



## TRANSMISSION PROGRAMME

Based on Article 112 of the Royal Decree of 23 December 2010 on the Code of Conduct regarding access to natural gas transmission networks





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## DISCLAIMER

This catalogue (the “transmission programme”) describes certain information regarding the transmission model and the related services offered by Fluxys Belgium. Please note that the transmission programme can be amended from time to time pursuant to the code of conduct (Royal Decree of 23.12.2010). In any case, Fluxys Belgium hereby disclaims any and all responsibility for any changes to the services described in the transmission programme which lies outside of its control. Such changes may be the result of *inter alia* financial and regulatory constraints defined by the relevant regulatory authority or may be imposed by the Belgian or European authorities.

In addition, the information in this transmission programme should not be construed as giving rise to any contractual relationship whatsoever between Fluxys Belgium (or any of its affiliated entities) and any interested party.



## 1 INTRODUCTION

Fluxys Belgium SA is the appointed independent operator of the natural gas transmission grid and storage infrastructure in Belgium (as per the Royal Decree of 23.02.2010). Fluxys LNG, its subsidiary, operates the Zeebrugge LNG terminal. The company has developed its infrastructure in Belgium into the crossroads for international gas flows in North-Western Europe.

Together with CREOS Luxembourg, the company established a cross-border market area – BeLux – and formed a joint venture Balansys to operate the balancing activities in the BeLux market area. General information on how the three companies are associated can be found in the BeLux Integrated Market Model document published on the Fluxys Belgium website.

Fluxys Belgium's gas transmission activities in Belgium, including tariff and balancing aspects, are regulated according to the Federal Act of 12 April 1965 on the transmission of gaseous and other products by pipelines (the *Gas Act*). This law is supplemented with guidelines on tariffs and by the Code of Conduct<sup>1</sup>. Fluxys Belgium also abides by the 3<sup>rd</sup> European Energy Package and associated Network Codes. Her commercial model and services portfolio have been developed to take into account the obligations associated with these regulations<sup>2</sup>.

This *Transmission Programme* describes the transmission services offered by Fluxys Belgium in accordance with the "Standard Transmission Agreement" (contractual terms and conditions), and the "Access Code" (access rules and procedures applicable in Belgium). These documents are developed by Fluxys Belgium in accordance with the code of conduct and, after consultation with the market, are approved by CREG the national regulatory authority of Belgium. These latest approved version of these documents, including the regulated tariffs in force in Belgium, can be found on the Fluxys Belgium website (<http://www.fluxys.com/belgium>).

This transmission programme is intended for information purposes and includes information that is set out in detail in the access code for transmission. Parties wishing to subscribe to the services described below may do so by signing the standard transmission agreement.

Detailed information related to the Loenhout storage facilities and Zeebrugge LNG terminal and their associated services can be found in the storage programme and LNG programme respectively, both available on the Fluxys Belgium website.

Balancing within the BeLux Area is harmonized and operated by Balansys, the Balancing Operator. Detailed information related to balancing can be found in the Balancing Programme.

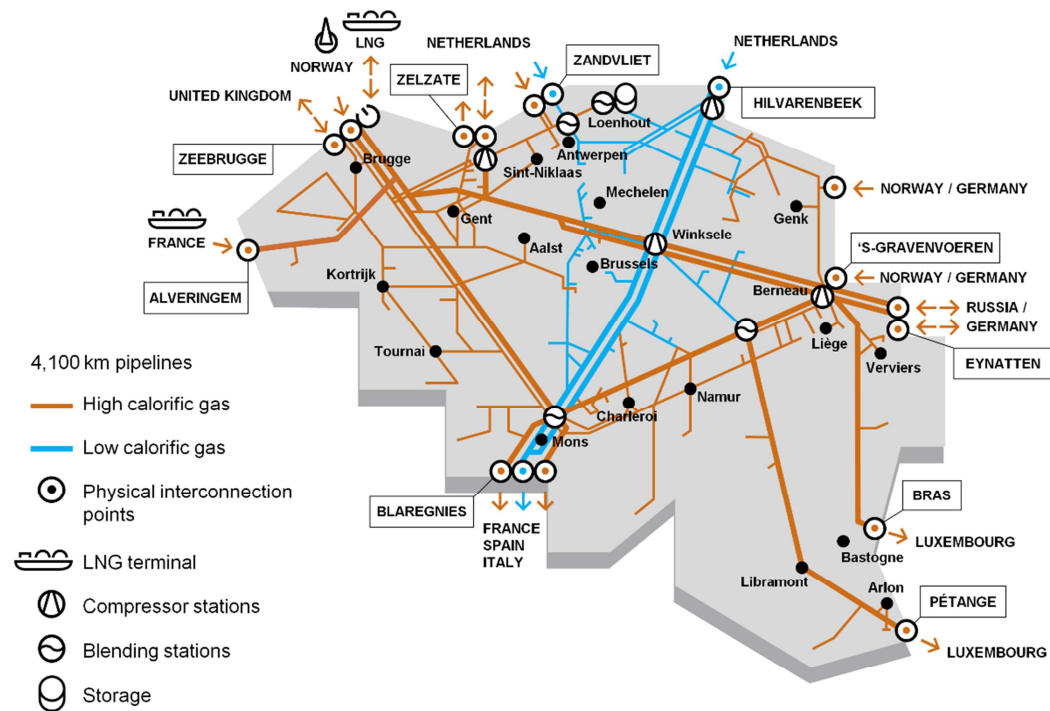
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<sup>1</sup> A code of conduct (Royal Decree of 23.12.2010) establishes the rules governing access to the transmission grid, storage facilities and LNG facilities

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EC) No 715/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 on conditions for access to the natural gas transmission networks and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1775/2005

## 2 TRANSMISSION IN BELGIUM

### 2.1 Physical transmission grid in Belgium



The Fluxys Belgium transmission grid in Belgium has about 4,100 kilometres of pipelines and several physical connections, opening up the Belgian grid to natural gas flows from the United Kingdom, Norway, the Netherlands, Russia and all LNG producing countries. The Fluxys Belgium grid also serves as the crossroads for natural gas transmission flows to the Netherlands, Germany, Luxembourg, France, the United Kingdom and Southern Europe.

Pressure is required to move natural gas through a pipeline network. However, pressure gradually drops due to friction between the natural gas molecules and the pipe walls. The purpose of a compressor station is to maintain pressure in the network. Fluxys Belgium owns and operates 4 compressor stations spread over its transmission grid, located at Weelde, Winksele, Berneau, and Zelzate.

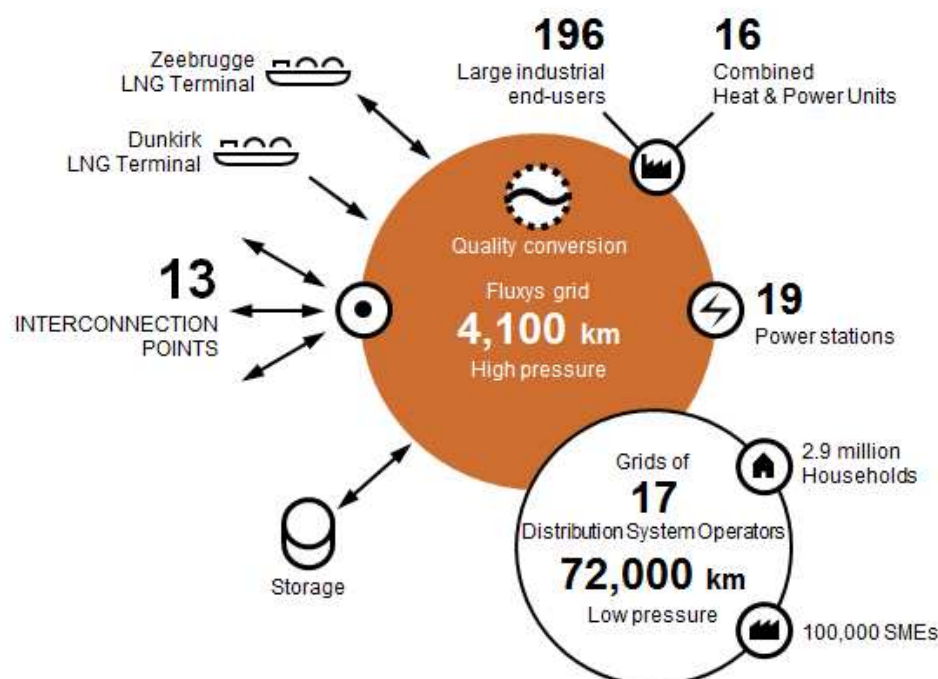
Two different types of natural gas are transported within the Fluxys Belgium grid: high-calorific natural gas (H gas or rich gas), and low-calorific natural gas (L gas or Slochteren gas). Each type of natural gas is transported via dedicated interconnection points and through specific subgrids (dedicated part of the Fluxys Belgium grid), which are operated independently. They are however connected by quality conversion facilities where gas can be transferred from one subgrid to the other, once the gas quality has been adjusted via mixing or nitrogen blending.

