



NABUCCO Shareholders sign Cooperation and Equity Option Agreements with Shah Deniz Partners

News Release

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NABUCCO Gas Pipeline International GmbH announced that the NABUCCO Shareholders ("OMV, BOTAS, BEH, Transgaz, RWE, FGSZ, hereinafter NABUCCO Shareholders") have signed today agreements in Vienna, Austria regarding:

- Close cooperation to align the time schedule and project development of the NABUCCO West and Shah Deniz Stage 2 projects;
- Joint funding of the costs of NABUCCO West's further development up to Shah Deniz's European pipeline selection decision; and
- Granting to SOCAR, BP, Statoil and Total options to take up to a total of 50% equity in the project and to participate in a new NIC shareholder structure, following a positive selection of the NABUCCO West pipeline by the Shah Deniz Consortium.

The NABUCCO Shareholders welcome this important milestone in the development of NABUCCO West and anticipate successful cooperation in delivering the pipeline project. Key NIC executives underlined support both for the funding and for the possible new shareholders:

Hans-Peter Floren, Chairman of the NABUCCO Steering Committee, said: "The shareholders welcome this agreement, and fully support the ongoing cooperation with Shah Deniz II. NABUCCO is a multi-sourcing and scalable project further contributing to supply and transport diversification integrating the southern corridor into the European gas grid. Upstream and midstream projects are both integral parts of the value chain for Azeri gas and we are confident that NABUCCO provides a win-win scenario for all parties involved.

Reinhard Mitschek, CEO of NABUCCO Gas Pipeline International GmbH, said: "We welcome the conclusion of the agreements. NABUCCO has been in close negotiations with the Shah Deniz partners since the designation in June 2012 of NABUCCO West as the Central European delivery option. Today's important achievement is a clear indicator of the potential success of this process and of the commerciality and competitiveness of NABUCCO West in offering convincing business opportunities in the promising market area of South East Europe and Central Europe."

Frank Siebert, CFO of the NABUCCO Gas Pipeline International GmbH, said: "These agreements are an essential step forward. The signing of the equity option and funding agreement, in particular, is a mark of the producers' confidence in NABUCCO West. This goes a long way towards mitigating risk for our investors and allows us to move forward on a sound and stable financial footing. We look forward to working with the Shah Deniz partners and remain confident that NABUCCO West can provide the best option for all parties."

The NABUCCO West pipeline is planned to take Caspian Region gas from the Turkish-Bulgarian border via Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary to the Central European Gas Hub at Baumgarten. As a central component of the Southern Gas Corridor, NABUCCO West is ideally placed to diversify gas supply to over 500 million potential customers in the growing economies of South Eastern Europe as well as onward into Western Europe.

NOTE TO EDITORS

NABUCCO Gas Pipeline International GmbH

NABUCCO Gas Pipeline International GmbH (NIC) was set up on 24 June 2004 to develop, construct and operate the Nabucco pipeline. Headquartered in Vienna, it is an unbundled midstream-company under EU law. NIC is owned by the Nabucco shareholders and is responsible for the development, construction, operation and capacity trading and allocation for the NABUCCO pipeline. NIC will be the only company in direct contact with the shippers and will offer a one-stop-shop solution, operating as an independent economic entity in the market, and acting independently from its parent companies. The pipeline system will be constructed by the National NABUCCO Companies (NNCs), which are subsidiaries of NIC in each of

the transit countries.

Shareholder structure

The NABUCCO shareholders are: OMV (Austria), FGSZ (Hungary), Transgaz (Romania), Bulgarian Energy Holding (Bulgaria), Botas (Turkey) and RWE (Germany). It is the shareholders who are responsible for the negotiation of gas contracts.

BOTAS

The Turkish state owned company BOTAS is established in 1974 to transport the Iraqi crude oil to the Gulf of Iskenderun. With its headquarter in Ankara and some 2,800 employees, BOTAS is organized throughout Turkey to operate crude oil and natural gas systems efficiently. BOTAS owns and operates a total of some 12,300 kms of high-pressure gas pipeline system within the country. After the completion of the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC) Crude Oil Pipeline, the total length of the crude oil pipeline system operated by BOTAS reached 3,332 kms. Current transportation capacity of 79,4 million tons of oil reached 129,4 million tons per year through the operation of BTC. Being also a trader of natural gas through contracts with companies from 5 different countries, BOTAS imported some 43 BCM of gas in 2012, of which 7.7 BCM of this amount being LNG. Together with its leading role in the NABUCCO Project, BOTAS is the party to significant gas transport projects, including its partnership in TANAP, which will open the door of Eastern gas sources to Europe through Turkey.

OMV Aktiengesellschaft

With Group sales of EUR 34.05 bn and a workforce of 29,800 employees in 2011, OMV Aktiengesellschaft is one of Austria's largest listed industrial companies. In Exploration and Production, OMV is active in two core countries Romania and Austria and holds a balanced international portfolio. OMV had proven oil and gas reserves of approximately 1.13 bn boe as of year-end 2011 and a production of around 288,000 boe/d in 2011. In Gas and Power, OMV sold approximately 272 TWh of gas in 2011. In Austria, OMV operates a 2,000 km long gas pipeline network with a marketed capacity of around 101 bcm in 2011. With a trading volume of around 40 bcm in 2011, OMV's gas trading platform, the Central European Gas Hub, is amongst the most important hubs in Continental Europe. OMV further strengthened its position through the ownership of a 97% stake in Petrol Ofisi, Turkey's leading company in the retail and commercial business.

