Executive summary of the draft amendment to the Gas Market Model Ordinance 2012 (2012 Gas Market Model [Amendment] Ordinance 2013)

Regarding section 9: Online Platform for Capacity Offers

The amendment of this provision clarifies that the relevant general terms and conditions that apply to the allocation of capacity are those of the platform operator. This change is necessary because the Austrian TSOs joined the European capacity platform “PRISMA”.

Regarding section 11: Nomination and Renomination

The relevant entity for the check of nomination and renomination rules is the balance group or the sub-account and not the system user as stated in the original version of the Gas Market Model Ordinance 2012. The rules for the limitation of renomination rights enter into force on 1 October 2013.

Regarding section 15: Capacity Management at Distribution Level

The amendment of this provision clarifies that “first come first served” allocation applies to cross-border interconnection points at distribution level.

Regarding section 18: Basic Principles of the Balancing Regime

For all system users that have agreed a contractual maximum capacity of no more than 10,000 kWh/h per entry/exit/metering point with their system operator, the balancing period is the gas day. This means that the number of customers in the daily balancing regime will increase. The default balancing period for system users with a maximum capacity of more than 10,000 kWh/h is one hour. However, system users that have agreed a maximum capacity between 10,000 kWh/h and 50,000 kWh/h may opt for daily balancing if their meter readings are available to the distribution system operator online.

Regarding section 23: Entry of Capacity to Balance Groups

The amendment of this provision clarifies that system users are obliged to enter any and all capacity booked into a balance group or sub-account.

Regarding section 24: Special Balance Groups

The rules of this provision now also include transmission system operators.

Additionally, it is clarified that the provisions on special balance groups apply also to the balance group of the clearing and settlement agent.

Regarding section 25: Information and Data Exchange among Market Participants

The distribution area manager has to generate consumption forecasts for consumers with standardised load profiles for each supplier and not for each balance group as stated in the original version of the Gas Market Model Ordinance 2012.

Furthermore, additional information transmission regarding biogas nominations and metering data to the clearing and settlement agent is added.

Regarding section 26: Balancing and Clearing by the Market Area Manager

The market area manager may decide to extend the reaction or renomination period (which by default is one hour after the market area manager gives notice of an imbalance). However, balancing and clearing by the market area manager do not apply to the special balance group of the clearing and settlement agent.

Furthermore, the rules for the carryover of imbalances are amended as the methodology was not clear to the market participants. The carryover will be taken into account on gas day D+1, but this new rule will only enter into force on 1 June 2013 as it requires that the IT system at the market area manager’s be adapted.

The balancing incentive markup from the balance responsible parties in para. 6 does not apply to special balance groups.

Regarding section 27: Clearing by the Clearing and Settlement Agent

The amendment of this provision clarifies that the clearing methodology for the cross-border interconnection points at distribution level is the allocation of hourly metering data, if no operational balancing agreement between the relevant system operators is in place.

Regarding section 28: Standardised Load Profiles

The distribution area manager has to submit the SLP consumption forecasts per supplier three times a gas day before 24.00 hrs.

Regarding section 32: Calculation of Imbalance Prices

Taking account of the first experience with the new gas market model, the markup for positive balancing energy for consumers with hourly balancing decreases from 20 to 10% and the offset for negative balancing energy decreases from 10 to 5% (i.e. they will be multiplied by 1.1 or 0.95, respectively).

The amendment of this provision also clarifies that only shortfalls that result from the settlement of imbalances are passed on to the balance responsible parties that represent balance groups with consumers with daily balancing. Overhangs that result from the settlement of imbalances remain on a separate account at the clearing and settlement agent’s and are used to cover future shortfalls.