The Fluxys Belgium transmission grid is also connected to other facilities: the Loenhout underground storage facility operated by Fluxys Belgium, the Zeebrugge LNG terminal operated by Fluxys Belgium's subsidiary Fluxys LNG and the Dunkirk LNG Terminal, connected to the Fluxys Belgium's grid by means of cross border capacity, and operated by Dunkerque LNG.

The Loenhout underground storage facility is an aquifer storage for high calorific natural gas that combines seasonal storage for up to 700 MCM of workable volume with high flexibility of usage.

The Zeebrugge LNG terminal and the Dunkirk LNG terminal are used to load and unload ships carrying liquefied natural gas (LNG). LNG is temporarily kept in storage tanks at the facility as a buffer before regasifying the LNG and injecting it into the grid for transmission, or loading the LNG back onto LNG ships or trucks (in Zeebrugge LNG terminal only).

## 2.2 Organisation of the Belgian gas market



Many parties are active on the Belgian gas market. These parties fulfil one or more of the following roles.

Fluxys Belgium is the transmission system operator (TSO) that owns and operates the Belgian high-pressure natural gas transmission grid. Balansys is the balancing operator of the BeLux market area and offers balancing services to grid users active in the BeLux area.

A grid user is a company for which Fluxys Belgium transports gas within its high-pressure natural gas transmission grid, using transmission capacities contracted under terms and conditions set forth in the standard transmission agreement which is signed between the grid user and Fluxys Belgium.

A distribution network operator is a company that distributes natural gas at a lower pressure to final customers connected to its grid, including households and small and medium-sized enterprises. There are 17 distribution network operators in Belgium connected to the Fluxys Belgium grid through some 90 aggregated receiving stations.

A final customer is the ultimate consumer of the gas. Final customers can be directly connected to the Fluxys Belgium grid or connected to a distribution network. There are about 230 companies directly connected to Fluxys Belgium's natural gas transmission grid, referred to as 'end users'. They include industrial companies, cogeneration plants and power stations. Terms and conditions ruling such physical connections are contractually set forth in the Connection Agreement. On the other hand households and small to medium-sized enterprises connected to a distribution network have no direct contractual relationship with Fluxys Belgium.



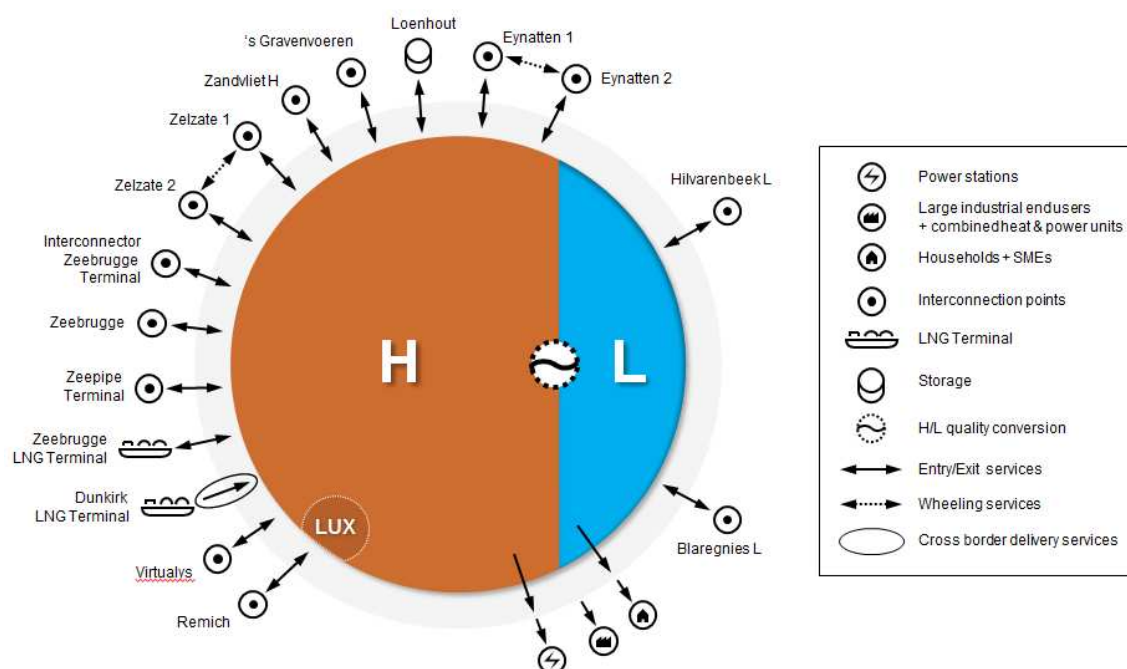
A trader is a party transferring title of gas within the Fluxys Belgium grid thanks to ZTP trading services (which can be either ZTP notional or ZTP physical trading services).

## 2.3 Main characteristics of the commercial model

### 2.3.1 An entry/exit model with an H-zone and an L-zone

The model under which Fluxys Belgium offers transmission services to grid users is an entry/exit model. Through this entry/exit model, natural gas enters the BeLux area at an interconnection point, and can either leave the transmission grid at another interconnection point or be consumed by a Belgian final customer at a domestic exit point, or be traded within the grid.

The transmission grid is divided into two entry/exit zones: the H-zone and the L-zone. The H-zone corresponds to the physical H-calorific subgrid and the L-zone to the physical L-calorific subgrid. Entry services enable a grid user to inject a quantity of natural gas at an interconnection point into the considered zone. Exit services enable the grid user to withdraw a quantity of natural gas at an interconnection point or at a domestic exit point from the zone in question. Section 3 contains more information on the entry and exit services.



An *interconnection point* is a type of connection point<sup>3</sup> linking the Fluxys Belgium transmission grid

- with the transmission grid of an adjacent TSO.
- with the transmission grid of an adjacent TSO or with an installation operated by Fluxys Belgium or one of its subsidiaries or with an installation connected to the Fluxys Belgium grid by means of a cross border capacity. Those connection points are the quality conversion facilities, the Loenhout storage facility, the LNG terminal in Zeebrugge and the LNG terminal in Dunkirk, and are called *installation points*.

<sup>3</sup> A *connection point* is a physical or a virtual point on the transmission grid, as specified in the access code for transmission, at which grid users deliver natural gas to Fluxys Belgium for the performance of transmission services or at which Fluxys Belgium redelivers natural gas to grid users after having performed such transmission.



A *domestic exit point* is a connection point connecting the Fluxys Belgium transmission grid to a final customer, either directly connecting an end user to the transmission grid (*end user domestic exit point*), or via a distribution network (*distribution domestic exit point*).

### 2.3.2 A model interconnecting the Northwest European market areas and Belgian final customers

The Fluxys Belgium transmission grid enjoys a high level of interconnectivity with adjacent transmission grids, offering extensive access to Northwest European market areas and production facilities.

As from 1 November 2018, and according to EU Commission Regulation 2017/459 (CAM NC), transmission system operators offer the available capacities at different Interconnection Points connecting the same two Entry/Exit systems at a Virtual Interconnection Point (VIP<sup>4</sup>). Since 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017, Fluxys Belgium operates a VIP with GRTgaz, between ZTP-H and PEG-Nord, named Virtualys which combines the former interconnection points Blaregnies Troll, Blaregnies Segeo and Alveringem.

