



Exhibit A Operating Manual Flange

EnergyStock B.V.



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1. General provisions

- 1.1 Terms used in this *Operating Manual Flange* shall have the same meaning as defined in the *General Terms and Conditions Flexibility Services Flange*.

For the purposes of this *Operating Manual Flange*, except where it expressly provides otherwise, the following expressions shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this article 1.1 and shall include the plural as well as the singular:

“Connection Point”

means the entry and exit point where the *Gas Storage Facility* is connected to the facilities of the *NNO*.

“D”

shall mean the *Gas Day* on which the *Contracted Send In Capacity* and/or *Contracted Send Out Capacity* which is/are nominated is/are meant to be performed by *EnergyStock B.V.*, and *D-1* means the *Gas Day* preceding *D*. *D* starts at 6.00 hours *LET* and ends at 6.00 hours *LET* the next *Gas Day*.

“Daily Nomination”

means the set of twenty four (24) *Nominations* (twenty three (23) & twenty five (25) during the switches to respectively from the daylight saving periods) as further described in *Article 2.2*.

“Day” and “Daily”

shall have the same meaning as *Gas Day* in the *General Terms and Conditions Flexibility Services Flange*.

- 1.2 *EnergyStock B.V.* and *Flange Customer* shall conduct their respective operations in a prudent and efficient manner. *Parties* will inform each other as soon as reasonably possible of any foreseeable condition or occurrence that could affect the *Quantity of Gas*, quality of *Gas* or pressure of *Gas Storage Entry Gas* at the *Gas Storage Entry Point* or *Gas Storage Exit Gas* at the *Gas Storage Exit Point*.
- 1.3 For operational purposes, both *Parties* shall be reachable twenty-four (24) hours a day and every day of the year by phone and any mutually agreed other communication system.
- 1.4 *Parties* shall use messages according to Edig@s, as the protocol for exchanging dispatching information, where Edig@s is a subset of 'EDI/EDIFACT' (Electronic Data Interchange/Electronic Data Interchange for Administration Commerce and Transport) as described in detail at <http://www.edigas.org>.
- 1.5 A communication test will be performed by *EnergyStock B.V.* to check whether the potential *Flange Customer* (or a qualified third party acting on behalf of the potential *Flange Customer*) has the means of handling messages with



EnergyStock B.V. according to the Edig@s protocol. Such a communication test can take up to five (5) *Business Days*.

- 1.6 In case *Parties* are temporarily not able to use Edig@s messages, because of e.g. system malfunction, *Parties* shall temporarily exchange messages via email or through mutually agreed other means of communication. *Parties* will take appropriate action to restore, the Edig@s communication as soon as possible.
- 1.7 Any *(Re)Nomination* and *(Re)Confirmation* under this *Operating Manual Flange* shall relate to *LET* and shall be expressed in *kWh* (rounded to the nearest *kWh*) unless agreed otherwise in writing.
- 1.8 In accordance with the Edig@s Message Implementation Guidelines, current recommended version 6.1 introduced in Q3-2024, the *Quantities of Gas* transmitted in the Edig@s messages can have a Z02 code or a Z03 code. In order to avoid any misunderstanding in the meaning of those codes the following explanation can be used:
- Z02 Qualifies a *Quantity of Gas* as delivered into the *Gas Storage Facility* at the *Connection Point* by a *Delivering Party*
- Z03 Qualifies a *Quantity of Gas* as retrieved from the *Gas Storage Facility* at the *Connection Point* by a *Receiving Party*.
- With the introduction of Edigas v6.1 in the autumn of 2024, both affiliated and new parties of *EnergyStock B.V.* will gradually have the opportunity to test this new Edigas version and realize their transition. Given the fact that *EnergyStock B.V.* allows the last two Edigas versions for message exchange, the phase-out period for Edigas v4.0 will also start in the autumn of 2024. Below is the overview:
1. Edigas v4.0, introduced in 2007 and will be allowed until early Q4-2025 at the latest.
 2. Edigas v5.1, introduced in 2013.
 3. Edigas v6.1, introduced in Q3-2024 and is the current recommended version.
- 1.9 Whenever *Parties* agree to be necessary, documents, notices or other information, other than *(Re)Nominations* and *(Re)Confirmations*, required to be supplied under this *Operating Manual Flange* should be exchanged by a secure data communication system.
- 1.10 For the purpose of viewing portfolio management information *Flange Customer* will be granted access to *EnergyStock B.V.* Storage Information Services on the *EnergyStock B.V.* Portal. Secure log on will be facilitated by a communication mechanism using a mobile device of *Flange Customer*.



2. Nomination procedure

2.1 General

This procedure describes how to (re)nominate.

