

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)¹

Taisnières

1. What is the difference between the offer currently made by GDF-SUEZ and that foreseen in the commitments?

GDF SUEZ strictly complies with its commitments. The only unexpected element of the offer, as regards the period preceding the commercial go-live of the North-South pipeline, comes from the length of the route set by Fluxys in its new Transit model for the firm capacities held by GDF SUEZ between Zeebrugge-IZT and Blaregnies under its historical Transit Service Agreement.

There will however be no change in prices (EUR 40/m³/h/y²) in comparison with the offer foreseen at the time of the commitments. GDF SUEZ will bear at its sole expense the difference between the real price invoiced by Fluxys and this reference price so as to make sure that the offered capacity upstream from the Taisnières entry point remains attractive.

In order to be able to offer this discounted rate, GDF SUEZ will sublet the concerned capacities.

Once the North-South pipeline comes on stream (expected date : end 2013, beginning 2014), GDF SUEZ will put an end to the sublet and transfer the relevant capacities to the shippers³. Shippers will then benefit from the lower price of the North-South pipeline (EUR 26/m³/h/y⁴), which corresponds to the reference rate of the direct route between Zeebrugge and Blaregnies.

2. How do the commercial conditions of the sublet compare with the commercial conditions of the capacity retained by GDF-SUEZ?

As of October 1, 2010, the capacity retained by GDF-SUEZ between IZT and Blaregnies will be subject to the same conditions as the capacity sublet to other shippers. In particular, the capacity retained by GDF-SUEZ will be made up of capacity on the VTN and East-South junctions, just like the sublet capacity. This capacity will be used as point-to-point capacity (until GDF SUEZ notifies to its transferees that they can switch to the new transit model, see below) and the price paid by GDF-SUEZ will be no lower than EUR 40/m³/h/y.

¹ FAQ reviewed by the trustee.

² Indicative rate, on the basis of the current regulated tariff resulting from the CREG decision on 22 December 2010. These regulated tariffs shall be stable until 2016 but may be inflated each year, according to the Belgian CPI.

³ Under provision that Fluxys gives its consent, as for any transfer of capacity on the secondary market.

⁴ See footnote 2.

3. How does the dispute between Fluxys and GDF-SUEZ impact the offer made by GDF-SUEZ? Does this alter the legal certainty of the sublet of this capacity?

The shippers holding upstream capacity sublet by GDF-SUEZ will not be impacted by the outcome of the dispute between Fluxys and GDF-SUEZ. The offer made by GDF-SUEZ is specifically designed to avoid this.

4. Why are shippers requested to use this capacity as a point-to-point capacity?

This request only concerns the capacity sublet by GDF-SUEZ and is made so that legal certainty can be achieved. Once the issue of legacy contracts is no longer relevant, shippers will be allowed to use the Fluxys entry-exit system normally.

5. Can the capacity be used from Zeebrugge-hub instead of Zeebrugge-IZT?

Yes. This can be done free of charge by making the request to GDF SUEZ.

Nevertheless, if the transferee wants to also use upstream capacity from the Interconnector without subscription to the Fluxys Zeeplatform service, he will have to book at his own expense the HUB entry point. In this case, GDF SUEZ will sublet only the IZT entry point.

6. Can the requested capacity upstream from the Tainières entry point be limited to the Interconnector ?

Yes. As it is an option and not an obligation to subscribe the upstream capacity, the requested upstream capacity cannot exceed in quantity and duration the allocated capacity on the relevant entry point of GRTgaz network but it can always be less. Therefore a shipper may request only the capacity that he needs on the Interconnector and less or no capacity on the Zeebrugge – Blarégnyes route if he has enough capacity on the Belgian transit system and provided that it remains consistent with his allocated capacity at Tainières.

7. Who will the nominations have to be made to?

The nominations will be made by shippers directly to Fluxys. GDF-SUEZ will have no access to this information and no confidentiality issue may thus arise.

Obergailbach

8. What is the nature of the rights attached to the capacity transferred by GDF SUEZ upstream from the Obergailbach entry point following the launch of the NCG market zone?

GDF SUEZ transfers its capacities together with the contractual rights and restrictions as agreed to date with GRTgaz Deutschland and shall not be liable for their possible change in the future.

On route 1 (Waidhaus – Medelsheim), all entry and exit capacity is firm-BZK capacity (ie not freely allocable capacity) until 01/01/2016 when it becomes firm FZK capacity (ie freely allocable capacity, giving full access to the market zone and virtual hub of the NCG market zone).

On route 2 (exit Medelsheim, from NCG market zone), all exit capacity transferred is FZK as of 01/10/2010, regardless of the type of entry capacity (FZK, bFZK, i.e. conditional) the shippers may have on the NCG – market zone.