Interconnection Points		Adjacent Operator / Market Area	
Interconnection points (H gas)	Virtualys <sup>5</sup>	GRTgaz	PEG Nord
	Eynatten 1	Gascade	GasPool
	Eynatten 2	Open Grid Europe Thyssengas Fluxys TENP	NCG
	IZT	Interconnector UK	NBP <sup>6</sup>
	's Gravenvoeren	GasunieTransportServices	TTF
	Zandvliet H		
	Zelzate 1		
	Zelzate 2	Zebra pijpleiding	-
	Zeebrugge	Fluxys Belgium	-
	ZPT	Gassco	-
Interconnection points (L gas)	Blaregnies L	GRTgaz	PEG Nord
	Hilvarenbeek L	GasunieTransportServices	TTF
Installation Points	Loenhout	Fluxys Belgium	
	Zeebrugge LNG Terminal	Fluxys LNG	
	Dunkirk LNG Terminal	Dunkerque LNG	
	QC - Quality Conversion	Fluxys Belgium	

<sup>4</sup> Virtual Interconnection Point (VIP) is in this CAM NC defined as "two or more Interconnection Points which connect the same two adjacent entry-exit systems, integrated together for the purposes of providing a single capacity service"

<sup>5</sup> Combining former Blaregnies Troll, Blaregnies Segeo and Alveringem.

<sup>6</sup> IZT interconnection point connects to the National Grid's NBP through the undersea pipeline Interconnector IUK.

### 3 SERVICES OFFERED

Entry and Exit Capacity services are available in various capacity types and can be subscribed independently:

- **Firm (F) capacity** is always available and usable under normal operating conditions<sup>7</sup>.
- **Interruptible (I) capacity** means that Fluxys Belgium can interrupt the service due to physical restrictions on its transmission grid.
- **Backhaul (BH) capacity** is offered at unidirectional interconnection points, in the opposite direction of the physical gas flow direction and is usable as long as the resulting physical flow remains in the physical direction of the interconnection point.

#### 3.1 Entry and exit services on interconnection points

Entry services are services enabling natural gas to be injected into a zone of the transmission grid at an interconnection point. Exit services are services enabling natural gas to be withdrawn from a zone of the transmission grid at a domestic exit point or at an interconnection point.

The table below shows the services offered at all interconnection points.

Interconnection Point		Entry service			Exit service		
		F	BH	I	F	BH	I
Interconnection points (H gas)	Eynatten 1	X		0	X		0
	Eynatten 2	X		0	X		0
	IZT	X		0	X		0
	's Gravenvoeren	X		0		X	
	Virtualys	X	X**	0	X		0
	Zandvliet H	X		0		X	
	Zeebrugge	X		0	X		0
	Zelzate 1	X		0	X		0
	Zelzate 2		X		X		0
	ZPT	X		0		X	
Interconnection points (L gas)	Blaregnies L		X		X		0
	Hilvarenbeek L	X		0		X	
Installation Points	Loenhout	X		X* <sup>8</sup>	X		X*
	Zeebrugge LNG Terminal	X				X	
	Dunkirk LNG Terminal <sup>9</sup>	X					

- X = Service is offered and can be contracted within indicative availabilities as published on the Fluxys Belgium website
- X\* = Operational interruptible capacity that corresponds to capacities that Fluxys Belgium has secured for the operation of the transmission grid and that are made available to grid users on an interruptible basis.
- X\*\* = Only for contracts concluded before 30 November 2017.
- 0 = Service is optionally offered, depending on firm availability
- Installation points are considered to be a specific type of interconnection point.

<sup>7</sup> Which are subject to the terms and conditions of the standard transmission agreement.

<sup>8</sup> Operational Interruptible capacity that corresponds to capacities that Fluxys Belgium has secured for the operation of the transmission grid and that are made available to grid users on an interruptible basis.

<sup>9</sup> With the subscription of Dunkirk LNG Terminal the associated Cross Border Delivery Service will be implicitly allocated meaning that they are matched in quantity, time and Capacity Type as described in ACT – Attachment A.

### **3.1.1 Definition of the service offer at interconnection points**

As long as firm (or backhaul) transmission services are available at an interconnection point or LNG Terminal installation point, only firm (or backhaul) transmission services are offered at this interconnection point, which are allocated as requested or via auctions, as detailed in section 4.1.

Interruptible services are offered at an interconnection point, when firm transmission services are available in limited quantity over such a period. The offered quantities are calculated such that the probability of interruption based on historical data does not exceed 5%. This probability is based on historical data and only serves as an indication, without giving any guarantee as to the probability of interruption for the future.

For unidirectional interconnection points, only backhaul services are offered in the reverse direction.

Operational interruptible capacity is offered at the Loenhout installation point, where Fluxys Belgium has secured capacities for the operation of the transmission grid. In order to maximise the service offer, such operational capacities are made available to grid users on an interruptible basis. This service is offered in addition to firm capacity. These firm and operational interruptible services are implicitly allocated by Fluxys Belgium to grid users according to the subscribed storage services with Fluxys Belgium at the Loenhout underground storage facility.

The H→L quality conversion service is the ability to convert H-gas from the H-zone in L-gas for the L-zone. The capacity type can be firm or interruptible. The L→H quality conversion service consists of the ability to convert L gas from the L-zone in H-gas for the H-zone. The capacity type is interruptible.

### **3.1.2 Availability for use of each service**

Subscribed firm transmission services are, subject to the terms and conditions of the standard transmission agreement, always usable under normal operating conditions. Furthermore, subscribed Entry and Exit transmission services are usable independently of each other<sup>10</sup>.

Interruptible services can be interrupted by Fluxys Belgium if the requested quantities exceed the physical capabilities.

Operational interruptible capacity offered at the Loenhout installation point can be interrupted by Fluxys Belgium in case such capacity is needed to operate the transmission grid.

Backhaul capacity is usable on selected interconnection points as long as the resulting physical flow remains in the physical direction of such unidirectional interconnection point.

### **3.1.3 Rate type for Interconnection Points**

Two types of rates apply for entry service at an interconnection point, depending on the duration of the booked service. If the service period is equal to one calendar year or any multiple of calendar years, the yearly rate type will apply. In other cases (less than one calendar year), a

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<sup>10</sup> With the exception of Wheeling Services and Operational Capacity Usage Commitments as described in section 3.3

seasonal rate type will apply in proportion to the number of days of the booking. For an exit service at an interconnection point with any service duration, the yearly rate type applies.

This is summarized in the following table:

Capacity services	Service period	Rate type
Entry services	= 1 year or multiple of 12 calendar months(*)	Yearly
	1 month $\geq$ x < 1 year	Seasonal
	< 1 month	
Exit services	All service periods	Yearly

### 3.2 Services at domestic exit points

Domestic exit services are services enabling natural gas to be withdrawn from a zone of the transmission grid at a domestic exit point.

Connection Point	Firm	Interruptible
End User Domestic Exit Point	X	0
Distribution Domestic Exit Point	X	-

#### 3.2.1 Exit service offer at a domestic exit point

For end user domestic exit points, i.e. connection points between the Fluxys Belgium transmission grid and end users' facilities, exit services have to be subscribed by the grid user. As long as firm exit services are available at an end user domestic exit point, only firm exit transmission services are offered, which are allocated as requested. These services are offered with high pressure, medium pressure and DPRS (pressure reduction at domestic exit point) parameters, if applicable, taking into account the physical characteristics of the end user domestic exit point. For more details on those services, please refer to Section 3.2.4.

If no (or no more) firm transmission services can be offered at an end user domestic exit point, interruptible transmission services can be offered upon consultation with, and agreement of, the end user in question in accordance with the access code for transmission and the connection agreement.

For domestic exit capacity to distribution networks, there is no explicit subscription of exit services by the grid user. The peak capacity is calculated based on *inter alia* the methodology agreed with the distribution network operators. Fluxys Belgium implicitly allocates this peak capacity on a monthly basis to grid users based on their market share of final customers within each distribution network, taking into account the different final customers profile segmentations.

#### 3.2.2 Availability for use of each exit service

Subscribed firm transmission services are, subject to the terms and conditions of the standard transmission agreement, always usable under normal operating conditions.

Subscribed interruptible transmission services can be interrupted by Fluxys Belgium if the quantities requested to be transported exceed the physical capabilities of the transmission network.



