

TECHNICAL SHEET

PROVISIONS FOR THE CONSULTATION OF THE FRAMEWORKS OF THE TEN-YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE NATURAL GAS TRANSMISSION SYSTEM PREPARED BY THE TRANSMISSION SYSTEM OPERATORS

351/2016/R/GAS (*)

With resolution 351/2016/R/GAS the Italian Regulatory Authority for Electricity Gas and Water has established the criteria and procedures for the consultation of the frameworks of the ten-year development plan for the natural gas transmission system prepared by the transmission system operators pursuant to article 16 of Legislative Decree N.93, dated 1st June 2011. In particular the resolution takes into account the amendments provided for in this article by Law N.115, dated 3rd August 2015, with reference to the redefinition of the role and the functions of the Regulatory Authority and of the Ministry of Economic Development in relation to the consultation and evaluation of the Plans, to the transfer of the responsibility to consult the Plans from the transmission operators to the Regulatory Authority, of the repeal of the Ministry of Economic Development Decree dated 27th February 2013, and to the expectation that the new evaluation procedures for the Plans be applied, including to Plans which are already being evaluated, from 2014 and 2015.

Therefore, the resolution:

- ✓ regulates the procedures and time frames for the consultation process. With regards to the public consultation procedures, the Regulatory Authority makes the frameworks for the ten-year Plan, in the version prepared by the transmission system operators, available on its website and subsequently publishes the comments made by the interested parties in the 45 following days according to a specific *format*. With regards to the timings, the frameworks for the ten-year Plans shall be submitted by the operators by the 31st May of each year;
- ✓ provides that, in the context of the consultation, Snam Rete Gas will organise one or more public presentation sessions;
- ✓ defines minimum editing criteria for the Plans with the purpose of evaluations by the Regulatory Authority, introducing in particular the obligation for the transmission system operators to provide evidence for each of the amendments proposed for any of the elements (in terms of size, economic, financial) which allow their value and efficiency to be evaluated, including an analysis of the costs and of the benefits;
- ✓ specifies in more detail the coordination role at national level of the principal transmission operator, laying down that Snam Rete Gas:
 - coordinates with the other national and regional transmission operators, in order to avoid overlapping on strategic amendments for the gas system;

- coordinates with the other national and regional transmission operators, in order to represent in one single, organic document (attached to the plan) the development propositions laid out;
 - provides indications on which investments are necessary on its own network in order to carry out investments contained within the Plans prepared by other operators;
- ✓ starts the activities for defining a monitoring system for the integration of the ten-year Plan by the transmission system operators.

With regards to the frameworks of the ten-year Plans in years 2014 and 2015, which have already been consulted, it is envisaged that the Regulatory Authority proceeds to evaluation according to the procedures established in resolution 351/2016/R/GAS and based on other information elements that will be contained in the 2016 Plan frameworks.

With reference to the submission of the ten-year Plan framework relating to the 2016-2025 period, the resolution establishes that it shall be sent to the Regulatory Authority by the 15th October 2016, so as to allow the network operators a proper amount of time for preparation and editing with the new procedures and the Regulatory Authority to complete consultation within the current year.

(*) This sheet is for disclosure purposes only; it is not a measure.