RWE AG

RWE AG is one of Europe's five leading electricity and gas companies. It is active in the generation, trading, transmission and supply of electricity and gas. Some 72,000 employees supply over 17 million customers with electricity and nearly 8 million customers with gas. In fiscal 2011, RWE recorded just below €52 billion in revenue.

RWE is the No. 1 power producer in Germany, No. 2 in the Netherlands, and No. 3 in the UK. The market position in Central and South-Eastern Europe is being expanded continuously. Through RWE Dea, the Group is successfully active in the gas and oil production business in Europe, Northern Africa and the Caspian region. RWE Supply & Trading is one of Europe's leading energy trading companies.

RWE is investing at record levels. Besides more efficient and climate friendly fossil fuel-fired power stations, renewable energy plays a key role. In total RWE invested €7 billion in 2011.

RWE reacts to changes in customer needs by offering new electricity, gas and energy efficiency products for homes, commerce and industry. In this context, climate protection and energy efficiency are becoming increasingly important. www.rwe.com

FGSZ Ltd.

FSGZ Natural Gas Transmission Closed Company Limited (FSGZ Ltd.) – a member of the MOL Group - with its headquarters in Siófok owns and operates the high-pressure natural gas transmission pipeline system covering the territory of Hungary, as well as it coordinates, as the sole holder of the TSO licence, the operations of the total natural gas system. In addition it is also pursuing natural gas transit operations, presently to Serbian, Bosnian and Romanian partners, but it is permanently striving for expanding the transit markets. This high-pressure pipeline system supplies natural gas to the gas distribution companies and the power plants and large industrial consumers directly connected to the gas transmission grid.

The company's primary responsibility is ensuring safe, uninterrupted and optimal operation, maintenance and development of the high-pressure transmission pipeline system, including off-take and delivery of natural gas transmitted along the high-pressure pipeline to and from shippers, measurement of the quantity and quality of gas transmitted, provision of central gas odourisation, pressure regulation and

protection against over-pressure.

The Company can look back to a nearly 70 year-old history and during the past four decades it has become modernized at an increasing rate. FGSZ Ltd. is performing its natural gas transmission responsibility at high level of security, in non-discriminatory and environmentally-friendly manner and satisfying high technical standards. It can permanently decrease the load exerted to the environment through permanently developing the natural gas transmission technology.

TRANSGAZ

The Romanian National Gas Transmission Company Transgaz, with its headquarters in Medias, has been established in April 2000, as a result of a legal unbundling of the former vertically integrated national gas company Romgaz. The registered capital of Transgaz is owned 73,5097 % by the Romanian state, represented by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Business Environment, 14,9876 % by the Proprietatea Fund and 11,5027 % was listed on the Romanian stock exchange on January 2008. The main object of activity is the natural gas transmission, dispatching and international transit, as well as research and design in the natural gas transmission field. Over the last four years, through the National Transmission System natural gas quantities between 16 bcm (2003) 15.2 bcm (2006), 11,4 bcm (2010) and 11.1 bcm (estimated for 2011) have been transported. Currently Transgaz operates over 13,240 km of pipelines. The turnover of the company for the year 2006 was EUR 268.8 million and for 2010, EUR 311,9 million.

Bulgarian Energy Holding EAD (BEH EAD)

BEH EAD is a national energy leader. It is a shareholding company with 100% Bulgarian state ownership incorporating eight subsidiaries operating within the fields of transmission, transit, storage and sale of natural gas; production, transmission and sale of electricity; thermal power; coal mining, as well as any other type of energy and raw materials for production. The companies included in BEH EAD's structure are: Mini Maritza Iztok EAD, Maritsa East 2 TPP EAD, Kozloduy NPP EAD, NEK EAD, ESO EAD, Bulgargaz EAD, Bulgartransgaz EAD, Bulgartel EAD. Although all companies in the holding structure are owned by and directly subordinated to BEH EAD all of them preserve their operational independence and licenses. Bulgartransgaz EAD acts as an operator with business activity transmission/transit transmission and as a storage provider of natural gas, maintenance, operation, management and development of underground gas storage. In this second function the company is very involved with activities and program development focused on gas transmission compliance initiatives in compliance with the European Union's requirements.

The total length of Bulgarian main high pressure gas pipeline network is 2,645 km, out of which 1,700 km consist of branches and connections facilitating consumers in the country. The other 945 km of the main network provides transit transmission to Turkey, Greece and Macedonia. The natural gas transmission network for local consumers and for transit includes 10 compressor stations and 68 gas pressure-reduction stations. A total of 15.1 billion m³ of natural gas were transited to the countries of the Balkan region in 2011. Currently, in Bulgaria there is only one license issued for natural gas public supply and it is owned by Bulgargaz EAD. In 2011 Bulgargaz EAD sold 2.987 billion m³ of natural gas to the domestic market.