### 3.2.3 Rate type for domestic exit points

For exit services at end user domestic exit points, four rate types apply, depending on the service period of the booked service. If the service period is equal to one calendar year or any multiple of calendar years (beginning on any date), the yearly rate type will apply. Alternatively the Fix/Flex rate type can apply if such rate type is requested by all grid users active on a given end user domestic exit point for a period equal to one or more calendar years, starting on January, 1<sup>st</sup>. For a service period which is between 1 or 12 calendar months, the seasonal rate type will apply in proportion to the number of days of the booking. For service with a service period of less than one calendar month, the short term rate type will apply.

For exit services at distribution domestic exit points (towards the distribution network) that are allocated by the TSO, the rate type is always yearly.

Capacity services	Service period	Rate type
Exit services at End User Domestic Exit Point	= 1 year or a multiple of 12 calendar months	Yearly
		Fix/Flex
	1 month $\geq x < 1$ year	Seasonal
	< 1 month	Short term
Exit services at Distribution Domestic Exit Point	All service periods	Yearly

The capacity fee under the Fix/Flex rate type consists of a Fix component and a Flex component:

- The Fix component depends on the booked capacity, covering the peak requirements for the considered End User.
- The Flex component depends on the actual usage of the capacity, expressed in running hours (running hours being the allocated quantities divided by the booked capacities).

The Fix/Flex rate type is only available on high pressure firm exit services and cannot be combined with the yearly, seasonal or short term rate type or further subscriptions.

During the start-up and commissioning process, Fluxys Belgium will apply the yearly rate type for a maximum of 6 months if capacity requirements are not on regular basis.

### 3.2.4 Specific services at the domestic exit point

At domestic exit points, the transmission services always include the high pressure exit service and may include one or more of the following :

- Via the *medium pressure service*, Fluxys Belgium transports the gas to a domestic exit point via a medium pressure network.
- Via the *dedicated pressure reduction station service*, Fluxys Belgium reduces the pressure at a domestic exit point within the contractual minimum and maximum pressure limits.
- *Odourisation* consists of Fluxys Belgium injecting an odorant in gas at domestic exit points where an odorisation facility is operated by Fluxys Belgium.

When a grid user subscribes to exit capacity services for a domestic exit point (or is implicitly allocated such services in the case of distribution) connected to the medium pressure network, equipped with a pressure reduction facility or equipped with an odorisation facility, the corresponding services of medium pressure, dedicated pressure reduction station or odorisation are automatically applicable.

For two specific case of end users located in Belgium but near a border and directly connected to the transmission grid of an adjacent TSO or to the grid of a foreign distribution network operator, the service allowing this is the dedicated direct line service.

### 3.3 Wheeling and Operational capacity usage commitments (OCUC)

A wheeling allows the direct transmission of natural gas between two interconnection points located within the same border station without entering the entry/exit zone of the transmission grid. Wheelings do not give access either to other entry/exit points of the transmission grid nor to the ZTP notional trading services (ZTP & ZTPL). Under a wheeling, the quantity of entering gas must be equal, on an hourly basis, to the quantity of exiting gas.

Wheelings are available between the following interconnection points:

- Between Eynatten 1 and Eynatten 2, and between Eynatten 2 and Eynatten 1
- Between Zelzate 1/VIP BE-NL and Zelzate 2, and between Zelzate 2 and Zelzate 1/VIP BE-NL

OCUCs are operational agreements between a grid user and Fluxys Belgium consisting of a commitment regarding the combined use of a well-defined entry service at an interconnection point with a well-defined exit service at another interconnection point, without access to the market-based balancing model or to ZTP notional trading services. As a proactive measure, Fluxys Belgium determines in advance the eligible entry and exit service that can avoid a bottleneck in the transmission grid, and which are currently the following combinations:

- Entry Eynatten 1 or Eynatten 2, with Exit 's Gravenvoeren/VIP BE-NL
- Entry 's Gravenvoeren/VIP BE-NL, with Exit Eynatten 1 or Eynatten 2
- Entry Zelzate 1/VIP BE-NL or Zelzate 2, with Exit IZT or Zeebrugge
- Entry IZT or Zeebrugge, with Exit Zelzate 1/VIP BE-NL or Zelzate 2
- Entry Dunkirk LNG Terminal or Virtualys with Exit IZT or Zeebrugge

### 3.4 Zee platform service

The aim of the Zee Platform Service is to facilitate transfers of gas in the Zeebrugge area between IZT, ZPT, Zeebrugge LNG Terminal and Zeebrugge interconnection points. The Zee Platform Service enables grid users to transfer natural gas between two or more (at the grid user's choice) of these points without explicit capacity reservation and without any capacity limitation.

Zee Platform transfers are firm, except transfers to ZPT and Zeebrugge LNG Terminal which are backhaul, as ZPT and Zeebrugge LNG Terminal are unidirectional interconnection points. Furthermore, transfers to IZT and Zeebrugge are subject to compliance with UK gas quality requirements.

The Zee Platform service does not give access either to the entry/exit zone of the transmission grid nor to the ZTP notional trading services (ZTP & ZTPL). Under the Zee Platform, the quantity of entering gas must be equal, on an hourly basis, to the quantity of exiting gas.

### 3.5 Gas quality conversion service

As explained above, the Fluxys Belgium grid is composed of 2 independent subgrids which correspond to two entry-exit zones: H-zone and L-zone. The conversion facilities enable rich gas (H gas) to be converted into Slochteren gas (L gas) or the other way around, combined as a single "virtual" instillation point Quality Conversion H/L.

### 3.5.1 Gas quality conversion service H → L

The quality conversion services H→L enable the transportation of H gas into the L gas zone.

Different quality conversion services H→L exist, namely “peak load”, “base load” and “seasonal load”; each with a different tariff structure and different specifications regarding availability of the capacity. The peak load conversion service H→L can only be used from 1<sup>st</sup> November to 31 March and at cold temperatures. Peak load conversion services is sold in bundles with a part in firm capacity and a part in interruptible capacity. These features make the peak load serving a perfect insurance system to cover increased demand for L gas with H gas at a peak during the cold winter. The H→L base and seasonal load quality conversion services can be used during the whole contract year and are therefore suitable, for example, just for supplying an end customer L gas in with H gas.

These quality conversion services are first sold through an annual subscription window for periods of one or more gas years for the peak load and for periods of one gas year for base load and seasonal load. During the subscription window requests are allocated in proportion to the requested quantities with priority to the longest period. Upon closing of this subscription window any remaining quantities can be allocated as requested subject to explicit prior confirmation by Fluxys Belgium of available necessary logistics contracts and in so far the request covers the remaining period up to 30 September of the next year.

The use of H→L gas quality conversion service does not require the grid user to subscribe to entry or exit services in the L or H-zone respectively.

The part of the subscribed capacity that can actually be used or real capacity of the peak load conversion service (H→L) is dependent on the temperature, the date and the Wobbe of the L-gas. A part of the peak load bundle is also offered on interruptible basis. The real capacity of the seasonal load conversion service depends on the period. Base load conversion capacity is available year round. All conversion capacities are however subject to any necessary maintenance works. This is described in detail in Annex C.3 of the Access Code for Transmission.

### 3.5.2 Gas quality conversion service L → H

The quality conversion service L→H service enables the transportation of L gas into the H gas zone. This service is available on an interruptible basis. The use of gas quality conversion service L→H doesn't require the grid user to subscribe to entry or exit services in the H or L-zone respectively.

These quality conversion services are sold on an annual basis for periods of one gas year. The services are offered through a subscription window in which requests covering the upcoming gas year are allocated in proportion to the requested quantities. Upon closing of this subscription window any remaining quantities are allocated as requested provided the requested period is a minimum of one week and does not exceed the end of the gas year. The details of such a subscription window are described in the access code for transmission.

## 3.6 Cross Border Delivery Service

The cross border delivery service is a service that enables the transportation of natural gas between an interconnection point or an installation point located on an adjacent transmission system operator's grid and the transmission system of Fluxys Belgium. A cross border delivery service offered on an interconnection point is always offered together with other transmission services available on such interconnection point. The tariff of the respective transmission system operator shall be applicable for the cross border delivery service, as set out in the regulated tariffs.

