

BACK-UP CAPACITY ALLOCATION PROCEDURE

1. Introduction

1.1 Defined terms have the meanings given in the IGB Network Code. This Procedure supplements the capacity-booking arrangements set out in Article 10 of the IGB Network Code and applies where PRISMA and/or RBP is unavailable, or another technical issue prevents a regular capacity auction from being carried out or completed on the relevant platform.

2. Application of this Procedure

2.1 ICGB AD activates this Procedure for the affected Primary Market auction by sending an activation notification (the 'Activation Notification') to all Network Users with a GTA in effect. The Activation Notification identifies the affected auction, Capacity Product, capacity point and direction.

2.2 The Activation Notification also states the Gas Day, capacity runtime, Available Capacity, applicable reserve price, units for quantities, competition constraint, and opening and closing times. The Capacity Booking Request Form is attached. The Activation Notification is published in accordance with section 7.

3. Timings and Procedure activation conditions

3.1 Time references

3.1.1 Times in this Procedure and ICGB AD's notices are stated in UTC and Bulgarian local time: EET (UTC+2) in winter and EEST (UTC+3) during daylight saving time. UTC prevails in case of discrepancy. The Capacity Booking Request Form uses UTC only.

3.2 Failure during or after bidding

3.2.1 If a technical issue prevents a yearly, quarterly, monthly or day-ahead auction covered by this Procedure from being completed during or after bidding, ICGB AD activates this Procedure for that auction. Yearly, quarterly and monthly auctions follow section 5.2. For day-ahead auctions, only new bids submitted under this Procedure are considered for allocation, unless ICGB AD cancels the back-up auction under paragraph 6.2.

3.3 Failure before an auction

3.3.1 For yearly, quarterly, monthly and day-ahead auctions, ICGB AD will activate this Procedure if the issue is unresolved one hour before the scheduled start or arises during the remaining hour before opening. The relevant process in section 5.2 or 5.3 applies. Within-Day auctions follow the separate rules in section 3.4.

3.4 Within-Day: 20-minute activation deadline

3.4.1 A back-up Within-Day Firm Forward Flow auction is activated only if, 20 minutes before its scheduled opening:

- (a) a technical issue still prevents the regular auction; and
- (b) at least one Network User with a GTA in effect has e-mailed commercial.operations@icgb.eu, identifying the specific auction and capacity point and stating its intention to book. The e-mail must be received no later than that 20-minute deadline.

3.4.2 The intention notice is not a bid and confers no allocation priority. Once activated, all eligible Network Users may participate, whether or not they sent an intention notice.

3.4.3 If the conditions in paragraph 3.4.1 are not met, that Within-Day auction will not be replaced by a back-up auction. The same applies if the technical issue occurs less than 20 minutes before the scheduled start of the auction. The next scheduled Within-Day auction will be considered separately.

4. Capacity Products offered with this Procedure

4.1 Firm Forward Flow (FFF): yearly, quarterly, monthly, day-ahead and Within-Day.

4.2 Interruptible Reverse Flow (IRF): yearly, quarterly, monthly and day-ahead.

4.3 Day-ahead Interruptible Forward Flow (IFF) is not offered through this Procedure. An affected IFF auction that cannot be completed through the regular platform process is cancelled; valid completed allocations are unaffected.

5. Process description

5.1 General requirements

5.1.1 All IGB Network Code requirements, including eligibility, credit support and tariff requirements, remain applicable except for the alternative booking channel expressly provided here. All Capacity Products offered in back-up auctions are unbundled.

5.1.2 ICGB AD applies the same competition constraint between Komotini TAP and Komotini DESFA as in the regular platform auctions. Allocations must respect each point's Available Capacity and the common limit, taking account of capacity already allocated through either platform or this Procedure.

5.2 Yearly, quarterly and monthly Capacity Products

5.2.1 ICGB AD coordinates rescheduling with the platform and notifies Network Users of the new timetable. The auction resumes in accordance with the applicable platform rules, using the last valid closed bidding round where applicable, or the first round if none has closed. These products are not allocated by e-mail under this Procedure.