2.2 Daily Nominations

Flange Customer (or a qualified third party acting on behalf of *Flange Customer*) shall provide *EnergyStock B.V.* with a *Nomination* for each *Hour* of each *Gas Day D* for the *Gas Storage Entry Point* or *Gas Storage Exit Point*. This set of twenty four (24) *Nominations* is defined as a *Daily Nomination* (twenty three (23) & twenty five (25) during the switches to respectively from the daylight saving periods). *Flange Customer* is bound to send a *Nomination* for each *Hour* of each *Gas Day D*, even when the desired *Quantity of Gas* is zero.

Any *Nomination* or, with respect to each *Hour* for which a *(Re)Nomination* is issued, *(Re)Nomination* shall contain for each *Hour* the *Flange Customer Codes* of the relevant *Delivering Parties* and/or *Receiving Parties*, the *Quantities of Gas* to be off taken by *Flange Customer* from each *Delivering Party* (in total this will be the *Quantity of Gas* to be sent in by *Flange Customer*) and/or *Quantities of Gas* to be made available by *Flange Customer* to each *Receiving Party* (in total this will be the *Quantity of Gas* to be sent out by *Flange Customer*).

Flange Customer (or a qualified third party acting on behalf of *Flange Customer*) may send a *Nomination* up to 179 *Gas Days* in advance of *Gas Day D*. Any *Nomination* will remain valid until it is replaced by a *(Re)Nomination*.

A *Nomination* for *Gas Day D* must be received by *EnergyStock B.V.* at the latest at 14:00 hours *LET* on *Gas Day D-1*.

In case *Flange Customer* exceeds the *Nomination* deadline for *Gas Day D*, the nominated *Hourly Quantities of Gas* shall be deemed to be zero, unless (re)nominated in accordance within the *(Re)Nomination* deadline.

2.3 (Re)Nomination

(Re)Nominations before or within *Gas Day D* regarding *Hour H*, received by *EnergyStock B.V.* at least hundred twenty (120) minutes in advance of that *Hour H*, will be processed by *EnergyStock B.V.* in accordance with this *Operating Manual Flange* prior to that *Hour H*, the amount of *Renominations* allowed within the reduced leadtime of 30 minutes will be stipulated in the *Flexibility Services Contract TTF*.

In case a *(Re)nomination* has been sent to *EnergyStock B.V.* for *Gas Day D* and a *(Re)Nomination* has already been sent for *Gas Day D+1* and *Flange Customer* renominates within *Gas Day D*, *EnergyStock B.V.* will check if the *Renomination*



for Gas Day *D* will influence the previous sent *(Re)Nomination* for Gas Day *D+1*, because of possible consequences of *Renomination* within Gas Day *D* on the level of *Flange Customer's Actual Available Working Gas* for Gas Day *D+1*.

If the *Renomination* for Gas Day *D* causes the *Nomination* for Gas Day *D+1* not to be met, *EnergyStock B.V.* shall reject the *Renomination* for Gas Day *D+1* by sending a *Reconfirmation* for Gas Day *D+1*.

2.4 Rejection of a *(Re)Nomination*

In case *Flange Customer's (Re)Nomination* for one (1) or more *Hours* meets one (1) or more conditions of this article 2.4 for said *Hour(s)*, this *(Re)Nomination* for all *Hour(s)* shall be rejected by *EnergyStock B.V.* whereby the reason of this rejection will be mentioned in the *Confirmation*.

- (a) A *(Re)Nomination* of *Quantity of Gas* to be sent in higher than the *Contracted Send In Capacity* specified in the *Flexibility Services Contract(s) Flange*.
- (b) A *(Re)Nomination* of *Quantity of Gas* to be sent in which cannot be sent into the *Gas Storage Facility* because of the level of *Flange Customer's Actual Available Working Volume*.
- (c) A *(Re)Nomination* of *Quantity of Gas* to be sent out higher than the *Contracted Send Out Capacity* as specified in the *Flexibility Services Contract(s) Flange*.
- (d) A *(Re)Nomination* of *Quantity of Gas* to be sent out which cannot be sent out of the *Gas Storage Facility* because of the level of *Flange Customer's Actual Available Working Gas*.
- (e) A *(Re)Nomination* above the withdrawal or injection curve, as given in Annex 1 to the *Flexibility Services Contract(s) Flange*.
- (f) A *(Re)Nomination* not in line with the technical specifications of the *Gas Storage Facility* for said *Hour(s)*.
- (g) A *(Re)Nomination* that does not meet any condition specified in the *Flexibility Services Contract Flange*.
- (h) A *(Re)Nomination* not in line with the *(Re)nomination* deadline of one hundred twenty (120) minutes (standard leadtime capacity) or thirty (30) minutes (reduced leadtime capacity).
- (i) An instruction from *GTS* in the event of a shortage of quality conversion capacity.