## 3.7 ZTP Trading Services

Fluxys Belgium offers (physical and notional) ZTP trading services enabling grid users to exchange title of gas through either notional or physical services. The ZTP trading services include title tracking, nomination, matching, balance check, confirmation and imbalance transfer services. The details on these services are described in the access code for transmission.

### 3.7.1 Imbalance transfer service

The imbalance transfer service ensures that net confirmed title transfers for ZTP physical trading services are automatically transferred to/from the grid user balancing position. The transmission capacities at the interconnection point Zeebrugge required to perform such transfer are eventually implicitly allocated.

The implicit allocation mechanism is based on the hourly quantities transferred under the imbalance transfer service, insofar the grid user does not hold in its portfolio sufficient unused (e.g. non nominated) transmission services<sup>11</sup> to realize the transfer. The implicit allocation – if any – results in a subscribed within-day transmission service (entry or exit - always till the end of the gas day).

This service is part of the trading services and must not be subscribed by grid users. It is performed by the TSO for each grid user using the ZTP physical trading service, as long as firm transmission services are available on Zeebrugge, IZT, Zeebrugge LNG Terminal and ZPT in the same direction.

### 3.7.2 Imbalance pooling service

The imbalance pooling service allows grid users to pool their hourly net confirmed title transfer for ZTP physical trading services by transferring the hourly net confirmed title transfer for ZTP physical trading services from one grid user to another.

The pooling of the hourly net confirmed title transfer for ZTP physical trading services implies a transfer grid users need to agree upon before the start of the imbalance pooling service by means of an imbalance pooling form. The imbalance pooling service is based on the designation of a role between two grid users, where for one grid user known as the imbalance transferor, its hourly net confirmed title transfer for ZTP physical trading services is automatically transferred to another grid user also known as the imbalance transferee, as detailed in the access code for transmission.

## 3.8 Substitution services

### 3.8.1 Capacity conversion service

The capacity conversion service enables grid users holding unbundled capacity at one side of an interconnection point to convert this capacity into bundled capacity. This service is offered free of extra charge according to the conditions set forth in the access code for transmission.

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<sup>11</sup> The entry or exit services taken into account for the calculation of such implicit allocation are the hourly subscribed transmission services at interconnection points IZT, Zeebrugge LNG Terminal, ZPT, and Zeebrugge, including the implicitly allocated transmission services at Zeebrugge till the end of the same gas day under the imbalance transfer service for (a) previous hour(s) of the same gas day.



### **3.8.2 Reshuffling service**

The reshuffling service, offered once in 2018 prior to the yearly auctions on PRISMA, enables grid users holding long term unbundled entry or exit capacity at an interconnection point to convert (part of) that capacity into (un)bundled capacity at another Interconnection Point in accordance with the conditions set forth in the access code for transmission.

### **3.8.3 L/H capacity switch service**

In the framework of the physical conversion of the L-gas network into the H gas network, the L/H capacity switch service, offered once a year prior to the yearly auctions on PRISMA, enables grid users holding unbundled entry capacity at an L-gas interconnection point to convert (part of) that capacity into (un)bundled capacity at an H-gas interconnection point in accordance with the conditions set forth in the access code for transmission.

### **3.8.4 Diversion service**

The diversion service, offered prior to all monthly, quarterly and yearly auctions on PRISMA, enables grid users holding unbundled entry or exit capacity at specific interconnection points to transfer (part of) that capacity to another interconnection point at the same grid location in accordance with the conditions set forth in the access code for transmission.



## 4 SERVICE SUBSCRIPTION AND ALLOCATION RULES

### 4.1 Primary market

In order to subscribe and use transmission services, a party must first register as a grid user, as set out in the code of conduct, which entails signing the standard transmission agreement. The standard transmission agreement is concluded for an indefinite period and service confirmation forms are the legal and contractual form that confirms the subscribed services under this agreement.

Transmission service are offered as follow:

SERVICES		Sales Channel <sup>12</sup>	Allocation method	Duration <sup>13</sup>
Entry and Exit Services on IPs, VIPs & LNG Terminals	Blaregnies L	PRISMA	Auction	Y, Q, M, DA, WD
	Eynatten 1			
	Eynatten 2			
	Hilvarenbeek L			
	IZT			
	's Gravenvoeren			
	Virtualys			
	Zandvliet H			
	Zelzate 1		FCFS	Any duration
	Zeebrugge <sup>14</sup>			
	Zelzate 2			
	ZPT			
	Zeebrugge LNG Terminal			
	Dunkirk LNG Terminal <sup>15</sup>			
Capacity Conversion Service (unbundled to bundled)			Y, Q, M, DA	
Conversion into OCUC and Wheeling <sup>16</sup>			Y, Q, M <sup>17</sup>	
Quality Conversion Service H→L <sup>18</sup>		Written only	Pro rata and ECFS	Multi Y, Y and B-o-Y

<sup>12</sup> Written procedure can be activated by the TSO as fall-back mechanism, should EBS or PRISMA platforms be unavailable.

<sup>13</sup> (Y)= Yearly, (Q)= Quarterly, (M)= Monthly, (DA)= Day-Ahead, (WD)= Within-Day, (B-o-Y)= Balance of Gas Year, (GD)= Gas Day.

<sup>14</sup> Implicit allocation of Transmission Services at Zeebrugge also possible in the framework of the Imbalance Transfer Service.

<sup>15</sup> With the subscription of Dunkirk LNG Terminal entry capacity the associated Cross Border Delivery Service will be implicitly allocated meaning that they are matched in quantity, time and Capacity Type as described in ACT – Attachment A. No capacity will be allocable for a service period shorter than 1 gas day.

<sup>16</sup> The possibility to use PRISMA to request conversion of Entry and Exit services into OCUCs or Wheelings is being developed. The start date will be confirmed by the TSO at least 4 weeks in advance. Until then, the procedure remains manual.

<sup>17</sup> Except for Dunkirk LNG where OCUC are offered associated with a Cross Border Delivery Service for the same Service Period which can be shorter than for monthly capacities.

<sup>18</sup> First subscription window (written only), for which Year and/or Multi-Year products are allocated pro rata request (Base and Seasonal), with a priority for longest period for Peak product. After subscription window (written only) Balance of Gas Year products are allocated via FCFS principle and are subject to availability and to the required logistics (e.g. with nitrogen suppliers)

Quality Conversion Service L→H <sup>19</sup>		EBS or written	Pro rata and FCFS	Multi Y, Y and min 1 GD
Entry and Exit Services on Loenhout		Implicit		Not applicable
Exit Service for End Users Domestic Exit Point		EBS	FCFS	Any duration
Exit Service for Distribution Domestic Exit Point		Implicit		Not applicable
Other Services	Zee Platform	Written only	Not applicable	Not applicable
	ZTP Trading Services			
	Imbalance Pooling Service			
	L/H Capacity Switch Service			
	Reshuffling Service			

Services on interconnection points offered on the Prisma capacity booking platform can be subscribed via auction<sup>20</sup> or on a first-committed-first served basis on PRISMA<sup>21</sup> ([www.prisma-capacity.eu](http://www.prisma-capacity.eu)). Other services described in this brochure can be subscribed at Fluxys Belgium either in writing (letter, fax or email), using a transmission service request form (the templates are available transmissionn the Fluxys Belgium website), or by on-line booking, using an Internet-based electronic booking system accessible via the Fluxys Belgium website ([www.fluxys.com/belgium](http://www.fluxys.com/belgium)) or via an implicit allocation.

#### 4.1.1 Subscription via PRISMA

PRISMA European Capacity Platform is a joint initiative developed in cooperation with other EU transmission systems operators (e.g. from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, United Kingdom, Ireland and the Netherlands) with the goal to implement a joint platform implementing of the European Network Code for Capacity Allocation Mechanisms ("CAM NC")<sup>22</sup>.

On PRISMA, Entry and Exit services at interconnection points can be subscribed in the form of bundled products with the relevant adjacent transmission system operators or in the form of unbundled products with Fluxys Belgium.

On PRISMA, the unbundled capacity services offered using the first-committed-first-served principle can be booked at any time taking into account a minimum leadtime of 120 min and this on 24/7 basis. Services are marketed in non-standardized durations, which can either be within-day products (balance of gas day product) or products with a minimum period of 1 day and for which there is no maximum period. These capacity services are allocated in the order as they have been requested, for as long as capacity services are available.

