



## Consultation on the GSNE-VO 2013 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment 2025

ENGIE answer – 12/05/2025

ENGIE welcomes this consultation on the network usage charges for entry and exit points of the Austrian transmission network and takes this opportunity to express its serious concerns about the profiles of these charges as contemplated by E-Control.

ENGIE notes that after an initial publication mid-April where entry tariffs were relatively flat and exit tariffs increased by 10%, a major tariff change published two weeks later now shows a drastic increase of more than 100% for entry tariffs and over 75% for exit tariffs in 2026 compared to 2025.

Those modified tariffs are significantly higher than the forecast published just one year ago for the ongoing regulatory period. Considering that no major structural changes in the market situation have occurred since last year, we cannot reasonably accept this situation, which we believe is not justified. The proposed tariffs would result in considerable increases (of already high tariffs) between 132% and 245% over just two years, which may be considered in breach of the EU tariff network code n°2017/460 (NC TAR).

Furthermore, ENGIE observes that some capacity forecasts indicated in the [“Beilage 1: Kosten und Mengengerüst 2026”](#) are much lower than the capacity already booked according to the AGGM Data Monitor or the ENTSOG Transparency website. For instance, E-Control announces a decrease by 78% in the forecast for the GCA Baumgarten entry, while the booked capacity according to AGGM decreases by only 2%. Similar discrepancies are visible for the GCA Oberkappel exit.

ENGIE assumes that this huge gap in the forecast/assumption on capacity booking arises because the capacity owned by Gazprom but not paid for anymore has now been removed from the 2026 forecasts. **This absence of payment is a consequence of an EU decision vis-à-vis the Gazprom company and its subsidiaries in Europe and cannot be fully passed-through and penalize the other Austrian network users and shippers.** This would also frustrate ENGIE's interest in continuing to book any capacities.

These tariffs, if confirmed, would be unsustainable and counterproductive both for the Austrian market and for the security of supply at the regional level. Indeed, as a result of the proposed new entry and exit tariffs, no new capacity will likely be booked on the Austrian transmission network, neither in the long-term because of tariff instability, nor in the short-term because of the combined effect of the tariff increase and multipliers. Given this negative cycle, also likely to have a potential



spill-over effect beyond the Austrian boundaries, the few remaining long-term shippers will soon have to bear the total cost of the network, which is unfair and unsustainable.

Moreover, beyond transport capacities *per se*, storage bookings in Austria (and the ones connected to Austria) would also be impacted by these transport tariffs, thus jeopardizing the supply to Austrian consumers and their neighbors during the winter.

The proposed tariffs are reminiscent of the German storage levy imposed during 2023 and 2024 on gas transmission capacity tariffs. This levy, which had a significant impact on shippers and cross-border flows, was rightfully contested by market participants and the neighboring Member States including Austria, before being eventually abolished by the German government as from 2025. This German return of experience should be considered by adjacent authorities in the way they set their tariffs policies for the coming years, in order to prevent further systemic risks and crisis in the region.

Therefore, ENGIE urges E-Control to revise the level of tariffs in the final publication, and would like to respectfully suggest a few levers:

- Recover the TSOs' missing revenue, stemming from political decisions and measures targeting one specific company, by other means that would not unfairly, disproportionately and unduly penalize shippers with existing long-term bookings, such as a direct compensation via the national budget or the funding of a new shipper which could retrieve and pay the assets currently owned by Gazprom.
- Wait for the end of on-going legal procedures between the Austrian TSOs and Gazprom before increasing the regulated tariffs.
- Mitigate the increase on IPs by removing the cap of exit tariffs to the domestic distribution area.

ENGIE reserves all of its rights, whether at law or under any relevant contractual agreements, including the right to challenge any decision from E-Control before the competent courts, as may be necessary.

We remain available for any question or clarification on the questions we raised.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature block]