5.3 Day-ahead Capacity Products

5.3.1 For FFF, an Activation Notification sent by 17:00 Bulgarian time (15:00 UTC winter / 14:00 UTC summer) uses the first window below. An Activation Notification sent after 17:00 and before 18:00 Bulgarian time (16:00 UTC winter / 15:00 UTC summer) uses the delayed window. IRF uses the stated IRF window. Each auction lasts 30 minutes.

Bidding window	Bulgarian time	UTC winter	UTC summer
FFF: first window	17:30–18:00	15:30–16:00	14:30–15:00
FFF: delayed window	18:00–18:30	16:00–16:30	15:00–15:30
IRF	20:00–20:30	18:00–18:30	17:00–17:30

5.3.2 If a failure is confirmed too late for those windows, ICGB AD announces a later 30-minute day-ahead window before it opens, respecting the required auction sequence and nomination deadlines. If no such window remains, ICGB AD notifies cancellation.

5.4 Within-Day Capacity Products

5.4.1 Subject to section 3.4, the back-up auction opens at the scheduled opening of the affected Within-Day auction and closes 30 minutes later. The Activation Notification must be sent before opening and must retain the capacity runtime of the affected scheduled product. A missed auction is not rescheduled with an earlier runtime. The bidding and allocation rules in section 5.5 apply.

5.5 Bid submission and processing

5.5.1 A Network User must e-mail the completed Capacity Booking Request Form, signed by its authorised Representative, to commercial.operations@icgb.eu during the bidding window. The Capacity Booking Request Form must identify the auction and bid, specify the Minimum Requested Quantity, Maximum Requested Quantity and Surcharge in the notified units, and include the other required information. The Surcharge is an addition to the applicable tariff for the capacity product.

5.5.2 Bids may be submitted, amended or withdrawn before closing. Each amendment or withdrawal must identify the auction and bid concerned; the last valid instruction for that bid applies. For a withdrawal, no quantities, Surcharge or units are required. ICGB AD's mailbox receipt time is decisive. Submissions received at or after closing, or incomplete, unreadable or unauthorised submissions, are not accepted.

5.5.3 The Commercial Dispatcher on duty processes valid bids using the uniform-price auction algorithm (UPAA) under Article 11.3 of the IGB Network Code and the applicable CAM Network Code requirements. Eligibility, available credit and capacity are checked before allocation. Results are verified by the Commercial Operations Manager.

6. Results and return to normal booking

6.1 ICGB AD completes allocation and sends acceptance or rejection to the e-mail address from which the Capacity Booking Request Form was submitted within 30 minutes of bidding closure, releasing individual results at the same time. An acceptance identifies the auction, allocated quantity, UPAA Clearing Price and capacity runtime. Confidential individual bids and capacity allocations are not disclosed to other Network Users.

6.2 Once a back-up auction is activated, this Procedure will normally prevail even if the platform recovers before or during bidding. However, ICGB AD may cancel the back-up auction and use the valid results of the affected platform auction where it considers this operationally appropriate. Any such cancellation will be notified to Network Users by e-mail and UMM before allocation under this Procedure is completed. If no such cancellation is notified, only valid bids submitted under this Procedure will be considered for allocation.

6.3 Valid platform allocations completed before the technical issue occurred remain unaffected. ICGB AD coordinates with the platform to prevent duplicate allocation of the capacity offered in the back-up auction.

7. Communications and public notice

7.1 ICGB AD publishes the public text of the Activation Notification as an Urgent Market Message (UMM) on the Balkan Gas Hub Inside Information Platform (BGH IIP). The Capacity Booking Request Form shall be supplied by e-mail to all Network Users.

7.2 Corrections, cancellations and restoration notices use the same e-mail and UMM channels.

7.3 All intention notices, bids and procedural enquiries are addressed to Commercial Dispatching: commercial.operations@icgb.eu.

8. Legal

8.1 ICGB AD accepts no liability to a Network User for the correctness or completeness of information provided by that Network User in relation to this Procedure.

8.2 This Procedure and any non-contractual obligations arising out of or in connection with it will be governed by and interpreted in accordance with English law.