



DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENERGY

MINUTES OF THE GAS COORDINATION GROUP MEETING 15 JUNE 2023

The meeting of the Gas Coordination Group took place on 15 June 2023 in virtual mode, via videoconference, from 10:00 to 12:30. The last Agenda point was restricted only to Member States. The meeting was co-chaired by the Director B - Just Transition, Consumers, Energy Efficiency and Innovation and the Head of Unit, Energy security and safety.

I. Developments on gas Security of Supply

ENTSOG gave an overview of the latest developments on gas Security of supply. In terms of gas flows dynamics, in June LNG was still the first source of gas import (44 %), followed by North Sea (27 %) and North Africa (12 %); East Corridor accounts for 6 %. So far no immediate SoS concerns, as the situation remains stable.

II. Gas Storage

The Commission presented the state of play as regards MS gas storage filling levels as 1 June 2023; EU gas storage filling levels are at 72,6 % on 12 June (vs. 52,9 on this day in 2022); the 90 % filling target could be reached in up to 80 days at this pace. Gas storage fillings are well on track.

ENER provided an overview on the current situation of notifications on the certification of storage operators and owners. 2 opinions have been adopted and 5 opinions are currently processed. Several draft decisions are expected over Autumn and Winter, as MS shall issue draft certification notification by 2 January 2024.

ENER made a presentation about facts, opportunities and challenges to store gas in Ukraine. It was recalled that UA has a high storage capacity and it could store up to 10 bcm of EU gas (total EU storage capacity is 102 bcm), UA also transposed the Gas Storage Regulation last December and it also has certified the storage operator Ukrtransgaz in April. Opportunities and challenges were discussed.

Positive feedback from traders' association, and Commission asked to look further into the cooperation with financial institutions.

III. Preserving and strengthening preparedness

ENER recalled the COM obligation under gas SoS Regulation to draft a report on the implementation of the Regulation by the end of the Summer. A questionnaire was sent to GCG members to collect feedback, which will be used to drive the process further.

ENER presented an overview of the state of play as regard the gas demand reduction among Member States. It was recalled that an 18 % demand reduction was achieved between 1 August 2022 and 31 March 2023 and that 53 bcm of gas were thus saved, overshooting the 15 % objective.

Eurelectric highlighted the risk, in case of severe droughts in Northern Europe this summer, of a change in the merit order for power generation which could put at risk the gas demand reduction achieved in the electricity sector.

IV. AOB

The Commission informed that the next GCG will be tentatively on the second week of July.

V. Updated Preventive Action Plans and Emergency Plans

Restricted only to Member States.