



FACTS

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FACTS ABOUT THE NATURAL GAS PIPELINE ACROSS THE BALTIC SEA

FOURTH PARTNER GASUNIE UNDERLINES EUROPEAN SCOPE OF NORD STREAM

EUROPEAN-RUSSIAN ENERGY PARTNERSHIP GUARANTEES SECURITY OF SUPPLY

The participation of the Dutch gas infrastructure company N.V. Nederlandse Gasunie in the Nord Stream project underlines its broad European scope and strengthens European-Russian energy partnership.

Gasunie has agreed with Russian Gazprom on the principal terms and conditions for its participation in the Nord Stream consortium. Gasunie will receive a 9 per cent stake in the international joint venture. Gazprom will keep its 51 per cent stake, and the German companies E.ON Ruhrgas and BASF/Wintershall will each hold 20 per cent after ceding 4.5 per cent each in Nord Stream to the Dutch utility and infrastructure company.

The participation of Gasunie will facilitate the transport of Nord Stream gas to the Netherlands and other Western European countries like the United

Kingdom. By joining Nord Stream, Gasunie will also contribute technological expertise to the pipeline project. Gasunie has over 40 years experience in the construction and operation of pipelines. Like the recently completed Balgzand-Bacton-Pipeline (BBL) across the North Sea, of which 235 kilometres runs offshore, all its projects have been built to the highest environmental and safety standards.

N.V. Nederlandse Gasunie is a gas infrastructure company, headquartered in Groningen in the Netherlands. Gasunie operates one of the largest gas high pressure pipeline networks in Europe, with a total length of over 12,000 kilometres, and many other installations. In 2006, gas throughput totalled almost 100 billion cubic metres.

For more information, please go to:
www.nord-stream.com/press_releases.html



NORD STREAM SUBMITS APPLICATION FOR CONSTRUCTION IN SWEDEN

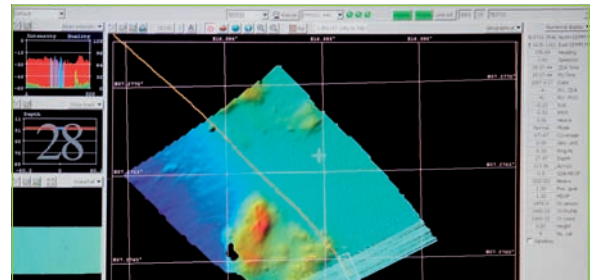
On 21 December 2007, Nord Stream AG submitted application documents to the Swedish government for a planned offshore pipeline system in Sweden's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). This marks the beginning of the official national permission procedure in Sweden for Nord Stream.

Nord Stream also submitted the draft of a transboundary EIA report, outlining its methods to the authorities involved in the international consultations, in line with international law (Espoo Convention). Early discussion of procedures and content will ensure that all important environmental aspects are taken into consideration.

The finalised transboundary EIA report will be published in April 2008. Nord Stream supports the authorities' wishes for simultaneous consultations at national and international levels, so as to ensure co-ordinated dialogue and public scrutiny in continuance of the dialogue, already established, with all countries around the Baltic Sea. For more information, please visit: www.nord-stream.com/news_list.html

YUZHNO-RUSSKOYE GAS FIELD STARTS PRODUCTION

In December 2007, gas production started in the Yuzhno-Russkoye field, an important supply source for the Nord Stream pipeline. The field in Western Siberia has proven natural gas reserves of over 800 billion cubic metres, and is expected to reach an annual output of 25 billion cubic metres by 2011. The two German Nord Stream shareholders, BASF/Wintershall and E.ON, have signed agreements to collaborate closely with Gazprom in exploiting the field. Yuzhno-Russkoye is another positive example of the European-Russian energy partnership. It stretches from the production of gas in Siberia to its transportation to consumers in Europe, providing a vital contribution to securing energy supply in Europe.



MUNITIONS SURVEY IN GULF OF FINLAND CURRENTLY UNDERWAY

Three survey vessels belonging to Swedish company Marin Mätteknik AB are currently carrying out a detailed seabed survey to ensure that Nord Stream's 1,200 kilometre long installation corridor is clear of any dumped or residual munitions. Members of the media from Finland, Russia, Estonia, Latvia, Poland and Germany visited the research vessels – Franklin, Pollux and Triad – in Helsinki harbour on 5 December 2007.

There was strong interest in Nord Stream's efforts to avoid possible danger from munitions and to minimise the environmental impact of the Nord Stream pipeline system. Currently, 90 surveyors are working to complete the collection of data from the seabed. The scanning of the pipeline route began in 2005 along a two kilometre wide corridor, which was screened for large objects such as wrecks. Meanwhile, the 15 metre wide installation corridor for the Nord Stream pipeline is being screened for objects as small as ten centimetres.

For more information about the press trip, please go to:
www.nord-stream.com/press_events.html

For more information about the munitions survey, please visit:
www.nord-stream.com/munitions_survey.html

FINANCIAL ADVISERS CHOSEN

Nord Stream has chosen Société Générale, ABN Amro, and Dresdner Kleinwort as financial advisers to attract financing for the pipeline construction. Currently, the framework of bank participation is being prepared. As for the overall financing structure, about 30 per cent of the project costs will be met by equity contributions from the shareholders, with 70 per cent to be financed externally through limited recourse finance, with lenders to be determined in the near future. Nord Stream will also use the opportunity to gain the support of export credit agencies.

INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL STANDARDS ALLOW FISHERY NEAR PIPELINES

NORD STREAM SEMINAR INTENSIFIED THE DIALOGUE WITH SWEDISH AND DANISH FISHERMEN AND AUTHORITIES

Construction of the Nord Stream pipeline has been planned to take into account the needs of commercial fishing in its vicinity, with the pipelines designed to allow over-trawling. Since the early 1970s, experimental tests and theoretical analyses have been undertaken to gain knowledge about the mechanisms of interaction between fishing equipment and offshore pipelines with the aim of minimising the impact on both. The result of this research, which aims to minimise the impact on both fishing equipment and pipelines, has been implemented through application of recommended Practice F111, developed by the highly respected Norwegian certification company Det Norske Veritas (DNV). Nord Stream will meet these international standards to ensure safe “interaction between trawl gear and pipelines”.

More than 25 years of experience with offshore pipelines and their interaction with fishing equipment in the North Sea prove that offshore pipelines constructed in accordance with the DNV standard ensure safety for both fishermen and pipelines. This was one of the major findings of a Nord Stream Seminar on Pipelines and Fishery attended by fishermen’s associations and authorities from Sweden and Denmark. During the seminar held in Malmö on 30 November 2007, experts gave presentations on various aspects of this issue. Participants included marine biologists, lawyers, engineers, fishermen and representatives of fishery authorities.

Jesper Juul Larsen, Chairman of the Esbjerg Fishermen’s Association from the Danish North Sea coast, shared his experience of mutually

beneficial cooperation between fishermen and the offshore industry to reduce the impact of pipelines. Larsen’s formula for success: no severe restrictions, dialogue and, most importantly, exchange of information. Nord Stream supported the idea of establishing a body to encourage cooperation between fishermen and offshore operators, to the benefit of both, drawing on North Sea experience.

All presentations from the seminar and a background paper on the issue can be downloaded here: www.nord-stream.com/news_list.html



About 25 representatives of fishery associations and public authorities from Sweden and Denmark attended the seminar organised by Nord Stream.

EU ENERGY COMMISSIONER PIEBALGS BACKS NORD STREAM

EU Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs emphasised that there is high level support for the Nord Stream project from the European Union. On 23 October 2007, during the International Energy Week in Moscow, Piebalgs described Nord Stream as the “most challenging gas pipeline project, which could bring into the EU as much as 55 billion cubic meters of gas” (per annum). He noted that the operator Nord Stream is carrying out studies for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) under the Espoo Convention and emphasised the importance of positive conclusions from the study.

The Commissioner welcomed Gazprom’s decision to involve the French company Total in the future exploitation of the Shtokman field. The plan is to provide a direct link from the Shtokman field, the world’s biggest natural gas reservoir, directly via Nord Stream to Europe, ensuring thereby the secure flow of gas to European consumers for many decades.

ALTERNATIVE NOBEL PRIZE LAUREATE SUPPORTS NORD STREAM GAS-FIRED POWER PLANT

Michael Succow, the alternative Nobel Prize laureate of 1997 and Professor at the Institute of Botany at Greifswald University has argued for the construction of a gas-fired power station in Lubmin, near the German landing point of the Nord Stream pipeline, rather than the coal-fired plant envisaged. In an article for the Schweriner Volkszeitung newspaper on 10 November 2007, he stated that natural gas has almost twice the energy efficiency than coal. Further it emits far less CO₂.

Paolo Scaroni, CEO of Italian energy company ENI, noted the growing role played by gas in Europe's energy mix. At the 20th World Energy Congress, held in Rome in November 2007, Scaroni said Europeans have been switching "to gas for their energy needs virtually wherever possible." He noted that 80 per cent of all new thermoelectric capacity, built in Europe in the last ten years, has been gas-fired. This means that gas now accounts for 20 per cent of European electricity generation, up from 7 per cent in the 1980s.

OPEN DIALOGUE IN RUSSIAN PUBLIC HEARING

Nord Stream has presented preliminary data and documents prepared for the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) on the Russian pipeline sector at a public hearing in Vyborg. The results from the preliminary EIA materials show that the Nord Stream pipeline will not significantly affect the environment, with any impact being local and temporary. At the hearing on 23 November 2007, Nord Stream answered a wide range of questions from representatives of the Baltic environmental community. Their concerns will be taken into account whilst drafting the final version of the EIA documentation on the pipeline's Russian section. Public hearings form an important part of Nord Stream's dialogue with the community on minimising environmental impact.

For more information about this public hearing, please visit:

www.nord-stream.com/news_list.html

NORD STREAM PLANNED ON BASIS OF PROFOUND SAFETY ANALYSIS

Following the Risk Management Programme Standard by the American Office of Pipeline Security "the overall risk of a pipeline can be reduced, controlled or altered". Nord Stream has taken the point seriously and ensures that the construction and subsequent operation of its new gas pipeline are being carefully analysed to maximise project safety.

For instance, the pipes of the pipeline will be manufactured from high-tensile steel in accordance with the DNV Offshore Standard OS-F 101. Nord Stream will use metal tubes, 27–41 mm thick, which are virtually impenetrable. A comprehensive risk assessment report in accordance with international standards will be presented at the beginning of 2008.



On 8 November 2007, Henning Kothe, Commercial Director Nord Stream, Matthias Warnig, Managing Director Nord Stream,

Dr. Michael Gräf, CEO EUROPIPE, and Lauri Malkki, Managing Director Sales EUROPIPE (from left to right), signed the steel pipe supply contract.

For more information on the contract signing, please go to:

www.nord-stream.com/press_releases.html

NORD STREAM'S AGENDA

January 23–24 European Gas Conference 2008, Vienna, Austria

January 29 Public hearing on Nord Stream, European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium

January 30–February 1 GAS Transport & Storage, Vienna, Austria

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If you have any comments or requests, we are looking forward to hearing from you.

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