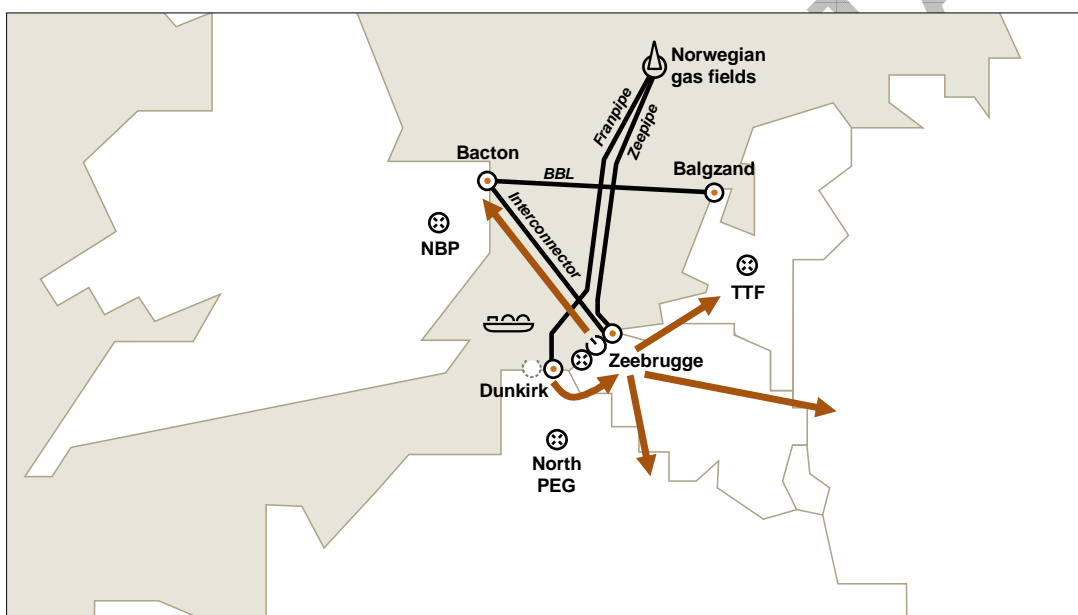


Fluxys a candidate partner in Dunkirk LNG terminal

Fluxys has decided to submit a bid for a stake of up to 25% in the Dunkirk LNG terminal, a project initiated by French power producer EDF. Fluxys also has proposed to acquire a stake in the joint-venture to become responsible for operating the facility.

Fluxys operates the Zeebrugge LNG terminal – the busiest among the LNG terminals in North-Western Europe – and its initiative to participate in the Dunkirk project marks a new step in its international strategy of building up synergies with other operators in North-Western Europe in order to contribute to security of supply and a well-functioning market.



Reinforcing security of supply for North-Western Europe

As the Dunkirk LNG terminal represents an additional annual capacity of 10 or 13 billion cubic metres, the facility can contribute substantially to reinforcing security of supply and smooth operation of the natural gas market in North-Western Europe. Alongside the terminal project, Fluxys will be launching a market consultation with a view to assess the interest from the market in transmission capacity from France to Belgium. Such a new connection should contribute to the diversification of sources for North-Western Europe and could also trigger a new boost in market liquidity by connecting the Zeebrugge Hub with the North PEG spot market in France.

Operational synergies between the Zeebrugge area and Dunkirk

The Zeebrugge LNG terminal is currently the busiest LNG terminal in North-Western Europe and Fluxys is continuing to take initiatives to diversify services at the terminal further and to increase the utilization flexibility of the facility. The entire capacity of the Zeebrugge LNG terminal is booked through long-term contracts lasting between 15 and 20 years. Against the backdrop of the current market consultation with a view to a new capacity enhancement of the terminal, a number of players have expressed interest in services requiring an additional jetty and the latter could be built during the first phase of such a capacity enhancement. For example, the market is interested in mooring LNG regasification vessels and in loading smaller LNG vessels. During a second phase, additional storage and send-out capacity could also be made available. If the Zeebrugge area and Dunkirk were to be linked via a pipeline, such an arrangement would also create additional utilization flexibility. For example, agreements could then be struck between both terminals for each to back up the other during shut-downs for scheduled maintenance work.

Valorizing Belgian LNG expertise

Through its LNG facilities in Zeebrugge, Fluxys has built up over 30 years' experience in operating and engineering LNG infrastructure. Its proposition to participate in the Dunkirk LNG terminal is an excellent way for this Belgian LNG knowhow to become valorized on an international level.

Press contact

Bérénice Crabs

Tel.: +32 2 282 72 30

Fax: +32 2 282 79 43

E-mail: berenice.crabs@fluxys.com

Other languages: This press release is also available in French and Dutch on the Fluxys website at www.fluxys.com.