

EFET publishes gas hub assessments

The European Federation of Energy Traders (EFET¹) has published the outcomes of its **European Gas Hub Development Study**, with individual hub assessments now accessible through the EFET website.

Phase I of the EFET Gas Hub Development project aimed to review the experience gained in the European markets where gas trading hubs are developing and to identify how we can adapt the learnings and preferred practices of liquid markets in NW Europe to the particularities of less mature markets. This resulted in a useful and practical EFET guide, which would promote convergence in how hubs are being designed, and which could be used to promote liquidity (see EFET Guide on the features of a successful VTP).

Phase II involved benchmarking Europe's existing hubs against a best practice model. Doug Wood, Chairman of the Gas Hub Development Group, presented a preliminary assessment of 20 Virtual Trading Points (VTPs) at the 25thGas (Madrid) Regulatory Forum in May. It is anticipated that the model could be refined and hubs could be reassessed on a regular basis.

"In recent years we have seen a great willingness by authorities and by market parties to establish new trading hubs in Europe," said Doug Wood, "and we felt that the time is right for a guide to help them develop in a common framework". "We have already seen great interest from a number of authorities," he added, "and hope that this helps them to continue to progress hub development in line with what market participants would like to see."

Drawing on the expertise of the EFET regional and national task forces, the project will proceed with establishing specific recommendations in the order of interest for market participants, identifying ways to progress hub development across Europe and developing implementation plans in key selected areas.

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¹ The European Federation of Energy Traders (EFET) promotes and facilitates European energy trading in open, transparent, sustainable and liquid wholesale markets, unhindered by national borders or other undue obstacles. We currently represent more than 100 energy trading companies, active in over 27 European countries. For more information, visit our website at www.efet.org.