3. Matching and confirmation

- 3.1 Any *(Re)Nomination* received by *EnergyStock B.V.* will be validated against the conditions of the *Flexibility Services Contract Flange* and be matched with the data from the *NNO*.
- 3.2 *EnergyStock B.V.* will apply the following matching rules to each *(Re)Nomination* made for any *Hour*:
- (a) if the Pair of Flange Customer Codes does not match, the Quantity of Gas (re)nominated by Flange Customer for that Hour shall be deemed to be zero (0) kWh with respect to such Pair of Flange Customer Codes (zero rule);
 - (b) if the (re)nominated code (Z02 or Z03) (by *Flange Customer*) with respect to a *Pair of Flange Customer Codes* is equal to the (re)nominated code (Z02 or Z03) of the relevant *Delivering Party* or *Receiving Party*, the (re)nominated *Quantity of Gas* (by *Flange Customer*) for that *Hour* shall be deemed to be zero (0) kWh with respect to such *Pair of Flange Customer Codes* (zero rule);
 - (c) if the (re)nominated *Quantity of Gas* (by *Flange Customer*) with respect to a *Pair of Flange Customer Codes* is not equal to the (re)nominated *Quantity of Gas* of the relevant *Delivering Party* or *Receiving Party*, the *Quantity of Gas* (re)nominated (by *Flange Customer*) shall be deemed to be equal for that *Hour* to the lower of *Quantities of Gas* mentioned in such *(Re)Nominations* with respect to such *Pair of Flange Customer Codes* (*Lesser Rule*).
 - (d) Where none of (a) to (c) above applies there is a “match” and the *Quantity of Gas* (re)nominated for the relevant *Pair of Flange Customer Codes* for that *Hour* shall be accepted by *EnergyStock B.V.*
- 3.3 After validation and matching in accordance with article 3.2 of this *Operating Manual Flange*, *EnergyStock B.V.* shall issue a *(Re)Confirmation*. Any *(Re)Confirmation* shall contain for each *Hour* of *Gas Day D* the *Flange Customer Codes* of the relevant *Delivering Parties* and/or *Receiving Parties*, the *Quantities of Gas* to be off taken by *Flange Customer* from such *Delivering Parties* (in total this will be the *Quantity of Gas* to be sent in by *Flange Customer*) and/or the *Quantities of Gas* to be made available by *Flange Customer* to such *Receiving Parties* (in total this will be the *Quantity of Gas* to be sent out by *Flange Customer*).

EnergyStock B.V. shall send a new *(Re)Confirmation* due to any changes resulting from any validation and/or matching according to article 3.2 of this *Operating Manual Flange*.



- 3.4 *EnergyStock B.V.* shall send a *(Re)Confirmation* for *Gas Day D* to *Flange Customer* as soon as reasonably possible between 14:00 hours *LET* and 18:00 hours *LET* on *Gas Day D-1*.

In case of a *(Re)Nomination* *EnergyStock B.V.* shall send a *(Re)Confirmation* as soon as reasonably possible, in any case before the beginning of the *Hour* to which the *(Re)Nomination* refers if such *(Re)Nomination* has been provided in accordance with the lead time as provided for in article 2.3 of this *Operating Manual Flange*.

EnergyStock B.V. shall use the *Quantities of Gas* indicated on the last sent *(Re)Confirmation* referring to *Gas Day D* as the basis for allocation calculations regarding *Gas Day D*.

For the avoidance of doubt:

- confirmed *Quantity of Gas* may be lower than the corresponding (re)nominated *Quantity of Gas*; and
- confirmed *Quantity of Gas* shall never exceed the corresponding (re)nominated *Quantity of Gas*; and
- it is the *Flange Customer's* responsibility to check for the receipt of the *Confirmation*, to take notice of the content of the *Confirmation* and to decide if further actions by *Flange Customer* are required; and
- *EnergyStock B.V.* is not allowed to change or withdraw any issued *Confirmation*.



4. Measurement of quality and quantities

4.1 Introduction

EnergyStock B.V. shall maintain a measuring station at the *Gas Storage Entry Point* and the *Gas Storage Exit Point*. The measuring station shall be equipped with the instruments needed for accurate measurement of *Gas Storage Entry Gas* and *Gas Storage Exit Gas* respectively consistent with industry standards and in accordance with the relevant regulations. Furthermore *EnergyStock B.V.* will comply with the standards for measurement as set forth by the *NNO*.

