if services offered have been developed with consultation of storage users to take

3.12 Please specify the minimum size for each service (GGPSSO 3.8)

(e) other (please specify below)

details on consultation process:

		Space	Injectability	Deliverability
(a)	bundled services (SBU) of space and injectability/deliverability	n/a	n/a	18 Bd
(b)	injection and withdrawal are possible at any time	n/a	100 Tm³/h	30 Tm³/h

3.13 Are storage users allowed to pool their nominations with a view to overcome potential capacity thresholds (GGPSSO 3.8)?

answer:	
notes:	

3.14 Please specify the maximum duration for each service offered by your SSO (GGPSSO 3.3.c)

(a)	bundled services (SBU) of space and injectability/deliverability	> 10 years
(b)	other services	> 10 years
	notes:	

3.15 Please specify if you have developed information systems and electronic communications to provide adequate data to storage users and to simplify transactions such as:

	Email	Internet	Other
(a) nominations	\boxtimes		\boxtimes
(b) capacity bookings	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes
(c) transfers of capacity rights between storage users		\boxtimes	
(d) other			

- 4 Storage capacity allocation and congestion management
- 4.1 What kind of capacity allocation mechanism do you apply (several answers possible, if mechanism applied different, depending on the storage facility/group of storage facilities)? (GGPSSO 4.1)

(a)	market-based (e.g. auctions)	
(b)	first come first served	
(c)	capacity follows the customer	
(d)	other (please specify below)	
	notes: first committed first served	

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7/14



s the capacity allocation mechanism designed:	
(a) by the SSO	
(b) by national legislation	
(c) other (please specify below)	
notes:	
Have these mechanisms and procedures been subject to consultation with the lease provide details on how the consultation process was conducted (G	
(a) bilateral contacts with some users	
(b) bilateral contacts with all users and some prospects	
(c) open consultation process, with some sort of public announcement (e.g. o company website, by press, at a conference)	n 🖂
(d) consultation process supervised by relevant national authority	
(e) other (please specify below)	
notes:	
n case of congestion, what kind of solution do you apply or plan to apply	(GGPSSO 4.2)
(a) market based (e.g. auctions)	
(b) pro rata	
(c) other (please specify below)	
notes:	
s the congestion management mechanism designed:	
(a) by the SSO	\boxtimes
(b) by national legislation	
(c) other (please specify below)	
notes:	
The congestion management mechanism:	
(a) has it ever been used?	
notes:	· ·
Jnused capacity (e.g. day-ahead release of non-nominated injecta GGPSSO 4.4): (a) do you offer all unused capacity on an interruptible basis?	bility and deliverabil
notes:	I
Oo you use other means to discourage hoarding and facilitate re-utilisa	tion and trade of stora
capacity? Please specify the nature of these arrangements	
answer:	



5 Confidentiality requirements

5.1 Please indicate if you (GGPSSO 5.1.a-c):

(a)	keep databases related to storage operations separate	\boxtimes
(b)	develop new IT systems for the storage business separately (when new IT systems are being developed in vertically integrated undertakings)	
(c)	ensure that no information available to the SSO concerning its storage business is passed to any other part of any affiliate of the company in advance of being provided to all market participants	
(d)	have drafted a code of conduct	
(e)	have implemented a compliance programme, supervised by a Compliance Officer	\boxtimes

5.2 If these measures have been monitored or supervised externally, please specify by whom (relating to 5.1.a-c)?

(a)	national regulatory authority	
(b)	another relevant national regulatory authority (please specify)	
(c)	external audit	\boxtimes
(d)	other (please specify below)	
	notes:	

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5.3	Are the SSO ar	nd the supply	business	located in	separate	buildinas	(GGPSSO	5.1.d)	~

answer:	
answer.	