On PRISMA, capacity services offered in auctions are marketed in standardized durations, called standard products, which can either be within-day (balance of gas day product), daily (for a duration of one gas day), monthly (from 1<sup>st</sup> gas day to last gas day of any calendar month),

<sup>19</sup> First subscription window (written only), for which Year and Multi-Year products are allocated, allocation pro rata request with priority to longest period. After subscription window (written + EBS) products of any duration with a minimum duration of 1 Gas Day are allocated via FCFS allocation

<sup>20</sup> In case PRISMA is not available the TSO keeps the possibility to offer the available capacity on the Electronic Booking System, or in written form, as the case may be, and grid user has the right to send its service request for such service period directly to the TSO in written with the appropriate form.

<sup>21</sup> A quality conversion request for H→L should be a balance of gas year product with a minimum service period of 1 gas day, starting at the earliest on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October of each gas year and with a service period which ends at 30 September of that gas year. The quality conversion services shall be allocated to grid user taking into account the availability of necessary logistics contracts.

<sup>22</sup> Commission Regulation EU (No) 984/2013 (CAM NC) has entered into force after its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union in late 2013 and is applicable since 1 November 2015; the allocation processes on PRISMA are based on this official version of the CAM NC.

quarterly (starting on the 1st of October, 1st of January, 1st of April or the 1st of July respectively) or yearly (starting on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October).

If applicable, for services auctioned on PRISMA, the interruptible services will be offered after the closure of the firm auctions for the same product period. For the remaining interconnection points, interruptible capacities are allocated as requested.

In accordance with the article 3 paragraph 5 of the CAM NC, competing auctions may be set up. These auctions provide the TSO the ability to offer a limited amount of capacity available in two different auctions, where the market indicates via the auction process which auction is the most requested.. This is the case for the 1-N auctions situation, where N can be the number of TSOs at one side of the border (e.g. Eynatten 2) or can be the number of products available at one side of the border (e.g. IZT).

**Example:** Fluxys Belgium has 100 MWh/h available exit capacity at Eynatten 2; on the German side, two TSOs each have 75 MWh/h available. Instead of Fluxys Belgium in advance chooses to make a bundled product of the maximum 75MWh/h with TSO 1 and the 25 MWh/h remaining product with TSO 2, the competing auction will generate a range of two auctions of 75 MWh/h with an overall limit of 100 MWh/h.

On PRISMA, auctions are held according to a European-wide agreed calendar which is determined annually and published on ENTSG website, but reflected on PRISMA and on Fluxys Belgium websites as well.

The auction premium that can result from the auction process applied to allocate the bundled products is split between Fluxys Belgium and the concerned adjacent transmission system operators in accordance with a key subject to approval by the competent regulatory authorities. The part of such auction premium relating to the services subscribed with Fluxys Belgium is invoiced to the grid users by Fluxys Belgium on top of the reserve price being the regulated tariff, according to section 7.

On PRISMA, auctions are held according to two possible algorithms: ascending clock or uniform price.

#### *4.1.1.1 Ascending Clock*

For the auctioning of yearly, quarterly and monthly services, an ascending clock auction algorithm is applied.

During consecutive bidding rounds, grid users are invited to submit quantity bids. A quantity bid specifies the amount of capacity that the grid user would like to acquire at the proposed price of such bidding round. The reserve price in the first bidding round is equal to the sum of the reserve prices at each side of the interconnection point, with such reserve price being the regulated tariff for the Belgian part of the bundled products. In subsequent bidding rounds, the price for the bundled products is increased by fixed large price increments until the sum of the submitted bid quantity bids is smaller than or equal to the amount of capacity offered.

At that stage, the price is brought back to the price of the previous bidding round. A new series of bidding rounds is launched, in which the price is subsequently increased by small price increments until the sum of the submitted quantity bids is lower than or equal to the amount of capacity offered. In this case the auction is finished. The capacities are allocated according to the last quantity bids at the premium, equal to the sum of the large price increments and small price increments having led to the last bidding round, to be added to the sum of the respective reserve prices.



For each product the large and small price increments are fixed, defined and published on [www.prisma-capacity.eu](http://www.prisma-capacity.eu). The amount of capacities offered is published at [www.prisma-capacity.eu](http://www.prisma-capacity.eu) before the beginning of each auction and in a timely manner.

#### *4.1.1.2 Uniform Price*

For the auctioning of daily and within-day services, a uniform price auction algorithm will be applied:

Grid users submit their bids or bidding lists during only one bidding round. A bidding list can contain up to 10 bids. Each bid contains the requested capacity amount, the minimum capacity amount and the price at which the grid user would like to acquire this capacity amount, it being understood that the reserve price is equal to the sum of the reserve prices at each side of the interconnection point, with such reserve price being the regulated tariff for the Belgian part of the bundled products.

At the end of the bidding round, capacity is allocated to the bids in function of their price ranking, i.e. the requested capacity amount of the bid with the highest price is allocated first. After each allocation, the remaining unallocated capacity is reduced by the same quantity. Each bid is considered successful if capacity can still be allocated in accordance with the minimum capacity amount requested in the bid. All successful bids are allocated at the price of the lowest successful bid if demand exceeds the offered capacity. In all other cases, all successful bids are cleared at the reserve price.

#### **4.1.2 Subscribing services with Fluxys Belgium directly.**

Beside the services exclusively offered on PRISMA, other services can be booked at any time in writing or via the electronic booking system (hereinafter EBS). If the requested services via EBS are available both in terms of the service period as the available capacity, then the request will be directly confirmed via EBS. For example, capacity services at domestic exit points can be subscribed via EBS on 24/7 basis.

Services are offered for a minimum period of one day (gas day from 6:00 AM to 6:00 AM) and there is in general no maximum period, except for the services where another period is explicitly determined (interruptible, Fix/Flex rate type, or H/L quality conversion – see section 0).

The Fix/Flex rate type for exit services on end user domestic exit points can only be requested on an annual basis during a window. It can only be attributed per period of 1 or several calendar years, starting on January 1st, for all grid users active on a given end user domestic exit point.

In general, services not offered on PRISMA, are allocated as requested, with the exception of services offered in a subscription window, implicitly allocated, through an Open Season process or Incremental Process. Fluxys Belgium allocates these services based on the order of receipt of grid users' applications.

The TSO also offers all grid users having entry and exit services the possibility to convert those into a wheeling or an operational capacity usage commitment<sup>23</sup> with the TSO, under following restrictive conditions:

- only yearly, quarterly or monthly eligible entry and exit services can be converted<sup>24</sup>;

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<sup>23</sup> A PRISMA based solution is being developed which then will replace this manual solution.

<sup>24</sup> Except for Dunkirk LNG where OCUC are offered associated with a Cross Border Delivery Service for the same period service which can be shorter than for monthly capacities.

- the grid user has a period of 1 week, after the allocation of its capacities, to send in his request to convert the entry and exit services into a wheeling or an operational commitment usage commitment which must be equal in quantity. The period remains identical as initially contracted.

#### **4.1.3 Services implicitly allocated by Fluxys Belgium**

There are 3 types of services implicitly allocated by Fluxys Belgium, where the grid user has no need to subscribe capacity for using services.

For domestic exit capacity to distribution networks, Fluxys Belgium implicitly allocates the peak capacity on a monthly basis to grid users based on their market share of final customers within each distribution network, taking into account the different final customers profile segmentations (see section 3.2.1).

The firm and operational interruptible services at Loenhout are implicitly allocated by Fluxys Belgium to grid users according to the subscribed storage services with Fluxys Belgium at the Loenhout underground storage facility (see section 0).

To perform the imbalance transfer service (see section 3.7.1), Fluxys Belgium will implicitly allocate entry or exit transmission services at interconnection point Zeebrugge if the grid user has no more unused entry or exit capacity in its portfolio<sup>25</sup>.

#### **4.1.4 Incremental capacity process and Open Seasons**

Fluxys Belgium can assess the market potential for new capacity to be developed by means of Open Seasons or Incremental Capacity Process as defined in the Access Code for Transmission. At least every odd year, and at the latest 16 weeks after the start of the annual yearly auctions, Fluxys Belgium will, jointly with its Adjacent TSOs, publish a Demand Assessment Report, analysing the market demand and potential for new or incremental capacity at interconnection points, and concluding on the need – nor absence thereof – to further proceed with incremental capacity projects.

### **4.2 Trading capacity on the secondary market**

Grid users are legally bound (pursuant to Article 11 of the code of conduct) to make available on the secondary market, the subscribed firm capacity which they no longer need, for a specific period or permanently.

Fluxys Belgium organises the secondary market by enabling grid users to trade capacity services they no longer need on an electronic market platform, Fluxys Belgium uses PRISMA ("PRISMA secondary") for such purpose.

PRISMA secondary allows grid users to trade capacity services among themselves or with the TSO, either anonymously or through registration of over-the-counter transactions.

Aside from PRISMA secondary, transmission services can always be traded on the secondary market by a standard written "over the counter" assignment procedure which is detailed in the access code for transmission.

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<sup>25</sup> Being the sum of subscribed capacities on Interconnection Points Zeebrugge, , ZPT, IZT and LNG Terminal.

## 5 OPERATING RULES

### 5.1 Nominations

In order to notify Fluxys Belgium of the quantity of natural gas that will be delivered at each interconnection point and each end user domestic exit point, the grid user shall send nominations and, if applicable, renominations to Fluxys Belgium, according to the procedure detailed in the access code for transmission. No nominations have to be sent for distribution domestic exit points.

A nomination is a standardised electronic message issued by the grid user via Edig@ds protocol. It relates to a particular gas day (a gas day begins at 06:00 hours and terminates at 06:00 hours the following day, Belgian time) and to a specific point, and provides for each hour of the relevant gas day the quantities of natural gas, expressed in kWh, that the grid user wishes to inject or offtake under its subscribed services at the relevant point.

The time schedule for the nominations and the renominations cycles for a given gas day are described in the access code for transmission and are based on the EASEE-gas common business practice<sup>26</sup>. The first nomination cycle begins at 14:00 hours of the preceding gas day and is composed of the following steps:

- The grid user sends his nominations to Fluxys Belgium
- Fluxys Belgium checks the validity of the message format
- The nominations are processed by Fluxys Belgium (conformity checks and matching with the nominations in the adjacent system)
- Fluxys Belgium computes the quantities that can be confirmed and that are scheduled to be delivered/offtaken to/from the transmission grid
- Fluxys Belgium sends a confirmation message in order to communicate to the grid user the results of the process.

Fluxys Belgium supports both double sided nominations and single sided nominations<sup>27</sup>. In double sided nominations, matching nominations have to be submitted to both Fluxys Belgium and the Adjacent TSO, while in single sided nominations only one nomination is required with one of the TSOs. The TSOs have to define<sup>28</sup> in which network the grid users will be the active and the passive grid users, whereby the active grid user is sending the nominations as described above towards the active TSO. The passive grid user will have to send only once a declaration notice to the passive TSO. Both grid users will receive, after conducting a capacity check, the confirmation of the active and/or passive TSO.

The grid user may revise its nominations on a day-ahead or intraday basis by sending renominations. During the gas day a renomination is considered valid when received before the applicable minimum renomination lead time and will be processed for confirmation according to the same process as described above. The standard minimum renomination lead time is "full hour + 2". For net confirmed title transfers (NCTTN<sub>h,z</sub>) relating to ZTP notional trading services, the notification is accepted until 30 minutes before the considered hour. For other points, Fluxys Belgium plans to reduce this lead time to "full hour + 1"<sup>29</sup> subject to harmonization on that

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<sup>26</sup> EASEE-gas Common Business Practice 2003-002/01 "Harmonisation of the Nomination and Matching Process", as approved on February 18, 2004 (see <http://www.easee-gas.org/cbps.aspx>)

<sup>27</sup> Single sided nominations will optionally be made available to Grid Users as from 1 November 2015, provided that the necessary Edig@ds messages have been published by EASEE-gas, taking the necessary implementation time, that the Adjacent TSO has developed the capability to support single sided nominations, that both TSOs have agreed upon their respective role, and that the concerned Grid User(s) have indicated their respective roles.

<sup>28</sup> The information will be published per IP on Fluxys Belgium website, once the necessary agreements on those roles are in place with the respective TSOs

<sup>29</sup> For quality conversion services, the renomination lead time is and remains "full hour+6".

matter between adjacent TSOs. Fluxys Belgium will inform the grid users accordingly and confirm the start date of such potential change in due course.

## 5.2 Metering and allocations

The metering procedures are specified in the access code for transmission. Based on the metering services that cover metering at metering facilities, validation of measurements and measurement repatriation, Fluxys Belgium allocates gas quantities at the interconnection points and end user domestic exit points on an hourly basis to the involved grid user(s). The unit used for the allocation is the kWh.

Two types of allocations can be distinguished. The first is the provisional allocation which is based on the hourly provisional measurement and is communicated to the grid user within 30 minutes after the hour to help him steer its balancing position. In the second type, the validated allocation which is based on the validated measurements Fluxys Belgium determines at the latest on the 20th day of the month following the month for which the allocations are to be validated and which are used for the final gas settlements between Fluxys Belgium and the grid user.

Two types of gas allocation rules can be distinguished at the interconnection points. First, the “deemed to confirmed nomination” rule where the allocated energy equals the last confirmed energy nominations as confirmed by the adjacent TSO<sup>30</sup>. Second, the “proportional to measurement” rule where the allocations will be proportional to the energy measurements.

For the end user domestic exit points, the domestic exit energy allocation allocated to the grid users shall be determined according to the allocation agreement valid for this connection point (agreement between Fluxys Belgium, the end user and the grid users supplying natural gas to the said end user). The pooling of capacity is possible at end user domestic exit points to allow grid users supplying the same end user to pool and share each other’s entire subscribed exit capacity for such end user domestic exit point. The pooling of capacity needs to be described in the specific allocation rule at the given end user domestic exit point on which concerned grid users need to agree upon in the allocation agreement, as detailed in the access code for transmission.

For the distribution domestic exit points, the allocation is based on the telemetered value at the connection point with the distribution network, and based on the grid user’s portfolio of final customers on that distribution network, who can be either telemetered final customers or profile-based final customers. Furthermore, an imbalance smoothing profile, aiming at neutralising, on a daily basis, part of the imbalance caused by the hourly profiled offtake within distribution networks, is allocated to the grid users supplying final customers on the distribution networks. The hourly imbalance smoothing allocations of each grid user are calculated according to the total forecasted offtake of the distribution networks and the provisional allocations for each grid user to the distribution networks, as described in the access code for transmission. They are communicated to the relevant grid users by Fluxys Belgium on a day-ahead basis and indicatively forecasted for the next 3 days.

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<sup>30</sup> The difference between the sum of the hourly allocated quantities and the metered quantities will be allocated to an operating balancing account (OBA) held between Fluxys Belgium and its adjacent TSO or any other party



### 5.3 Data transmission

In accordance with transparency obligations under European regulation and the Belgian code of conduct, Fluxys Belgium publishes information on the operational data of its transmission grid on its website (<http://www.fluxys.com/belgium>) where market parties can find a variety of useful information. Data for all relevant parameters are updated hourly or daily as the case may be and users can retrieve customised reports tailored specifically to their needs.

The following information (and more) is publically available on our electronic data platform:

- Interconnection Points: capacities, nominations, allocations and flows at the interconnection points with adjacent operators
- Consumption: capacities, nominations, allocations and flows for domestic consumption
- Secondary market: capacities traded on the secondary market and their average price
- Temperatures: daily equivalent and degree-day temperatures and their forecast
- List of end users connected to the Fluxys Belgium transmission grid
- Pre-defined reports: supply, demand, storage and LNG reports using a predefined selection of criteria in accordance with ENTSOG guidelines (European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas).

As part of the standard transmission agreement or connection agreement Fluxys Belgium also provides personalised data services via the electronic data platform, yet only privately accessible to grid users or end users, that allows them to visualize, consult or download their own individualised operational data such as:

- hourly measurements including volume, pressure and gross calorific composition of the natural gas at the interconnection points and domestic exit points where they are active;
- hourly allocation data for the interconnection points and domestic exit points where they are active<sup>31</sup>;
- all data required to check Fluxys Belgium invoices.

