

## **Thyssengas 2010 market test: striking demand for transmission capacity**

**Regional planning procedure being prepared for 1.3 billion euro new natural gas pipeline**

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Dortmund – The response among market players to Thyssengas' non-binding enquiries concerning demand for gas transmission capacity in the planned pipeline from Emden via Werne to Eynatten and Bocholtz has been huge.

In its 2010 market test Thyssengas polled transmission demand for the planned natural gas pipeline - some 520 kilometres long – which is set to have an annual capacity of eight billion cubic metres. Numerous market players have registered their interest in transmission capacity along the planned pipeline. In-depth talks will now be held with the interested parties in order to establish the details. All market players who participated in the market test will be subsequently informed of the final result. Thyssengas is still open to receiving additional capacity enquiries.

Work can now begin on the technical planning phase of the pipeline project. Initial talks concerning the initiation of the regional planning procedure for the new pipeline have already been held with the relevant authorities.

“The pipeline could link planned and existing import capacity with the storage capacity currently in development, thus improving connections between northwest Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium. With this 1.3 billion investment Thyssengas would greatly enhance its position in the region, an area that is increasingly becoming the ‘natural gas hub’ for northwest Europe”, comments Professor Klaus Homann, chairman of the Thyssengas managing board, on the planned construction of the new pipeline.

Thyssengas CEO Dr. Wandulf Kaufmann: “The demand for capacity revealed by the 2010 market test confirmed our estimation of the market. In 2011 we plan to conduct an open season process to gain reliable figures concerning the additional demand for transmission capacity, thus enabling pipeline construction to proceed as efficiently as possible. Interested parties will then be able to secure their non-binding transmission

capacity needs expressed during the market test with binding capacity contracts. If a decision concerning the necessary investment can be reached by mid 2013, the new natural gas pipeline could be finished by 2016, possibly even earlier in the event of binding demand for the various sections. “

*Thyssengas GmbH, Dortmund, bundles the RWE Group's German transmission activities associated with pipeline gas transmission grids. With a total length of approximately 4,100 kilometres the transmission grid is linked to major natural gas import points. Every year the company transmits up to 10 million cubic metres of natural gas safely and in an environmentally friendly manner to distribution grid operators, industrial firms and power plants.*

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