The flow of *Gas* is measured at the *Gas Storage Entry Point* and *Gas Storage Exit Point*. The flow of *Gas* at the *Gas Storage Entry Point* and *Gas Storage Exit point* is measured by facilities owned by *EnergyStock B.V.* and operated by *EnergyStock B.V.* and/or a qualified third party acting on behalf of *EnergyStock B.V.*

4.2 Measurement differences

In the event that incorrect operation of the measuring equipment is ascertained at the *Gas Storage Entry Point* and/or the *Gas Storage Exit Point*, *Flange Customer* shall not be required to accept any retroactive allocation with regard to the *Gas Storage Entry Point* and the *Gas Storage Exit Point* where a balancing *Flange Customer* or an *OBA* is in place.

In case no balancing *Flange Customer* or *OBA* is in place at the *Gas Storage Entry Point* and the *Gas Storage Exit Point* and *EnergyStock B.V.* ascertains incorrect operation of the metering equipment which measures the flow to or from the *Gas Storage Facility* operated by *EnergyStock B.V.*, but the date of such incorrect operation cannot be determined, then such incorrect operation shall be deemed to have commenced on a date halfway between the date on which such incorrect operation is ascertained and the date of the last preceding uncontested check of metering equipment. The *Quantities of Gas* delivered under the *Flexibility Services Contract Flange* during the period of incorrect operation of the metering equipment will be adjusted according to the reasonable estimate of *EnergyStock B.V.* The period in which delivered *Quantities of Gas* will be readjusted shall be limited to the period from the date of the last preceding uncontested check of metering equipment. The date incorrect operation is ascertained will be deemed to be the date the check was performed which showed the incorrect operation of the metering equipment. Reallocation during that period will be performed pursuant to the provisions of the allocation rules; readjustment of delivered *Quantities of Gas* will be settled via the *Actual Available Working Gas*. In case the amount of *Actual Available Working Gas* is insufficient, the settlement will be executed following the procedure as described in *Article 13.4.2*.



4.3 Minimum flow requirements

4.3.1 Due to minimum flow requirements a situation can occur in which for *Hour (t)* the aggregate *Nominations* of all *EnergyStock B.V* customers are lower than the minimum flow requirements. In such a situation *Parties* will aim to achieve an acceptable solution. If such a solution cannot be reached the overall flow will be zero.

4.3.2 The *Gas Storage Facility* is designed in such a way that the minimum *Send In Flow Rate* will be 341,931 *kWh* per *Hour*.

4.3.3 The *Gas Storage Facility* is designed in such a way that the minimum *Send Out Flow Rate* will be 293,084 *kWh* per *Hour*.

4.3.4 *EnergyStock B.V.* shall use reasonable endeavours to allow lower *Send In Flow Rates* and *Send Out Flow Rates* than as referred to in *Article 4.3.2* and *Article 4.3.3.* above.

4.4 Gas quality

The specifications of *Gas (G-gas)* which are laid down in annex 2 resp. 4 of the 'Regeling gaskwaliteit' are applicable.



5. Operational control

5.1 General

After having completed the matching procedure at the *Gas Storage Entry Point* and *Gas Storage Exit Point*, the resulting flow can be set to the aggregate flow rate for the relevant *Hour*.

EnergyStock B.V. will control the flow at the *Gas Storage Entry Point* and *Gas Storage Exit Point* in such a way that the physical flow will equal as far as possible the sum of the confirmed *Quantities of Gas* of all *Flange Customers* for each *Hour*.

5.2 Operational Margin

The result of the latest matched *Hourly Quantity of Gas* will be the basis for the set point for the *Send In Flow Rate* or *Send Out Flow Rate*. The control of the *Send In Flow Rate* or *Send Out Flow Rate* will be performed in such a manner that at any time the difference between the set point and measured *Send In Flow Rate* or *Send Out Flow Rate* will be as close as possible to zero (0), and at the end of the *Hour* the *Hourly* volume will be as close as possible to the matched *Hourly Quantity of Gas*. The maximum deviation at the end of the *Hour* has to be less than 1% of the flow rate, in accordance with the provisions of the *NNO*.

5.3 Minimum flow control

Due to minimum flow requirements a situation can occur in which for *Hour (t)* the aggregate *Nominations* of *Flange Customers* are lower than the minimum flow requirements.

If the aggregate of all *Flange Customer's* confirmed *Hourly Quantities of Gas* would require a flow below the minimum rate of the measurement facilities at the *Gas Storage Entry Point* and the *Gas Storage Exit Point*, then *EnergyStock B.V.* will use reasonable endeavors to send in or send out intermittently at an instantaneous rate at, or above, the minimum rate of the measurement facilities at that *Gas Storage Entry Point* and that *Gas Storage Exit Point*, subject to *Gas* being sent in or being sent out by *Flange Customers* at the same instantaneous rate. If *EnergyStock B.V.* is unable to arrange to send in or send out *Gas* intermittently on or above the required minimum rate, then *EnergyStock B.V.* will, in accordance with agreement with the *NNO*, add the difference between the flow set point and the net result of the matching to the Minimum Metering Buffer (MMB) as maintained by the *NNO*.

