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Agency for the Cooperation
of Energy Regulators



Gas transit contracts: status review

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| ACER inquiry on transit

- Launched at the request of the previous Madrid Forum
- Addressed to all NRAs
- Requested specific information on transit contracts and what barriers they may create
- Deadline for responding: 31 August 2011
- 21 NRAs responded (so far)

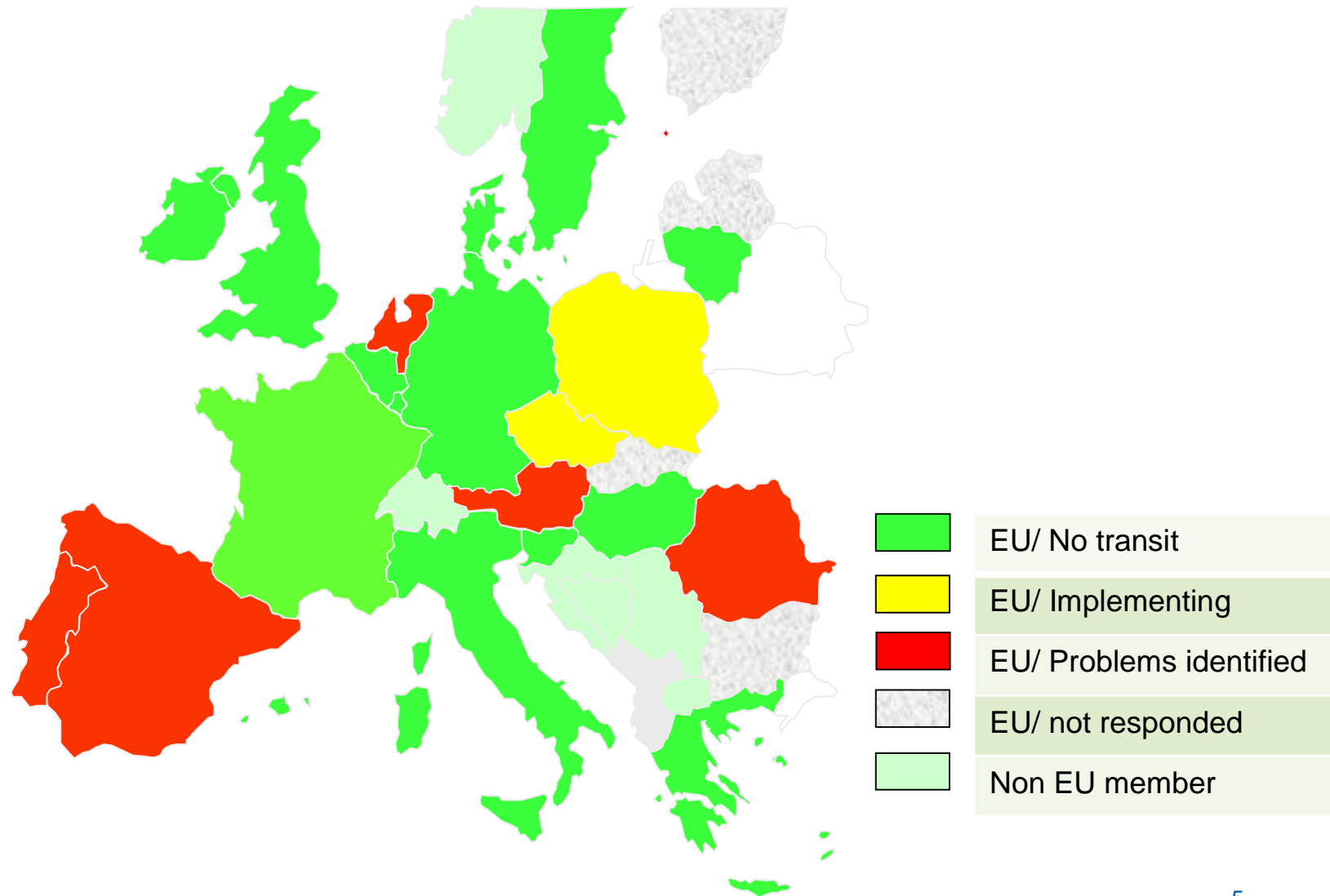
| Transit was defined as...

- Transport of natural gas through a network with a view to its delivery to customers, but not including supply
 - mainly high-pressure pipelines
 - other than an upstream
 - other high-pressure pipelines primarily used in the context of local distribution of natural gas
- Network of origin or final destination is situated in the European Union
- Involves the crossing of at least one Member State's border

| What did ACER learn from its inquiry?

- Changes to the regulatory environment were not introduced for certain transit lines;
- Capacity allocation is restricted or is subject to special agreements between TSOs;
- Different tariffs or tariff methodologies apply;
- Special treatment in terms of preferential balancing, congestion management, fixed transportation rates, other services in kind are offered.

Review results



| What steps shall be taken by the Member States?

- Support the renegotiation of the transit contracts;
- Eliminate the discriminatory arrangements in transit agreements;
- Follow up with the implementation of the Third Energy Package;
- Communicate successful delivery to the Commission.

| What steps shall be taken by NRAs?

- Ensure that transit contracts follow or will follow the regulatory changes;
- Continue the implementation of virtual trading points and decoupled entry-exit regimes and solve the problems that may appear;
- Share the problems that may arise and communicate successful implementation to ACER.

| What other findings could be mentioned?

- Capacities with limited assignability – a solution to facilitate high utilisation of the network and to cope with technical constraints e.g. when merging zones;
- Regional and local distribution charges are not included in transit tariffs;
- Transit protected from disruption in emergency;
- Quality restrictions of adjacent TSOs may differentiate between flows;
- Exempted lines.

Thank you for
your attention

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