

E-Control
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Subject: EFET¹ comments to the 2nd Amendment 2020 of the Gas System Charges Ordinance GSNE-VO 2013

EFET welcomes the opportunity to comment on the 2nd Amendment of the Gas System Charges Ordinance (further referred to as “Ordinance”). We take this opportunity to reiterate that our views on the general transparency of the Austrian tariffs is largely shared by ACER, as expressed in their report regarding the transmission tariff consultation document. While we appreciate some improvements and the further reduction in the tariff levels, the issue of transparency of the Austrian tariffs methodology that we have raised a number of times, remains in place. Such persistent lack of information on the allowed revenues makes us believe that the tariff reduction could have been more pronounced.

We understand very well that, to an extent, the limited transparency available to network users is linked to sections of Austrian Gas Act (§§ 69-84 GWG) and to the identification of the so-called *Legalparteien*. However, the limited transparency entrusted by Austrian Law should not give room to a definition of transmission tariffs that are not in line with article 13 of EU Regulation 715/2009 or to TSOs revenues levels far beyond those observed in other European gas markets.

This said we would like to express appreciation for the publication of a more comprehensive tariff model, as well as for the choice to use the same reference volumes both for influenceable and non-influenceable costs, insofar this ensures a more cost-reflective tariff setting. We also regard the application of the reference price methodology to the TSOs’ total costs as a step towards enabling system users to better calculate transmission tariffs themselves as prescribed by Article 7 of the TAR NC. Despite so, it remains unclear what costs are deemed non-influenceable. We also thank you for revising the multipliers for short-term bookings at Exit Arnoldstein, that we have previously found to be discriminatory.

To conclude, EFET believes that a wider discussion on the Austrian Gas Act is required between the Austrian authorities, the European Commission and ACER, since the current legislation effectively prevents market participants from accessing the necessary information

¹ The European Federation of Energy Traders (EFET) promotes competition, transparency and open access in the European energy sector. We build trust in power and gas markets across Europe, so that they may underpin a sustainable and secure energy supply and a competitive economy. We currently represent more than 100 energy trading companies, active in over 27 European countries. For more information: www.efet.org.

to efficaciously take part in the discussion on the proposed allowed revenues level. Such situation is not in line with the intention of NC TAR and hinders the development of the gas market in the entire region.

Kind Regards,
On Behalf of EFET TF CSEE-G



Davide Rubini,
Chair of EFET TF CSEE-G