

Press Statement

24 June 2003

“Unbundling network operators and access to gas supplies are two current issues that need to be addressed properly if consumers are to benefit from a competitive market” said Colin Lyle, Chair of the EFET Gas Committee after its meeting in Paris 24 June 2003.

EFET has published two position papers on its website to help those authorities and companies developing release programmes or planning the legal unbundling of TSOs.

- Implementation of Gas Release Programmes for European Gas Market Development
- Unbundling of Transmission Operators for European Gas Market Development

EFET Members are concerned that current plans for network unbundling and gas release programmes in Germany and Austria might not be sufficient to establish transparent and liquid wholesale gas markets that are needed for consumers to have a real choice of gas supplier. EFET also notes that in the absence of proper network access arrangements the effectiveness of gas release programmes will be compromised.

“This is very timely guidance” said Colin Lyle “and EFET is ready to discuss more detailed aspects of implementation with authorities and companies concerned”

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