



**Demand assessment report  
for incremental capacity  
between DESFA and ICGB gas  
Transmission Systems**

**2021-10-25**



This report is a joint assessment of the potential for incremental capacity projects conducted by:

<b>ICGB</b>	<b>DESFA S.A.</b>
Official Address: "Veslets" Street No.13, 2nd floor Sofia 1000 Bulgaria	357-359 Messogion Ave., Halandri, 15231, Greece
Phone: +359 (2) 9263 862 Fax: +359 (2) 9250 392 E-mail: office@icgb.eu	Switchboard +30 2130884000 <a href="mailto:market-test@desfa.gr">market-test@desfa.gr</a> <a href="http://www.desfa.gr">www.desfa.gr</a>
	

## Table of Contents

A. Non-binding Demand indications.....	4
B. Demand assessment.....	5
<i>i. Historical usage pattern</i> .....	5
<i>ii. Results of current annual yearly auction</i> .....	6
<i>iii. Expected amount, direction and duration of demand for incremental capacity</i> .....	6
C. Relations to GRIPS, TYNDP, NDPs.....	6
D. Conclusion for the (non)-initiation of an incremental capacity project/process .....	7
E. Provisional timeline .....	7
F. Fees .....	8
G. Contact information .....	9

## A. Non-binding Demand indications

Currently, Bulgaria (BG) and Greece (GR), have one Interconnection Point (IP), located on the Greek-Bulgarian border, in the area of Kulata/Sidirokastro, connecting Bulgartransgaz transit gas transmission system with the gas transmission system operated by DESFA. Kulata/Sidirokastro interconnection point, serves mainly as an entry point to Greece, while reverse capacity is also possible.

IGB pipeline, currently under construction, is expected to be finalized within 2022, enabling gas flows from the Greek territory to be transmitted to the Bulgarian domestic gas network through a second interconnection between the two countries (Greece and Bulgaria) under an “exempted regime” (granted according to art. 36 of the directive EC/2009/73 by joint decisions of RAE of Greece n. 768/2018 and EWRC of Bulgaria n. P-BO-2 on 08.08.2018) . IGB will be connected in the area of Komotini with the Greek transmission gas System operated by DESFA, as well as with TAP pipeline. Until now, DESFA has not announced a technical capacity at the new exit Point (Komotini).

According to the provisions of Reg. (EU) 2017/459 (CAM NC), on July 5<sup>th</sup> 2021, TSOs invited interested parties to submit non-binding indications for incremental capacity at existing or new Interconnection Points. In accordance with Regulation EC 459/2017, the following periods have been included in this analysis:

- a) non-binding demand indications received within 8 weeks after the start of the annual yearly capacity auction on 5 July 2021.
- b) non-binding demand indications received later than 8 weeks after the start of the annual yearly capacity auction on 5 July 2021, which would have been considered in the current incremental capacity cycle.

**DESFA S.A. received (a) non-binding demand indication(s) for firm capacity at the new interconnection point (Komotini) between the entry-exit system of ICGB and the entry-exit system of DESFA. ICGB has not received any relevant non-binding demand indications from any interested parties for incremental capacity within the periods a) and b) mentioned above, as according to the exempted regime, shall perform market tests later then the commercial operation date. However, the total amount of this non-binding demand indication(s) submitted only to one TSO has been used as a basis for this demand assessment. The non-binding demand request is presented in the following table:**

Non-Binding Incremental Capacity Demand Survey 2021, according to Regulatory (EU) 2017/459	
Interconnection Point	Komotini (DESFA-IGB)
EIC Code	N/A
Flow Direction	GR→BG
Request is submitted to other TSOs? [yes, TSO name] or [no]	No (The request submitted only to DESFA)
Additional Information (if any)	-
Conditions	-
Current technical capacity, kWh/d	N/A
Non-binding demand request [(kWh/d)/y]	
2022/2023	12.000.000
2023/2024	12.000.000
2024/2024	12.000.000
2025/2026	12.000.000
2026/2027	12.000.000
2027/2028	12.000.000
2028/2029	12.000.000
2029/2030	12.000.000
2030/2031	12.000.000
2031/2032	12.000.000

## B. Demand assessment

### *i. Historical usage pattern*

Interconnection between DESFA gas transmission System and IGB pipeline at Komotini IP is not operational until now, therefore the historical usage pattern is not applicable at this moment. Although IP is not in operation ICGB already had a binding offer for

exempted capacity for mentioned IP with a request of 7 977 534 (kWh/d)/y).

***ii. Results of current annual yearly auction***

As mentioned above, Komotini IP is not operational until now and no annual yearly auction has taken place.

