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Press Release

Annual Maintenance Shutdown of Nord Stream Pipeline Scheduled for July

Routine maintenance works planned well in advance as part of long-term pipeline integrity management

Maintenance schedule agreed and coordinated with upstream and downstream partners

Nord Stream AG will temporarily shut down both lines of its gas pipeline for two weeks due to routine maintenance works. This year's inspection is scheduled to take place from 17 July to 31 July 2018 as part of the annual inspection cycle.

"Regular maintenance is necessary to operate the Nord Stream twin pipeline safely, efficiently and reliably. Since its start, the Nord Stream pipelines have enabled the stable delivery of natural gas for Europe. The two-week shutdown allows us to maintain our highest standards", Nord Stream AG's Managing Director Alexey Zaytsev pointed out.

These scheduled annual maintenance works are an essential part of Nord Stream's long-term Pipeline Integrity Management Strategy. Mechanical components and automation systems are thoroughly tested to ensure reliable functioning of the twin pipeline throughout the year.

The temporary interruption of supplies has been factored into the nominations of gas to be transported via Nord Stream to downstream European partners. That said, the works have been scheduled in close coordination with Nord Stream AG's upstream and downstream partners so that gas supply to European customers during that period is ensured via the alternative transportation route.

For further information, please contact:

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Notes to editors:

Nord Stream AG is an international joint venture established for the planning, construction and operation of the twin offshore gas pipelines through the Baltic Sea. Russian PJSC Gazprom holds a 51 per cent stake in the joint venture. The German companies Wintershall Oil AG (wholly-owned subsidiary of Wintershall) and PEG Infrastruktur AG (wholly-owned subsidiary of E.ON Beteiligungen) hold 15.5 per cent each, and the Dutch gas infrastructure company Gasunie Infrastruktur AG (wholly-owned subsidiary of Gasunie), along with the French energy provider Engie Energy Management Holding Switzerland AG

(wholly-owned subsidiary of Engie), each hold a 9 per cent stake. Nord Stream's head office and operations centre are both in Zug, Switzerland.

Nord Stream's natural gas pipelines through the Baltic Sea have the design capacity to transport 55 billion cubic metres (bcm) of Russian gas a year to the EU for at least 50 years. Both lines run in parallel for 1,224 kilometres from Portovaya Bay, near Vyborg on the Russian Baltic Sea coast to Lubmin, Germany. Each pipeline comprises some 100,000 24-tonne concrete-weight-coated steel pipes laid on the seabed along the precise route approved by the authorities of the five countries through whose waters the pipelines pass.

Nord Stream is committed to safety and the environment: In the planning of the pipeline, the consortium invested 100 million euros in the most comprehensive research of the Baltic Sea ever conducted. The consortium also consulted widely to ensure that the design, routing, construction and operation of the pipeline would be safe and environmentally sound.

In 2006, Nord Stream was designated a "project of European interest" by the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union. This inclusion in the Trans-European Energy Network Guidelines (TEN-E) of the European Union recognised Nord Stream as a key project for meeting Europe's energy infrastructure needs.