This procedure is applicable if a balancing *Flange Customer* or an *OBA* is in place at the *Gas Storage Entry Point* and the *Gas Storage Exit Point*. If there is no *OBA* or no balancing *Flange Customer* in place, *EnergyStock B.V.* will not let the flow drop below the minimum flow rate unless agreed with the *Flange Customers*.



If *EnergyStock B.V.* is forced to maintain the flow rate at the minimum level or to bring the flow rate down to zero (0), *EnergyStock B.V.* will send a revised *Confirmation* with recalculated confirmed *Quantities of Gas*.

5.4 Flow variation restrictions

Flow variations are amongst others restricted by:

- (a) The contractual arrangements with the *NNO* at the *Gas Storage Entry Point* and the *Gas Storage Exit Point*; and
- (b) The technical limitations of the *Gas Storage Facility*; and
- (c) The possibility of *Flange Customer(s)* having the balancing role and contractual arrangements resulting thereof.

5.5 Planned Maintenance

For a maximum of twenty-one (21) days per year *EnergyStock B.V.* has the right to perform planned maintenance on the *Gas Storage Facility* which might reduce the reliability of *Contracted Flange Flexibility Services*.

For a maximum of ten (10) days per year *EnergyStock B.V.* has the right to perform planned maintenance on the *Gas Storage Facility* which might reduce the availability of *Contracted Flange Flexibility Services*.

5.6 Maintenance plan

Notifications will take place at least six (6) months in advance for fixed planned maintenance operations.

When establishing the dates for planned maintenance *EnergyStock B.V.* will take into account the historical and foreseeable use of the *Gas Storage Facility* so as to minimize consequences of any possible unavailability of the *Gas Storage Facility*.



6. Allocation

6.1 Introduction

EnergyStock B.V. shall use the *Quantities of Gas* indicated on the last sent *Confirmation* referring to *Gas Day D* as the basis for allocation calculations regarding *Gas Day D*.

EnergyStock B.V. will provide or cause to be provided to *Flange Customer* and *EnergyStock B.V.* by electronic transmission all allocation data, relevant to *Flange Customer*, used for invoicing.

EnergyStock B.V. shall with regard to allocations keep auditable record of all underlying data on an *Hourly* basis which are used for the determination of the invoices and allocations, for the period legally required.

Allocation is the process by which *Gas* is apportioned on an *Hourly* basis to the *Flange Customers*. Allocation calculations are performed separately at the *Gas Storage Entry Point* and the *Gas Storage Exit Point*.

Allocation in general consists of:

- Measuring physical deliveries of *Quantities of Gas*; and
- Identifying confirmed *Quantities of Gas* for entry flow and exit flow; and
- Deeming confirmed *Quantities of Gas* in the counter flow direction to be met; and
- Adding the confirmed *Quantities of Gas* in the counter flow direction to the physical flow; and
- Allocating this calculated flow pro rata to the *Confirmations*.

Where *Flange Customer* has been confirmed *Quantities of Gas* in both flow directions at the same time, they are treated separately for allocation purposes.

6.2 Allocation role

Flange Customers can have one of the following possible allocation roles at the *Gas Storage Entry Point* and *Gas Storage Exit Point*:

Balancing

The difference between the measured flow and the sum of the *Confirmations* to all *EnergyStock B.V.* customers is allocated to balancing customer.

Proportional

The confirmed capacity will in principle be allocated proportionally to all *EnergyStock B.V.* customers. In case the difference between the measured volume and the sum of the *Confirmations* to all *EnergyStock B.V.* customers has not been allocated to one or more balancing *customers*, this difference will also be allocated to all *EnergyStock B.V.* customers.



No allocation

No capacities will be allocated to *Flange Customer*. This allocation role will be applied if *Flange Customer* informs *EnergyStock B.V.* that the existing (non-zero) *Contracted Send In Capacity* or *Contracted Send Out Capacity* will not be used during a specified period, under the condition that *EnergyStock B.V.* can allocate the measured quantities to another party.

6.3 *Flange Customer's* allocation role is described in the *Flexibility Services Contract(s) Flange*.

