Re: BNetzA consultation on the security of supply alternatives (NDP)

Dear Sir/Madam,

Herewith we refer to the BNetzA consultation workshop on the security of supply alternatives of the 10th July 2018 regarding the German Network Development Plan (NDP) 2018 and the subsequent market consultations (e.g. the consultation of 3 August 2018).

Our Company, being a trading house active in all major European energy markets, has one of its main activities as natural gas transportation via interconnection points across the European natural gas hubs and has extensive experience in importing of natural gas by the utilization of Swiss Transitgas pipeline route via Exit Wallbach interconnection point.

During the years of activity, such route proved its outmost importance for security of supply, by providing stable natural gas flows through the year and principally supporting to meet peak demands in Swissgrid and the Italian hub during winter periods. However, the recent market developments leave Exit Wallbach insufficient in terms of technical capacity for such demands.

Recently, the Prisma capacity auctions held for the upcoming winter period, demonstrated substantial demand for the respective capacity and such demand lead to prolongation of the auction sessions with full booking while resulting in additional surcharge on the base price of the respective capacity. Such situation is a chief evidence that the interest from the market participants is solid and during the upcoming winter periods the respective point will experience further congestion due to increased demand.

Consequently, under such circumstances above mentioned, we believe Exit Wallbach point will play an important role prospectively and we would like to suggest an increase in technical capacity would benefit all parties involved.

Best regards,