PROCEDURE FOR THE SELECTION OF A CONTRACTOR IN PROVIDING CLEARING SERVICES FOR BALKAN GAS HUB MARKET NEEDS

- Step 1. Publication of information about Balkan Gas Hub EAD (BGH) procedure for selection of a contractor for providing clearing and settlement services. Publication of Invitation for Expression of Interest together with eligibility and selection criteria and Expression of Interest Application Form: uploading the news for the forthcoming procedure and the sample of invitation on BGH webpage, BTG webpage, ME webpage, and sending the information to EACH (European Association of CCP Clearing Houses). The Invitation of expression of interest shall define general information about the project, it's goals, the eligibility criteria, the selection criteria as well as the targeted timeline. Start date 23.2.2024.
- Step. 2. Interested parties should submit to the e-mail address: admin@balkangashub.bg a completed Expression of interest application form together with all the supplementary documents required therein- Deadline 15.03.2024 EOB Sofia time.
- **Step 3. BGH shall inform the participants about the eligibility criteria results.** All participants in the procedure are individually informed about their results. Deadline 19.3.2024 EOB Sofia time.
- Step 4. Short-listed participants should submit a detailed offer covering all the Selection criteria described in the Invitation for Expression of Interest. All interested short-listed participants must also submit draft of a Provision of Services Agreement that shall be subject to negotiation. Deadline 09.04.2024 EOB Sofia time.
- **Step 5. Ranking of the offers:** Based on the submitted offers in step 4, "Balkan Gas Hub" EAD prepares a ranking. Deadline 23.04.2024 EOB Sofia time.
- **Step 6. Provision of information about the procedure results.** All participants in the procedure are individually informed about their results. Deadline 23.04.2024 EOB Sofa time.
- **Step 7. Direct negotiations.** After ranking all submitted offers, "Balkan Gas Hub" EAD will start direct negotiations with the first three participants. Deadline for finalization of negotiations 23.05.2024 EOB Sofa time.
- **Step 8. Provision of information on the results of the conducted procedure to the NRA.** In accordance with item 2.5 and item 2.6. from the license No. *Π*-532-11 of 25.03.2021 issued by the Energy and Water Regulation Commission (EWRC) for organizing a natural gas exchange market, "Balkan Gas Hub" EAD informs EWRC about the planned conclusion of an Agreement for provision of clearing services. Deadline 27.05.2024.

Step 9. Signing of the Provision of Services Agreement with the participant ranked first after the direct negotiations 28.05.2024.

Steps/ Date	23.2.2024	15.3.2024	19.3.2024	9.4.2024	23.4.2024	23.5.2024	27.5.2024	28.5.2024
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4. Submission of a detailed offer covering all the Selection criteria described in the Invitation for Expression of								
Interest				21				
5. Ranking of the offers					14			
6. Provision of information about the procedure results								
7. Direct negotiations						30		
8. Provision of information on the results of the conducted procedure to the NRA							4	
9. Signing of the Provision of Services Agreement with the participant ranked first after the direct negotiations								1