6.4 *Allocation Rules at the Gas Storage Entry Point and Gas Storage Exit Point*
The following *Allocation Rules* apply at the *Gas Storage Entry Point* and *Gas Storage Exit Point*:

- Allocations of the measured volume will be performed on the basis of the allocation role assigned to *Flange Customers*;
In principle, volumes will be allocated to proportional *Flange Customers* on the basis of the *Confirmations*. Any differences between the measured *Quantities of Gas* and the sum of the *Confirmations of Flange Customers* will be allocated to all *EnergyStock B.V.* customers in proportion to the *Confirmations of Flange Customer* and the *Confirmations of all EnergyStock B.V. customers*;
In case there is a balancing customer, a positive or negative difference between the measured volume and the sum of the confirmations of all *EnergyStock B.V.* customers will, except in case of unavailability, be allocated to the balancing customer, unless this is not feasible under the agreed role of the balancing customer. If there is more than one balancing customer, the difference will be allocated to the balancing customers in proportion to their *Confirmations*;
In case there is an *OBA* a positive or negative difference between the measured volume and the sum of the *Confirmations of the proportional Flange Customers* will be allocated to a balancing account between the *NNO's*, unless it is not feasible under the *OBA*.

6.5 Reallocation

Reallocation is only allowed in exceptional circumstances and will be agreed upon between *Parties* in good faith

6.6 Publication of allocations

The (provisional) allocations on the *Gas Storage Entry Point* and the *Gas Storage Exit Point* will be calculated every *Hour* in accordance with the applicable *Allocation Rules* and will be made available by on-line electronic transmission to *Flange Customers* and *EnergyStock B.V.*

If the allocations are based on provisional measured quantities, final allocations shall be made available at the beginning of the following *Month*.



6.7 Energy costs

The monthly payment for energy cost charges will consist of energy-related costs for all the *Hours* of the previous *Month*.

6.7.1 Calculation of the charge of consideration T2 will be based on a formula reflecting the energy costs related to the use of send-in and send out. This formula is specified in the Flexibility Services Contract Flange.

6.7.2 If *Parties* have agreed to calculate a variable component T2 of the *FST Flange*, meaning the charge of T2 is based on actual costs and actual usage of *Flange Customer*, the following will apply:

For allocating energy costs, the energy consumption of the *Gas Storage Facility* at every *Hour* of the *Gas Day*, will be related to the allocations of *Flange Customer* for that *Hour* for the calendar day.

In this case, the energy fee per MWh can vary each month as it is based on the actual costs. The component T2 consists of energy costs for injection, as described in *Article 6.7.2.1* and for withdrawal, as described in *Article 6.7.2.2*.

6.7.2.1 The calculation of the energy costs for injection will be divided into peak *Hours* and off-peak *Hours*. Peak *Hours* and Off-Peak *Hours* are the *Hours* as specified by the energy supplier of *EnergyStock B.V.*

Calculation of the charges for injection will be:

Peak

$$\frac{\text{Flange Customer send in allocations during peak Hours}}{\text{total send in allocations}} \times \text{energy charge peak Hours}$$

Off-Peak

$$\frac{\text{Flange Customer send in allocations during off-peak Hours}}{\text{total send in allocations}} \times \text{energy charge off-peak Hours}$$

6.7.2.2 Energy costs for withdrawal for the *Gas Storage Facility* consist of three categories, being:

1. The usage of the heaters which produce warm water for the heating of the *Gas* during send out;
2. the usage of the glycol regeneration units (GRU's) for the drying of the *Gas*;
3. and the hot standby usage of the heaters.

The measurement, calculation and settlement of this fuel gas is described in *Article 6.8*.

The GRU's show little difference in fuel gas usage during send in or send out situations. On the hours that there is no send out, the heaters are in a hot stand by mode.



6.8 Fuel gas for withdrawal

6.8.1 This *Article* 6.8 is not applicable if the component T2 is agreed as a consideration as described in *Article* 6.7.1.

6.8.2 Measurement of fuel gas

The total amount of fuel gas is measured. The amount of fuel gas for the heaters is measured separately. The difference between these two measurements is the usage of the GRU's.

6.8.3 Calculation of *Flange Customer's* fuel gas amounts for settlement

Flange Customer's share in the total amount of fuel gas shall be calculated as follows:

The *Monthly* total of the hot standby usage of the heaters during *Hours of Send In* (as described in *Article* 6.7.2.2 category 3) will be allocated to *Flange Customer* in line with *Flange Customer's* share in the *Send Out* capacity. This share is calculated by dividing *Flange Customer's Contracted Send Out Capacity* by the *Send Out Capacity*. The total of the hot standby fuel gas usage of the heaters for *Flange Customers* is a deemed value in million *kWh* per *Year* announced to *Flange Customer* within the first quarter of each year. This amount will be deducted on a *Monthly* basis (1/12 per *Month*) from the measured amounts of fuel gas as described in *Article* 6.8.2 of this *Operational Manual Flange*.

With regard to the usage of the heaters during send out and the usage of the GRU's (as described in *Article* 6.7.2.2 in category 1 and 2), the following will apply. *Flange Customers* fuel gas share in *Month X* is equal to the share of *Flange Customers* send out allocation in the total send out allocation in *Month X*.

As soon as possible after the *Month*, *EnergyStock B.V.* will inform *Flange Customer* about the amount of fuel gas allocated to *Flange Customer* in that *Month*.

6.8.4 Settlement of fuel gas

In principle the amount of fuel gas allocated to *Flange Customer* (as calculated in article 6.8.3) shall be settled in kind via *Flange Customer's Working Gas*. *Article* 6.8.5 describes how this settlement in kind is executed.

If a settlement in kind is not possible or difficult to implement (e.g. when the *Contract Period* is too short), the amount of fuel gas allocated to *Flange Customer* (as calculated in *Article* 6.8.3) shall be settled financially.

Article 6.8.6 describes how this financial settlement is executed.

6.8.5 Execution of settlements in kind

EnergyStock B.V. will withdraw *Flange Customer's* share of fuel gas from *Flange Customer's* level of *Working Gas* once every quarter. The quarterly amount to be withdrawn is the sum of the three *Monthly* amounts (as calculated under *Article* 6.8.4) in the applicable quarter. The withdrawal is executed within the first ten



Business Days of the *Month* after the applicable quarter. *EnergyStock B.V.* will inform *Flange Customer* about the timing of the withdrawal.

It is possible that, at the moment when *EnergyStock B.V.* intends to execute the withdrawal, *Flange Customer's* level of *Working Gas* is not sufficient, which means that the level is lower than *Flange Customer's* share of fuel gas of the past quarter. In that case, *Flange Customer* shall ensure that its level of *Working Gas* will be sufficient before the end of the *Month* after the applicable quarter, thus enabling *EnergyStock B.V.* to execute the withdrawal before the end of the *Month* after the applicable quarter. In case this is not facilitated (in time) by *Flange Customer*, the amount of fuel gas allocated to *Flange Customer* (as calculated in *Article 6.8.3*) shall be settled financially as described in *Article 6.8.6*.

6.8.6 Execution of financial settlements

If *Parties* have agreed to a variable component T2 of the *FST Flange* (as laid down in the *Flexibility Services Contract Flange*), the following will apply:

If the amount of fuel gas allocated to *Flange Customer* is settled financially, the price used for settlement will be the TTF + 1 (*Euro/MWh*) [day ahead index] as published by Heren Energy Ltd. in its issue European Spot Gas Markets on the relevant *End Date*.

6.9 Switching between a variable consideration T2 and a consideration T2 as mentioned in article 6.7.1 is only possible for the entire portfolio of *Flange Customer* and requires the consent of *EnergyStock B.V.* and is only allowed once per year. Such a switch can only enter into force per the 1st of April of each *Year*. If *Flange Customer* wishes to switch between a variable consideration and a consideration T2 as mentioned in article 6.7.1 per 1st of April, *Flange Customer* shall inform *EnergyStock B.V.* in writing at the latest 10 *Business Days* before such 1st of April.



7. Balance of Working Gas, Injection Curve and Withdrawal Curve

7.1 The injection curve and or withdrawal curve as specified in the *Flexibility Services Contract Flange* and or, if applicable, presented in Annex I to the *Flange Flexibility Service Contract(s)* will apply.

7.2 *EnergyStock B.V.* shall maintain for *Flange Customer* an administration from which the *Quantity of Gas* available for send out and the *Quantity of Gas* that can be send in can be derived.

For any *Hour* during a *Gas Day* the *Actual Available Working Gas* (AAWG) will be calculated according to the following formula:

$$\text{AAWG (t)} = \text{AAWG (t-1)} + \text{AQGSI} - \text{AQGSO}$$

$$\text{AAWG (t)} = \text{Actual Available Working Gas for Hour t, (in kWh)}$$

$$\text{AAWG (t-1)} = \text{Actual Available Working Gas at the beginning of the previous Hour (in kWh)}$$

$$\text{AQGSI} = \text{Allocated Quantity of Gas Send In during the previous Hour (in kWh)}$$

$$\text{AQGSO} = \text{Allocated Quantity of Gas Send Out during the previous Hour (in kWh)}$$

The AAWG at 06.00 hour *LET* at the start of the *Gas Day* shall be used for calculation of the amount of *Working Gas* that can be injected or withdrawn according to the injection curve resp. withdrawal curve.

7.3 *Confirmations* will be used for calculating purposes as long as allocated quantities are not available yet.

7.4 In case of reallocations or corrections to the AAWG as a consequence of the application of article 7.3 that lead to changes in the AAWG, these changes will only have consequences for calculations of the AAWG after *Hour t* and will be agreed upon between *Parties* in good faith.

7.5 The terms that apply in case of unavailability of the *Gas Storage Facility* are stipulated in *Article 4.7* of the *General Terms and Conditions Flexibility Services Flange*.



