

CHAPTER 11

INJECTION AND WITHDRAWAL PRESSURE

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11.1 INTRODUCTION

Pressure is a fundamental parameter for service performance and for the interoperability of storage facilities with the connected transport system. Therefore, it is essential for the Storage Company to be able to refer to appropriate pressure values at the system's injection points.

11.2 PRESSURE AT DELIVERY POINTS

Shippers are required to deliver the gas or arrange for the gas to be delivered to the Delivery Point at the Minimum Contractual Pressure value, which the Storage Company has the right to request at any time. The Minimum Contractual Pressure identifies the value of pressure below which the daily performance could be interrupted altogether.

In order to achieve efficient storage management, the Storage Company determines the injection performance made available to Shippers in reference to a Average Contractual Pressure value, which may be higher than the Minimum Contractual Pressure. The Average Contractual Pressure identifies the value of pressure below which the daily performance of the system may be deteriorated. Any reductions in performance resulting from a gas delivery at a pressure level between the Minimum Contractual Pressure and the Average Contractual Pressure are subject to the balancing service and therefore do not entail any change in the Shipper's performance.

The value of the Average Contractual Pressure is assessed together with the transport company that owns the connected pipeline and is estimated based on the expected average pressure values delivered during the injection cycle under normal operating conditions of the connected pipeline. The Contractual Average Pressure is defined through statistical analyses of historical data and considering constraints and changes in structure that may occur in the Thermal Year for the relevant Contractual Average Pressure value.

According to operating practices, the Storage Company will be able to accept the gas at a pressure lower than the Average Contractual Pressure without this being subject to any specific communication nor does it exclude the possibility of the Storage Company requesting that said value is restored.

The Minimum Contractual Pressure and the Average Contractual Pressure are the subject of an agreement with the Transport Company that owns the NGPN connected to the system.

Each year, the Storage Company will publish the Average Contractual Pressure and the Minimum Contractual Pressure on its website, in conjunction with the publication of information and timing on the assignment cycle.

With regard to the Shipper's failure to comply with the pressure constraint, please refer to paragraph 17.2 of the chapter "Responsibilities of the Parties".

11.3 PRESSURE AT REDELIVERY POINTS

The Storage Company commits to redeliver the gas at the value of the Minimum Contractual Pressure at Redelivery Point, which the Shipper has the right to request at any time. This value must never exceed the maximum operating pressure value for the pipeline connected to the system.

According to operating practices, the Storage Company normally redelivers gas at the operating pressure for the pipeline connected to the system, without prejudice to the right of the Shipper to request the Minimum Contractual Pressure from the Transport Company.

The Minimum Contractual Pressure is the subject of an agreement with the Transport Company that owns the NGPN connected to the system.

Each year, the Storage Company will publish the Minimum Contractual Pressure at Redelivery Point on its website, in conjunction with the publication of information and timing on the assignment cycle.