***iii. Expected amount, direction and duration of demand for incremental capacity***

The amount and direction of the demand for incremental capacity, at Komotini IP, considered during the present procedure is the one presented in paragraph A. “Non-binding Demand Indications”.

The requested capacities will be studied in regard with the offer levels that will be described in the draft Project Proposal to be issued for public consultation on 18 January 2022, after the performance of the respective technical studies.

**C. Relations to GRIPS, TYNDP, NDPs**

- ICGB

IGB pipeline is included in TYNDP 2020 and the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Gas Regional Investment Plan (GRIP) for the Southern Corridor. Project TRA-F-378 “Interconnector Greece-Bulgaria (IGB Project)” includes the construction of a bi-directional gas interconnector between the high pressure natural gas systems of Greece and Bulgaria with a technical forward capacity of up to 3bcm/y, capable to be increased to up to 5 bcm/y with the installation of a Compressor Station, if additional market interest is demonstrated.

- DESFA

The projects included in the DESFA’s TYDP 2021-2030 and are relevant to the non-binding demand indications received for Komotini IP, are presented below.

- “Interconnection of IGB Pipeline with the NNGS in Komotini.” The Project includes all necessary parts (valve stations, by-pass lines etc.) for the tie-in between the Greek Gas System and the IGB pipeline.
- “Compression Station in Kipi and Regulating Station in Komotini”. The project aims at increasing the pressure of the gas entering from the Entry Point Kipi and is required in order, among others, to allow flows from the Greek gas System towards IGB. The project is included in the 4<sup>th</sup> PCI list that was issued by EC in 2019.

The latter is also included in the TYNDP 2020, as TRA-N-128 “Compressor Station Kipi”. The project consists of a Compressor Station on the GR side of the GR/TK border aiming at increasing the capacity of the Greek transmission system in order to make possible the transmission of natural gas to the Greek and European markets with the use of downstream transmission systems. It also contains a regulating station in Komotini which is needed in order to protect the part of the DESFA network west of Komotini which has a lower operating pressure (66,4 barg) than the part from Kipi to Komotini (75 barg). The project is also included in the GRIP

#### **D. Conclusion for the (non)-initiation of an incremental capacity project/process**

ICGB and DESFA will proceed to the next phase of the Incremental Capacity process and open the Coordinated Design Phase, the day after the publication of this Demand Assessment Report, in order to offer bundled incremental capacity products in Komotini IP.

During the Coordinated Design Phase, the TSOs deem it necessary to conduct further technical studies to investigate, document and evaluate the preliminary technical solutions, costs and schedules for development options to meet a range of demand cases.

The output of the technical studies and of the coordinated actions taken by ICGB and DESFA during the Coordinated Design phase, including specific expansion thresholds, provisional costs and timelines will feed into the Project Proposal, to be included in the consultation expected to be launched according to article 27 CAM NC.

#### **E. Provisional timeline**

The involved TSOs have planned to conduct the technical studies and the consultation of the draft Project Proposal according to the following provisional timeline:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Expected start</b>	<b>Expected end</b>	<b>Expected duration</b>
<i>Technical studies for incremental capacity projects</i>	<i>From the publication of this DAR</i>	<i>17/01/2022</i>	<i>&lt;12 weeks</i>

<i>Public Consultation on draft Project Proposal</i>	<i>18/01/2022</i>	<i>18/02/2022</i>	<i>1 month</i>
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The above stated timeline has a provisional character and is therefore subject to change.

Following the end of the public consultation and further refinements of the draft Project Proposal, the TSOs will submit the draft Project Proposal to the relevant NRA(s) for coordinated approvals. In case of positive decision of the NRA(s), the Binding phase starts and a notice will be published on the TSOs' website at least 2 months before any binding auctions. The process for the Binding phase will be detailed in the draft Project Proposal, including indicative schedule information building on the studies from the Coordinated Design phase.

#### **F. Fees**

Neither ICGB, nor DESFA S.A. introduced a fee for the evaluation and processing of non-binding demand indications.



## G. Contact information

<b><u>ICGB</u></b>	<b><u>DESFA SA</u></b>
Fabio Santambrogio Commercial Director	Georgios Doumouras System Access Dept. Strategy & Development Division
Telephone +359(2)4231714 Mob. +39.335.7518191 Email: <a href="mailto:fabio.santambrogio@edison.it">fabio.santambrogio@edison.it</a>	Telephone: +30 213 0884079 Email: <a href="mailto:g.doumouras@desfa.gr">g.doumouras@desfa.gr</a> <a href="mailto:market-test@desfa.gr">market-test@desfa.gr</a>
13, Veslets Street, 1000 Sofia, Bulgaria	357-359 Messogion Ave., Halandri, 15231 Greece
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