8. Transfer of Usage Rights

8.1 *Flange Customer* may request *EnergyStock B.V* to register a transfer of the *Usage Rights Contracted Flexibility Services* and/or *Working Gas* to another *Flange Customer*, subject to timely notification as specified in *Article 8.3* of this *Operating Manual*.

8.2 The only document which can be used for transfer requests is the applicable “Form for transfer of *Usage Rights*” form which will be sent to *Flange Customer* on request. Any other document will not be accepted by *EnergyStock B.V*.
In the transfer request, the desired amount of the *Usage Rights* to be transferred, the starting date and the ending date have to be filled out. The transfer request has to be fully completed and signed by the delivering party and the receiving party. If the transfer request is not fully completed and/or not signed by both parties, it will not be accepted by *EnergyStock B.V*.

The transfer request can be submitted by e-mail to
commercial_operations@energystock.com

8.3 General conditions applicable to a transfer request
In general the following conditions always apply to transfer requests:
Confirmation of a transfer of *Usage Rights* to *EnergyStock B.V*. must be send ten (10) *Business Days* before the start of the next *Month*. With a single transfer request form, it is only possible to request a transfer of *Usage Rights* for a consecutive period. Any party that wishes to transfer the *Usage Rights* for non-consecutive periods should complete and sign a separate transfer request for every period.

8.4 Processing of a transfer request by *EnergyStock B.V*
The processing of transfer requests will be done by the Commercial Operations department of *EnergyStock B.V*.

EnergyStock B.V will check if:

1. The transfer request is fully completed and signed.
2. The transfer request is received within the time limits indicated in *Article 8.3*.
3. The receiving party fulfils the conditions of becoming a *Flange Customer*.
4. The requested amount of the *Usage Rights* to be transferred does not exceed the amount of *Contracted Flexibility Services Flange* that has been contracted by the *Flange Customer* and the *Actual Available Working Gas* of *Flange Customer* does not exceed the *Contracted Working Volume*, minus the to be transferred *Usage Rights* of *Working Volume* at the start of the transfer.

Only if all conditions are met, *EnergyStock B.V* will accept the transfer request. If one or more of the conditions is not met, *EnergyStock B.V* will reject the transfer request.



In the case of acceptance of the transfer request, *EnergyStock B.V* will register the transfer, meaning that the *Usage Rights* of the transferor will be decreased by the transferred amount of *Usage Rights* and that the usage rights of the transferee will be increased by the transferred amount of *Usage Rights* during the transfer period. Before the registration date the transferee cannot nominate for the transferred *Usage Rights* during the transfer period.

After termination of the transfer period, *EnergyStock B.V* will check if there is at the last hour of the transfer period remaining working gas of the transferee included in the transferred usage rights of *Working Volume*. *EnergyStock B.V* will do this by subtracting the *Contracted Working Volume* of the transferee after termination of the transfer period from the level of the *Actual Available Working Gas* of the transferee at the last hour of the transfer period. In case this difference is higher than zero, there is remaining working gas (end level) in the transferred usage rights of *Working Volume*.

In this case *EnergyStock B.V* will firstly correct the level of the *Actual Available Working Gas* of the transferee with an amount equal to the opposite of the calculated end level. Secondly, *EnergyStock B.V* will correct *Flange Customer's Actual Available Working Gas* with an amount equal to the calculated end level.

Upon receipt by *EnergyStock B.V*, a completed and signed transfer request establishes a binding declaration of *Flange Customer* to enter into an agreement as specified in the request. Conclusion of the transfer request is only subject to acceptance by *EnergyStock B.V*.

EnergyStock B.V will only process transfer requests on *Business Days* during office *Hours*, being from 8:30 hours *LET* to 17:00 hours *LET*.

8.5 Conclusion of a transfer request

If a transfer request is accepted and successfully processed, *EnergyStock B.V* will validate the request by countersigning the form. *EnergyStock B.V* will send a fully signed copy of the transfer form per e-mail to both the delivering and the receiving party simultaneously. From the moment of receipt of the fully signed transfer form by the delivering and the receiving party, the transfer takes effect at the requested start date filled out in the transfer form, taking into account lead times mentioned in *Article 8.3*.

If a transfer request is not accepted, *EnergyStock B.V* will mention the reasons for the rejection in the form. *EnergyStock B.V* will send a copy of the rejected transfer form per e-mail to both the delivering and the receiving party simultaneously.



9. EnergyStock contact details

9.1 EnergyStock

Telephone: +31 50 521 1510 (contract dispatching centre within day)
+31 5- 521 1560 (contract dispatching centre day ahead)

E-mai: commercial_operations@energystock.com

Address: EnergyStock B.V.
Concourslaan 17
9727 KC GRONINGEN
or
EnergyStock B.V.
P.O. Box 364
9700 AJ GRONINGEN

