GAC WS 3 on Infrastructure

Conclusions of 15 November 2013

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WS3 meeting

A meeting of WS3 was held in Brussels on November 15, 2013. Two presentations within the frames of EU-Russia Energy Dialogue have been made:

- Early Warning System (EWS)
- Dispatch Service (DS) Concept. Current state of development.

The first issue is oriented rather on short term implementation, the second needs more time to be elaborated. Both activities are complimentary to each other and some methods and tools developed for DS may be efficiently used within EWS.

Early Warning System (EWS)

- The presentation was developed with the aim to enhance the level of Security of Supply in crisis/emergency situations and as a follow-up of the provisions of the EU-Russia Memorandum on a Mechanism of Preventing and Overcoming Emergency Situations (2011).
- The basic idea was to increase interaction between European TSOs through establishing a dedicated Task Force (TF); and Russian Dispatch Centre. This will facilitate information exchange under abnormal cases of flows and coordinated actions by means of, inter alia, existing Transparency Platform and other available tools, in line with the current EU legislation, Third Package inclusive and national laws.
- TF shall cooperate to overcome emergency situation suggesting different possible solutions.

Dispatch Service Concept

- Current state of the issue was presented and actively discussed.
- The participants agreed that the work in this direction should be continued starting from evaluation of already existing EU information sources and software tools in order to check the level of availability of data needed.
- The Concept reported covers different topics, such as infrastructure operation (optimization of the physical flows), commercial and tariff related issues. Every aspect appears to be rather complex and needs therefore significant time for development.

Answering GAC questions – Q3

Is a gas dispatching service (GDS) compatible with the Third Package?

- One of the main goals of GDS is ensuring the fundamental requirements of the Gas Directive to provide all market players with the possibility to buy or sell gas at any point of the network; and delivering it to consumer. That is why the basic aims of GDS are fully compatible with the Third Package.
- If GDS will be developed as a joint project all potential contradictions of political, organizational, informational, technical nature between EU and Russia may be removed and possible conflicts prevented.
- WS3 agreed to work on the issue in full compliance with current EU and Russian legislation.

Answering GAC questions – Q6.1

Can new Russian cross-border transportation projects be considered within the PCI framework?

• As it was answered at the 7th GAC meeting: "For the purpose of selection of PCI projects, Regulation (EU) 347/2013 sets eligibility criteria of general and specific nature. These criteria do not exclude projects on the basis of the project promoter's origin. Russian projects are thus eligible as long as they comply with the mentioned criteria".

Answering GAC questions – Q6.2

Could a PCI treatment be awarded to those Russian projects that will be considered PMI?

- As it was reported to the 7th GAC meeting: "The PMI framework needs to be established first before any link to PCIs may be determined".
- To answer this question some WS3 members were invited to define more clearly the concept of PMI and criteria any project should comply with to be given this status. At the moment no proposals has been delivered. For this reason the answer is to be postponed.

Way Forward

- •The WS3 proposes to continue studying both issues but in different time frame: short term for EWS and long term for Dispatch Service.
- •WS3 plans within three four month to hold the next meeting where these problems as well as different links between them will be discussed in more detail. Heretofore the European and Russian participants will exchange their ideas and related information.
- •If necessary another meeting will be held in smaller group for studying existing European information sources and operation tools (DS) and elaborating formats for information exchange (EWS).

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION