

Operation note n°4/2022- 17th October (initial)



DECLARATION OF EXCEPTIONAL OPERATING SITUATION LEVEL 0

High stocks levels in regasification plant tanks

By virtue of the obligations established for the System Technical Manager in article 64 of Law 34/1998 on the hydrocarbons sector, especially those referring to short- and medium-term forecasting of the use of system facilities, as well as reserves of natural gas and the provision of instructions necessary for the correct operation of the natural gas system and its transportation in accordance with the criteria of reliability and safety that are established, we inform you of the following situation:

Since August 2022, there has been a significant reduction in industrial demand, compared to what was initially planned. In addition, users are registering a high use of injection in UGS, currently reaching a fill level of 93%, so these infrastructures are barely being able to provide flexibility to absorb demand deviations during the month of October.

There is a mismatch between supplies programmed by all users in October and the demand and exports of NG and LNG, beyond the flexibility that underground and tank storage capacity can provide, despite the high capacity and the versatility generated by the joint management of all regasification plants. This situation is not isolated from the Spanish gas system, but is repeated in other countries around us.

As a consequence of the above, there are sustained episodes of **very high levels of stocks in the tanks of all the regasification plants** of the System that is expected to continue, at least, until the first week of November-2022, and may **impact on the currently scheduled date of the different logistics operations.**

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For the aforementioned reason, the Technical Manager of the System declares an Exceptional Operating Situation level ZERO (SOE-0) in accordance with section 10.6 of the NGTS.

It will proceed to postpone those unloads for which users do not have enough booked capacity in TVB or those that, having such capacity, if carried out on the date currently scheduled, will involve reaching levels in tanks exceed the maximum level of LNG established for a safe infrastructure operation.

Likewise, any request for flexibility that implies an increase in the amount of LNG to be unloaded, as well as changes in the scheduled date that imply a worsening of the situation, will be denied.

We work in coordination with affected operators and users to minimize the impact this high-level situation may have on their scheduled operations.

With this measure, the aim is to guarantee the technical viability of all infrastructures, under the premise of minimizing the impact on users of the system.

This information will be updated in the coming days with the evolution of the variables involved.

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