

How to safeguard the use of L-gas storages after Groningen phase-out?

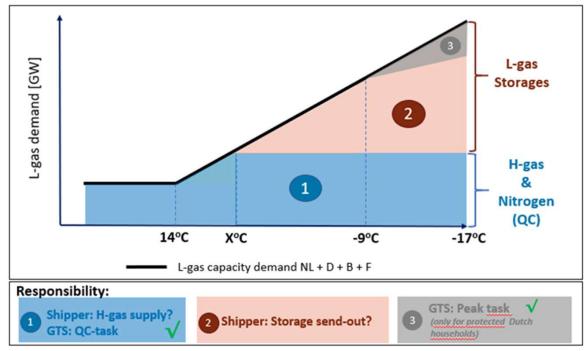




(Old) Timeline

May - July 2020

- First round of discussions with stakeholders:
 - Repros : VGN, Energie Nederland, NOGEPA
 - Government: EZK, MinFin
 - Regulator : ACM



Q3/Q4-2020

- Second round of discussions with stakeholders above
- GTS: final assessment if and how to adapt market model

1 October 2021

First possible implementation date (taking code change timelines into account)



Relevant recent developments

- EZK wants to maintain Security of Supply obligations and the quality neutral gas market, preferable without additional regulation
- GasTerra press release of 24 September 2020: GasTerra to be fully phased out by 31 December 2024 https://www.gasterra.nl/en/news/gasterra-to-be-fully-phased-out-by-31-december-2024
- From this we expect that current use of Norg and Alkmaar will be continued by GasTerra till end of 2024
- This means that we do not need additional measures once our new nitrogen plant is operational (Q2-2022) and Groningen will only be available as backup facility from that moment.
- Since the demand for L-gas will decrease in the forthcoming years (especially because of L-gas to H-gas conversion in Germany, Belgium and France) the potential need in later years for additional measures will become smaller and smaller.



New timeline

- We assume that current operational handling between GTS and GasTerra will be continued and that this will be confirmed on short notice
- November 2021: Next briefing, unless earlier action is needed