6 Transparency requirements

6.1 Are the following commercial terms published (GGPSSO 6.4.a-d):

		In national language	In English	On the internet	Free of charge	Not applicable
(a)	if rTPA: tariffs and tariff methodologies for each service offered					
(b)	if nTPA: main commercial conditions including the prices for standard services	\boxtimes	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	
(c)	If nTPA: updates of main commercial conditions including the prices for standard services, whenever the SSO changes them		\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
(d)	services offered		\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
(e)	storage code	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
(f)	main storage standard conditions for each service	\boxtimes	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	
(g)	rights and responsibilities of all users		\boxtimes		\boxtimes	
(h)	rules (e.g. periods) for counter flows during injection and withdrawal	\boxtimes	\boxtimes		\boxtimes	
(i)	rules of storage capacity transfer in case of customer switching (if any)					\boxtimes
(j)	storage capacity allocation provisions	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
(k)	congestion management provisions		\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
(I)	anti-hoarding provisions		\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
(m)	re-utilisation provisions		\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
(n)	auction terms (where applicable)					\boxtimes
(o)	rules applicable for storage capacity trade on the secondary market vis-à-vis the SSO	\boxtimes	\boxtimes			
(p)	rules and charges applicable to storage penalties from storage users				\boxtimes	
(q)	compensation payments from the SSO to storage users					
(r)	user-friendly instruments for calculating charges for a specific service (e.g. a tariff calculator)		\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	

6.2 Is the following operational information published (GGPSSO 6.5.a-e, 6.6.a-c, 6.9, 6.10):

		In national language	In English	In energy units or ncm	Online information system	Free of charge
(a)	technical storage capacity	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes
(b)	available storage capacity	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes
(c)	contracted or held storage capacity	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	\boxtimes

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(d)	aggregated inflows and outflows at least on a weekly basis for the immediately preceding week						
(e)	historical utilization rates at least on a weekly basis for the immediately preceding week						
(f)	user-friendly instruments for verifying online the level of available and/or unused storage capacity						
(g)	maps indicating the location of their storage facilities and the connecting points of the storage facilities to the relevant network	\boxtimes					\boxtimes
(h)	methods of determining available storage capacity						
(i)	operational parameters, including the rules of ownership and use of working gas					\boxtimes	
(j)	TSO's pre-emptive rights with operational rules and processes attached						
(k)	any storage capacity not available to TPA on the grounds of article 2(9) of the Gas Directive, with substantiated reasons						
(I)	all planned maintenance periods that might affect storage users' rights from storage contracts, at least once a year					\boxtimes	
(m)	the operational information corresponding to planned maintenance periods with adequate advance notice		\boxtimes			\boxtimes	\boxtimes
(n)	regular updates on details, expected duration and effect of the maintenance	\boxtimes	\boxtimes				\boxtimes
Whe	ere you have not published specific data,	please state	e why (rela	ating to GGF	PSS	O 6.2., 6.3	s)
(a)	less than three users (information about the	-				<u> </u>	-
(b)	three users or more, but still commercial se	ensitivity of ir	nformation]
(c)	reasons of cost (or substantial IT development	nent needed))]
(d)	to avoid any potential market abuse					×]
(e)	to avoid significant harm to storage users of	commercial in	nterest			\boxtimes	
(f)	other (please specify below)]
	notes:						