Fluxys Belgium furthermore offers a real-time data service which can additionally be subscribed by grid users and which provides them with on-line gas flow data (updated every 6 minutes) for selected interconnection points, privately available on the electronic data platform.

### 5.4 Gas quality requirements

The Fluxys Belgium web site (<http://www.fluxys.com/belgium>) provides the technical specifications in force for all the interconnection points on the Fluxys Belgium grid for gas entering or leaving the grid. Operational rules are explained in the access code for transmission. Furthermore, exits towards IZT and Zeebrugge are subject to compliancy with UK gas quality requirements. Fluxys Belgium will use its reasonable endeavours to bring gas exiting IZT within UK Wobbe specifications. If taken measures prove insufficient, Fluxys Belgium has the possibility to constraint the exit gas towards IZT and/or Zeebrugge of Grid Users, in proportion of the gas they injected within the transmission grid which was off-specification with regards to UK Wobbe specifications.

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<sup>31</sup> Note that allocation data is also provided via standardized electronic messages based on the Edig@S protocol.

## 6 BALANCING REGIME AND ALLOCATION SETTLEMENTS IN THE BELUX AREA

Balancing services are operated by the Balancing Operator. As prerequisite to the use of services within the BeLux area and to the use the of the notional trading services offered by Fluxys Belgium, a grid user is required to subscribe a Balancing Agreement with the Balancing Operator, unless explicitly otherwise expressed.

Balancing Services operated by the Balancing Operator are based on provisional data (H+1). The quantity to be settled for a given Gas Day for a Grid User, in a given Zone is calculated as the sum of the difference between the provisional and the final data and are settled between the grid user and the concerned TSO of the Belux area.

In case of difference, settlement is calculated at the latest the 20th day after the relevant month and will be financially handled during the next invoicing cycle.



## 7 INVOICING

According to the terms and conditions set forth in the standard transmission agreement, invoices are usually issued monthly by Fluxys Belgium to grid users, on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the month. Invoices will be rendered either electronically either by letter or fax. A copy of the invoices and all their related appendices will be made privately available on the electronic data platform. Generally speaking, invoices are due within 30 business days after receipt and failure to respect terms of payment may lead to the provision of financial security by the grid user or the suspension of such services.

As detailed in the attachment A of the access code for transmission, two types of invoice are issued to grid users with respect to the total monthly fee for their subscribed services:

- Monthly invoice,
- and
- Monthly self-billing invoice.

The monthly invoice on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of a given month M will contain:

- The monthly capacity fees relating to subscribed or implicit allocated services, including additional services, for month M and additionally subscribed services in month M-1 and not already invoiced in M-1.
- The monthly capacity fees relating to distribution domestic exit services, provisionally allocated for such month M and the correction for such fees relating to distribution domestic exit services, finally allocated for month M-3.
- The monthly variable flex fee relating to services subscribed on end user domestic exit point with Fix/Flex rate type, based on final allocations for month M-3.
- The monthly fix fees relating to the ZTP trading services for the month M.
- The monthly commodity fee (relating to interconnection points and end user domestic exit points) for month M-2.
- The monthly allocation settlement fees in case of purchase for month M-3.
- The monthly odorisation fee for end user domestic exit points for month M-3.
- The monthly transmission imbalance fee for month M-3.
- The monthly commodity fee for peak load quality conversion service H->L for month M-3.
- The monthly commodity fee (relating to distribution domestic exit points) for month M-3.
- The monthly variable fee relating to ZTP trading services for month M-3.
- The monthly incentive fees for month M-3.
- The monthly administrative fees for month M-3.

The monthly self-billing invoice on the 10<sup>th</sup> of a given month M will cover:

- The monthly allocation settlement fees in case of sale for month M-3.

A summary of the consolidated invoices by due date will be transferred to the grid user for each month, including a summary note with the balance payable to the TSO or refund to the grid user.

Conveniently, the grid user may choose between:

- The payment of the consolidated amounts, as calculated in the summary note or,<sup>4</sup>
- The payment of the total monthly fee(s) to the TSO and the payment of the total monthly self-billing fee(s) of the TSO to the network user.

## 8 CONGESTION MANAGEMENT

### 8.1 Proactive congestion management policy

In accordance with its obligations set out in the code of conduct, Fluxys Belgium applies a proactive congestion management policy aiming to achieve optimal and maximal utilisation of available capacities and prevent congestion. This policy, detailed in the access code for transmission, is based on the following set of measures.

A secondary market is organised by Fluxys Belgium as detailed in section 4.2, via an electronic capacity trading platform, Prisma, enabling grid users to offer the subscribed transmission services they no longer require to other grid users. This allows for the optimal and market-based distribution of transmission services amongst grid users and is supported by the regular publication by Fluxys Belgium of aggregated volumes and average prices of the services traded on the secondary market.

Interruptible capacities are offered at interconnection points and domestic exit points as detailed in section 3 from the moment the level of available firm services becomes limited. Such interruptible services enable the dynamic recycling of unused subscribed firm transmission services to other grid users.

Fluxys Belgium also encourages the utilisation of subscribed transmission services by keeping an electronic register of the utilisation rate of subscribed transmission services for each grid user and for each service. This register is submitted to CREG at least annually, as set out in the code of conduct. Each grid user is also provided with part of the register concerning his individual data.

Grid users have furthermore the possibility to post firm transmission services they wish to sell at Fluxys Belgium (surrender of contracted capacity). Interested grid users are allowed to respond to this offer, either directly or via PRISMA.

Furthermore, as another measure to apply a proactive congestion management policy, Fluxys Belgium allows the conversion of entry and exit services into wheeling and/or operational capacity usage commitment under defined conditions (see 3.3 and 4.1).

### 8.2 Congestion management procedure

Congestion occurs when a service request for firm transmission services at an interconnection point or an end-user domestic exit point cannot be confirmed due to the lack of available firm transmission services and if none of the proactive congestion management measures detailed in the access code for transmission or any other alternatives envisaged between Fluxys Belgium and grid user have provided for an acceptable solution.

#### 8.2.1 Interconnection Points

In consequence of Annex 1 of the Regulation (EC) No 715/2009 three (3) specific congestion management procedures are applicable on interconnection points in particular:

- “surrender of contracted capacity” as congestion measure against contractual congestion, in order to bring unused capacity back to the market, as described in section 8.1;
- “long-term use-it-or-lose-it mechanism” in order to bring unused capacity back to the market upon decision of CREG or;
- “capacity increase through oversubscription and buy-back scheme” in order to create additional firm capacity.



### **8.2.1.1 Long-term use-it-or-lose it mechanism**

The “long-term use-it-or-lose-it” procedure is designed to release all or part of the unused subscribed firm transmission services of grid users, upon decision of CREG. The TSO, on behalf of grid users, shall offer the released services on the primary market per periods of 2 months as foreseen in the code of conduct .

This release will be performed after notification to the relevant grid users of the amounts subject to possible release. In the absence of response from the grid user within the scheduled period, such amounts will be automatically released on the secondary market. However, a response from the grid user will lead to a decision of the CREG on the quantities which are finally released and effective.

### **8.2.1.2 Capacity increase through oversubscription and buy-back scheme**

In order to solve contractual congestion Fluxys Belgium may offer firm transmission services in the framework of oversubscription, on top of the technical capacity. In determining this oversubscription firm capacity, Fluxys Belgium will take into account:

- statistical scenarios for the likely amount of physically unused capacity at any given time at interconnection points;
- technical conditions, such as the gas gross calorific value, temperature and expected consumption; and
- a risk profile for offering this additional firm capacity which does not lead to excessive buy-back obligations.

Where necessary to maintain system integrity, Fluxys Belgium will apply a market-based buy-back procedure in which grid users can offer firm transmission services back to the TSO.

## **8.2.2 End user domestic exit points and installations points**

For end users domestic exit points and installations points, a long-term use-it-or-lose-it can be applied. This mechanism is similar to the mechanism applied for interconnection points in section 8.2.1.1.



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## 9 HOW TO CONTACT US

Any request for additional information or questions in relation to the service offer should be addressed to:

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