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GAZ-SYSTEM S.A. launches project work on the winouj cie - Szczecin pipeline

Gas Transmission Operator GAZ-SYSTEM S.A. begins the development of the high pressure pipeline between winouj cie and Szczecin which is a strategic element of the LNG terminal in winouj cie. The pipeline will connect the liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal to the national transmission system and will enable the transmission of gas from a new supply area.

The winouj cie - Szczecin pipeline represents a crucial element in the development of the cross-border transmission infrastructure in the Baltic area. The pipeline will enable the transmission of gas from the LNG terminal in winouj cie for interested companies from the Nordic area once the planned Baltic Pipe interconnection of the Polish transmission system with the Danish transmission system takes effect. The development of the cross-border infrastructure in the Baltic area will provide the Nordic states access to the global market of liquefied natural gas (LNG) through the Polish re-gasification infrastructure in winouj cie.

The construction of the winouj cie-Szczecin pipeline will be subsidized from the EU program "European Energy Plan for Recovery" which is meant to contribute to the economic recovery in the European Union and improve energy supply safety thanks to cross-border infrastructure.

The winouj cie - Szczecin pipeline will measure approximately 80 km in length and 800 mm in diameter. The construction and execution project contractor of the investment has been selected through public tender. The agreement for the construction and execution project preparation related to the pipeline has been concluded with Biuro Studiów i Projektów Gazownictwa GAZOPROJEKT S.A. (Design and Gas Project Company) seated in Wrocław.

The tasks of the project contractor include the acquisition of an investment location decision and a binding building permit. It is expected that the project documentation will be completed along with the acquisition of the building permit in the middle of 2011 upon which it will be possible to announce a tender for pipeline construction. The investment time schedule provides that the construction work will be completed in 2013.

The Szczecin - winouj cie pipeline is part of the extensive investment plan of GAZ-SYSTEM S.A. The company intends to build more than 1000 km of new transmission pipelines by 2014. Strategic pipelines will be developed in the northwest and central part of Poland (Szczecin-Lwówek, winouj cie - Szczecin, Szczecin - Gdańsk, Włocławek - Gdynia, Gustorzyn - Odolanów, Rembelszczyzna - Gustorzyn). The construction of the new compressor station in Goleniów is also planned to finish in 2010 enabling the transmission of larger volumes of natural gas in this region.

Gas Transmission Operator GAZ-SYSTEM S.A. is a strategic company to the Polish economy responsible for the transmission of natural gas in Poland. The company manages assets valued at app. 5 bn PLN comprised predominantly of the main elements of the transmission system with more than 9,700 km of high pressure pipelines, 14 compressor stations, 56 hubs and 970 exit points. The company employs 2,000 people.

Besides the development of the national transmission system, GAZ-SYSTEM S.A. is also realizing the construction of a new interconnector between Poland and the Czech Republic. Pipelines in Lower Silesia are also being developed enabling the delivery of increased natural gas volumes through the point Lasowo located at the Polish-German border.

GAZ-SYSTEM S.A. is also the owner of Polskie LNG S.A. which was established for the purpose of building and operating the liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal in winouj cie.

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