Press release

Market-test 2010. Thyssengas determines capacity requirements for the new natural gas pipeline from Emden to Eynatten

€ 1.3 billion could be invested by the end of 2015 if the demand is high enough.

Dortmund, 28.05.2010

Thyssengas launches the market test 2010 in order to determine the future transport capacity requirements for a natural gas pipeline from Emden via Werne to Eynatten. Should the market test confirm the latest forecasts it will be followed by an open season process for a binding determination of requirements. The results of these market analyses will provide the basic data for a planned expansion of the network in Lower Saxony and North Rhine-Westphalia.

Thyssengas GmbH thus keeps abreast of market expectations which assume that transport requirements will rise, in particular for new power plants and natural gas storage capacities. Accordingly gas supplies will concentrate more and more on imports from countries outside of the EU. In future an increasing amount of natural gas will be imported into Western Europe from Eastern Europe and Asia.

“We are planning to build a pipeline that will be connected with other transport systems, thus improving direct links to Norwegian and indirect links to Russian and possibly, in future to central Asian gas fields. To this end we are proposing an almost 520 km long, high-performance natural gas transmission line with an annual transport capacity of around eight billion cubic metres that will help linking up northwest Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium even better. We want to invest around € 1.3 billion by the end of 2015 to strengthen our network in a region that is increasingly becoming the “natural gas hub” for northwest Europe”, is how Professor Klaus Homann, Chairman of the Thyssengas Managing Board, explains the proposed investments. Homann continues:

“New and existing import capacities will be optimally networked with the storage capacities that are currently under construction thanks to this planned line”.

The new pipeline will come from the north and pass the storage facilities in Nüttermoor and Jemgum before connecting with the transport systems of the Dutch Gas Transport Services (GTS) and of Gasunie Germany. A branch is also possible to Wilhelmshaven, if required, to connect the LNG terminals that are being planned here as well as the existing storage facilities in Etzel. In its further course the line will be routed along

Thyssengas GmbH I Kampstraße 49 I 44137 Dortmund
T +49 231 91291-1173 I F +49 231 91291-1176 I E presse@thyssengas.com

Europe's largest cavern storage system in the Gronau-Epe/Kalle region. From here the line will run towards Werne on the Lippe with the option of a connection to the transmission grids of E.ON Gastransport and Wingas Transport.

The line will then pass to the south of the Ruhr region to Bergisch Gladbach and from here to a natural gas intersection in the tri-border region near Aachen so that it can link up to the transmission grids of the Belgian Fluxys, the Dutch Gas Transport Services (GTS) as well as to the transmission grid of Wingas Transport. The work on planning the route of this new line will start parallel to the market test.

Thyssengas Managing Director Dr. Wandulf Kaufmann: “The aim of the market test and the subsequent open season process is to ensure that the expansion of the grid is ideally matched to the future demand. The efficiency of the grid, strengthening of the European security of supplies and the promotion of competition have to be taken into account. An open season process is ideal for a non-discriminatory determination of additional transport capacity requirements and allows for the maximum efficient expansion of the line.”

Thyssengas GmbH, Dortmund, pools the German transport activities of the RWE Group in the field of long-distance gas transmission grids. The 4,100 km long transmission grid is connected to important natural gas import points. The company transports up to 10 billion cubic metres of natural gas every year in a safe and environmentally sound way to distribution network operators, industrial plants and power stations.

For inquiries:

Gerhard Hülsemann
Spokesman
Tel: +49 (0)231/91 291-1173
Fax: +49 (0)231/91 291-1176
Mob.: 0172/263 9985
Email: gerhard.huelsemann@thyssengas.com