answer: no	
Where unplanned disruptions in access to the storage services occur,	, do you ensure th
(GGPSSO 6.8): (a) current system users are notified of that disruption as soon as possible	
(b) information concerning the maintenance and disruptions that have occurred is made available upon request to those affected by the disruption	S 🛛
Storage penalties	
Is there a clause or provision in the storage contract/code providing for com the storage users in the event you fail to fulfil contractual obligations (GGPS	
answer: yes	
Secondary markets Are registered users allowed to trade in the secondary market (GGPSSO 9.1)	
·	
Are registered users allowed to trade in the secondary market (GGPSSO 9.1)	
Are registered users allowed to trade in the secondary market (GGPSSO 9.1) (a) bundled services only (b) both bundled and unbundled services Have you developed and used standardised contracts and procedures on	
Are registered users allowed to trade in the secondary market (GGPSSO 9.1) (a) bundled services only	
Are registered users allowed to trade in the secondary market (GGPSSO 9.1) (a) bundled services only (b) both bundled and unbundled services Have you developed and used standardised contracts and procedures on facilitate secondary trade of storage capacity (GGPSSO 9.1)?	the primary market
Are registered users allowed to trade in the secondary market (GGPSSO 9.1) (a) bundled services only (b) both bundled and unbundled services Have you developed and used standardised contracts and procedures on facilitate secondary trade of storage capacity (GGPSSO 9.1)? answer: Is there a clause in the storage code/contract referring to or addressing the secondary trade of storage code/contract referring to or addressing the storage code/contract referring to or addressing the secondary trade of storage code/contract referring to or addressing the secondary trade of storage code/contract referring to or addressing the secondary trade of storage code/contract referring to or addressing the secondary trade of storage code/contract referring to or addressing the secondary trade of storage code/contract referring to or addressing the secondary trade of storage code/contract referring to or addressing the secondary trade of storage code/contract referring to or addressing the secondary trade of storage code/contract referring to or addressing the secondary trade of storage code/contract referring to or addressing the secondary trade of storage code/contract referring to or addressing the secondary trade of storage code/contract referring to or addressing the secondary trade of storage code/contract referring to or addressing the secondary trade of storage code/contract referring trade of storage code/contract referrin	the primary market
Are registered users allowed to trade in the secondary market (GGPSSO 9.1) (a) bundled services only (b) both bundled and unbundled services Have you developed and used standardised contracts and procedures on facilitate secondary trade of storage capacity (GGPSSO 9.1)? answer: Is there a clause in the storage code/contract referring to or addressin capacity trading explicitly (relating to GGPSSO 9.1)?	the primary market
Are registered users allowed to trade in the secondary market (GGPSSO 9.1) (a) bundled services only (b) both bundled and unbundled services Have you developed and used standardised contracts and procedures on facilitate secondary trade of storage capacity (GGPSSO 9.1)? answer: Is there a clause in the storage code/contract referring to or addressin capacity trading explicitly (relating to GGPSSO 9.1)? answer: Do you provide an electronic platform or bulletin board to facilitate second	the primary market
Are registered users allowed to trade in the secondary market (GGPSSO 9.1) (a) bundled services only (b) both bundled and unbundled services Have you developed and used standardised contracts and procedures on facilitate secondary trade of storage capacity (GGPSSO 9.1)? answer: Is there a clause in the storage code/contract referring to or addressing capacity trading explicitly (relating to GGPSSO 9.1)? answer: Do you provide an electronic platform or bulletin board to facilitate secondaring (GGPSSO 9.2, 9.3)	the primary market

9.3

ERGEG – Questionnaire SSO

9 Implementation of the other GGPSSO requirements

9.1 Necessary TPA Services – please indicate if yo	ou:
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		As of 1 April 2005	Planned date of introduction	Not applicable			
(a)	offer unbundled services supplementing SBUs at least for available storage capacity at the beginning of the storage year (GGPSSO 3.3.b)						
(b)	offer short-term (<1 year) services down to a minimum period of one day (GGPSSO 3.3.c)	\boxtimes	since 1 January 2006 for a period of one day				
(c)	offer both firm and interruptible storage services (GGPSSO 3.3.d)						
answer: n/a Secondary market – please indicate if you:							
		As of 1	Planned date of	Not			
		As of 1 April 2005		Not applicable			
	ondary market – please indicate if you:		date of				
Sec	allow for title transfer for both bundled and unbundled capacities (GGPSSO 9.1)		date of introduction since 14 February				

9.4	Where not already provided, please provide brief details on steps you plan to take to facilitate their introduction $\frac{1}{2}$

l answer: n/a		
answer. ma		



Appendix

Definitions

Available storage capacity means the part of the technical storage capacity that is not contracted or held by storage users at that moment and still available to the storage users for firm and interruptible services, and is not excluded from TPA under Article 2(9) of the Gas Directive (Definition 1 of the GGPSSO)

Storage capacity is space (expressed in normal cubic meters or energy), injectability and deliverability (expressed in normal cubic meters or energy per time unit). All of them can be firm or interruptible (Definition 17 of the GGPSSO)

Storage facility means a facility used for the stocking of natural gas and owned and/or operated by a natural gas undertaking, including the part of LNG facilities used for storage but excluding the portion used for production operations, and excluding facilities reserved exclusively for transmission system operators in carrying out their functions (Definition 18 of the GGPSSO)

Technical storage capacity is the maximum storage capacity (injectability, deliverability and space) that the SSO can offer to storage users, excluding storage capacity for SSOs operational needs