Council of European Energy Regulators

DEFINITIONS

"technical capacity": the maximum capacity that the transmission, LNG or storage undertaking can offer to the system users, taking account of the system integrity and the operational requirements of the transmission network.

"firm capacity": gas transmission, LNG or storage capacity contractually and unconditionally guaranteed by the transmission, LNG or storage undertaking.

"non-firm capacity": gas transmission, LNG or storage capacity that can be interrupted by the transmission, LNG or storage undertakings according to the conditions stipulated in the access contract. The contract specifies the permitted duration, frequency and timing of the interruptions. It also specifies the previous notice required and possibly a fee related to the duration of the interruptions.

"interruptible capacity": an extreme form non-firm capacity whose availability is not guaranteed in any way by the natural gas undertaking.

"available firm capacity": the part of the technical capacity that is not allocated and is still available to the system users at that moment.

"primary market": capacity traded directly by the TSO under regulated conditions.

"secondary market": capacity traded otherwise than on the primary market.

"contractual congestion": the level of firm capacity demand exceeds the technical capacity (all technical capacity is booked as firm but some capacity remains unused)

"physical congestion": the level of firm capacity use that equals the technical capacity (all firm capacity is actually being used; there is no capacity hoarding).

"congestion management": management of the capacity portfolio of the transmission undertaking with a view to optimal and maximum use of the technical capacity and the timely detection of future congestion and saturation points.

"capacity": the flow, expressed in normal cubic meters per time unit, to which the system user is entitled in accordance with the provisions of the transmission contract.

"nomination": the prior reporting by the system user to the transmission undertaking of the part of the allocated capacity that he wishes to use;

"renomination": the reporting of a corrected nomination;

"nominated capacity": the capacity that the system user has previously reported to the transmission undertaking as capacity that he wishes to use;

"balancing period": the period within which the off-take of an amount of natural gas, expressed in units of energy, must be offset by every system user by means of the injection of the same amount of natural gas into the transmission network;

"system integrity": any situation in respect of a transmission network or a transmission facility in which the pressure and the quality of the natural gas remain within the minimum and maximum limits laid down by the transmission undertaking, so that the transmission of natural gas is guaranteed from a technical standpoint;

"entry/exit allocation system" : system where capacity is booked separately at the entry and at the exit points;

"entry/exit tariff system" : tariff regime where injection and off-take are priced and invoiced seperately, without prejudice of the rules related to the balance between injections and off-takes.