

## STATEMENT

### **Nord Stream Ensures Unrestricted Access to Polish Ports**

**Zug/Berlin, 5 March 2010.** Nord Stream AG will ensure unrestricted access to the Polish ports of Świnoujście and Szczecin as a result of appropriate measures that it will take in a 30 kilometre section of the German sector of the pipeline route. “We have always taken very seriously the concerns expressed by Poland. In the interests of the safety of both the pipeline and sea traffic we are pleased to have found a feasible solution,” said Nord Stream’s permitting Director Dirk von Ameln. “By burying or rerouting the pipeline in this sector we will be even better able to meet our very high safety requirements for the whole project.”

Along with the permit which it granted on 21 December 2009, the Stralsund Mining Authority included a requirement to prepare a revised risk analysis of a specific section of the route within the 12 nautical mile zone. This section involves the harbour approaches for the ports of Świnoujście and Szczecin established in marine charts by the shipping authorities. As a result of this analysis Nord Stream has now decided to lay the pipeline in the seabed with a covering of half a metre for about 20 kilometres of the route in the 12 nautical mile zone.

The route in the German Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) was also considered in the risk analysis, and Nord Stream has decided on a rerouting along a 12 kilometre section here. Permission for this was granted by the Federal Office for Shipping and Hydrography on 26 February 2010.

Both measures ensure that unrestricted access to the Polish ports of Świnoujście and Szczecin will still remain possible after construction of the Nord Stream Pipeline.

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## Notes to editors

**Nord Stream** is a natural gas pipeline that will link Russia and the European Union through the Baltic Sea. The European Union's annual natural gas imports in the year 2007 were approximately 312 billion cubic metres (bcm) and are projected to increase to 516 bcm by the year 2030. This means that by 2030, the EU's annual import needs will have increased by about 200 bcm (Source: IEA, World Energy Outlook, 2009). Nord Stream will meet about 25 percent of this additional gas import requirement by connecting the European gas pipeline network to some of the world's largest gas reserves. The project will be an important contribution to long-term security of supply and a milestone of the energy partnership between the European Union and Russia.

Nord Stream AG plans to have the first of two parallel pipelines operational in 2011. Each line is approximately 1,220 kilometres long, providing a transport capacity of some 27.5 bcm per year. Full capacity of about 55 bcm per year will be reached in the second phase, when the second line goes on stream. This is enough to supply more than 26 million European households.

**Nord Stream AG** is an international joint venture established for the planning, construction and subsequent operation of the new offshore gas pipeline across the Baltic Sea. Russian OAO Gazprom holds a 51 percent stake in the joint venture. The German companies BASF/Wintershall Holding AG and E.ON Ruhrgas AG hold 20 percent each, and the Dutch gas infrastructure company N.V. Nederlandse Gasunie has a 9 percent stake.

As a cross-border project, Nord Stream is subject to international conventions and national legislation in each of the countries through which it passes. It has invested 100 million euros in environmental studies and planning and an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was completed along the whole pipeline route. This is a detailed study of environmental aspects in a trans-boundary context. The process is governed by international law (Espoo Convention) and by national legislation in the countries concerned.