

STATEMENT

Shipwrecks Discovered in the Swedish EEZ

Zug, 9 March 2010. Twelve shipwrecks have been discovered in a corridor next to the Nord Stream pipeline route in the Swedish Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). Several of them were hitherto unknown. The findings are a result of the extensive seabed surveys carried out by Nord Stream as part of the preparatory works ahead of the construction of Nord Stream's gas pipelines. The underwater investigations were conducted by the Swedish marine survey company Marin Mätteknik, MMT.

However, it was previously established that there were no shipwrecks in the direct vicinity of the Nord Stream pipelines in the Swedish EEZ. The new findings are located in the so called anchoring corridor which will be used for anchor positioning by the pipelay barge during the construction of the pipelines. Hence construction work will be adapted so that the shipwrecks will be unaffected. This has also been agreed between Nord Stream and the Swedish authorities.

During the entire preparation phase Nord Stream has been working in close contact with the relevant Swedish authorities. The documentation concerning the shipwrecks has been made available to the National Maritime Museums, which are now preparing a final report based on the survey documentation.

Analyses so far indicate that at least nine of the twelve findings are of great cultural historical value and thus also well preserved according to the Swedish National Heritage Board. The Board has also been a continuous contact point for Nord Stream, and the authority will now proceed to register the shipwrecks as permanent ancient monuments. Most of them are commercial ships, originating from the 18th and 19th centuries. However, the most ancient wreck could be from the Middle Ages.

The discovery of the shipwrecks is another example of how Nord Stream's extensive investigations of the Baltic Sea are useful for researchers as well as the interested public. Last month Nord Stream announced that it will make all its environmental data available for research in a Data Information Fund. As mentioned above, the shipwreck survey data has been made available to the responsible Swedish authorities.

For further information, please contact:

Tora Leifland Holmström, Communications Project Manager Sweden,
Nord Stream AG
Mobile: +41 79 888 09 79

Email: press@nord-stream.com

Grafenauweg 2
6304 Zug, Switzerland
Tel.: +41 41 766 91 91
Fax: +41 41 766 91 92
www.nord-stream.com

Moscow Branch
ul. Znamenka 7, bld 3
119019 Moscow, Russia
Tel. +7 495 229 65 85
Fax. +7 495 229 65 80

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 gas 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 through the Baltic Sea. Russian OAO Gazprom holds a 51 percent stake in the joint venture. The German companies BASF SE/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.