



NEWS4SHIPPERS

January 2025

Dear business partners,

As we move into 2025, a year that may bring both opportunities and challenges for the gas sector, we wish you a successful and fulfilling year ahead! With the end of the gas transit contract via Ukraine at the close of 2024, we would like to emphasize the availability and provide you with more detailed information on the NET4GAS' capacities at key gas transit points in the west-to-east gas flow direction.



Furthermore, in this edition of our newsletter, we spotlight the successful international hydrogen conference organized by NET4GAS and the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic, introducing the future Czech Hydrogen Backbone to the market. Last but not least, we also bring updates on the Price Decisions for 2025, or the connections of new gas storage and modern gas-fired power plants to our grid.

If you're interested in a deeper discussion about the Czech gas market and available transit capacities, we would be happy to meet you at E-world Energy & Water 2025 on 11 or 12 of February 2025 in Essen, Germany.

Thank you for your trust and continued partnership. We hope you enjoy this newsletter!

Tomáš Vyležík, Head of Commercial Management

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Czech gas transit capacities available to support security-of-supply in the Central and Eastern Europe

MARKET

As the gas transit contract via Ukraine expired at the end of 2024, NET4GAS highlights the availability of its gas transmission capacities at key border points, specifically VIP Brandov at the German-Czech border and Lanzhot at the Czech-Slovak border. These capacities can be utilized to supply neighboring markets, effectively replacing the gas supplies that previously flowed into the Central and Eastern European region (not only) via Ukraine.

For detailed information on the available firm capacities in the latest capacity auctions, please refer to the section “NET4GAS capacity offer and utilization” of this newsletter. This information is also accessible on [PRISMA platform](#) or our [website](#).

Tomáš Vyležik

Czech Hydrogen Backbone: Turning vision into reality

- A pivotal international hydrogen conference in Prague brought together industry leaders and policymakers to discuss the Czech Republic's role in Europe's hydrogen economy.
- NET4GAS unveiled plans for the Czech Hydrogen Backbone connecting key cross-border points, aligning with European hydrogen corridor projects.

HYDROGEN On 5 November 2024, Prague hosted a landmark *conference on the future of hydrogen transport*, organized by NET4GAS and the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic. Industry leaders, policymakers, and energy experts gathered to discuss the Czech Republic's potential role as an important player in Europe's hydrogen economy.

With its strategic location and established gas infrastructure, the Czech Republic is well-positioned to drive this transformation. NET4GAS has announced plans to develop the Czech Hydrogen Backbone, a 540-kilometer network connecting three key cross-border points Deutschneudorf, Waidhaus, and Lanžhot by 2030. The backbone will be based on repurposing of existing gas pipelines, reducing costs and facilitating quicker implementation.

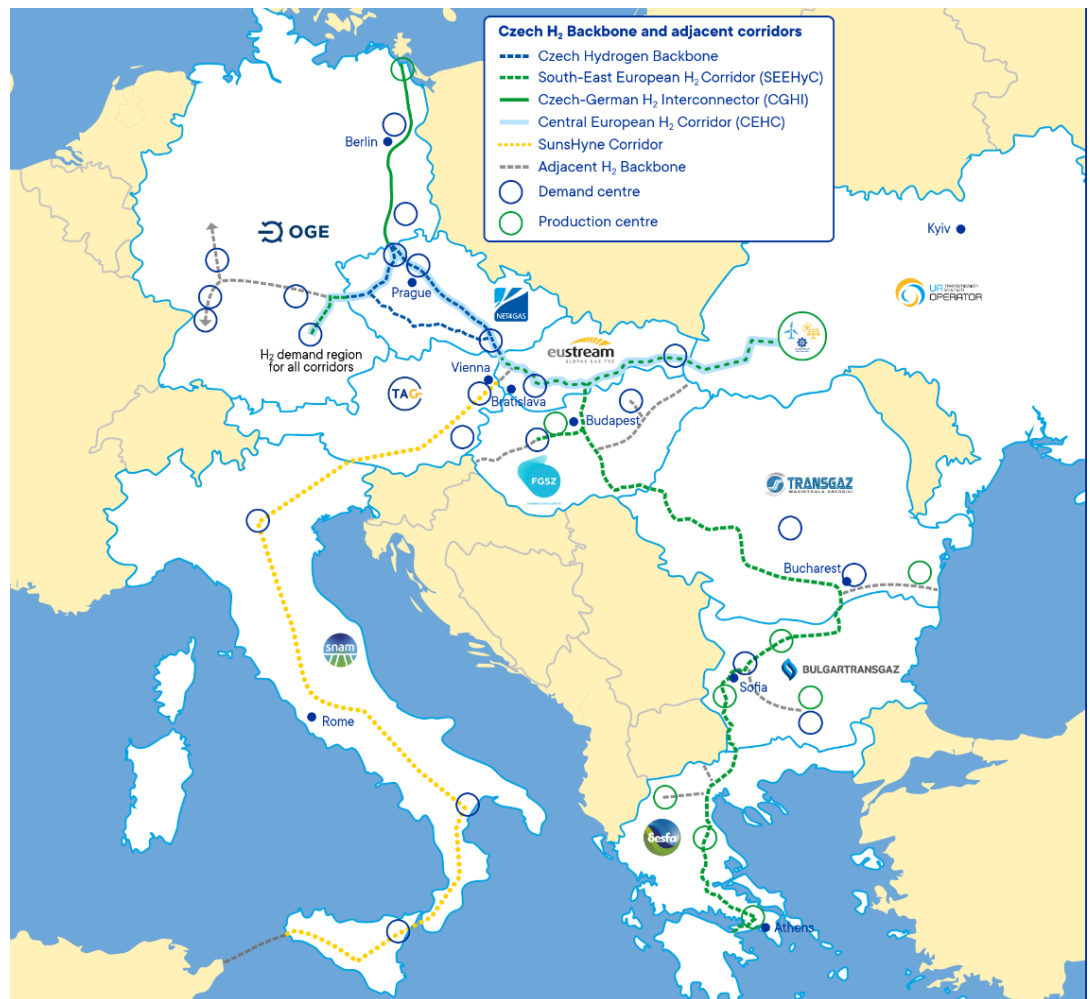
The network is divided into two parts, the Western and Northern Corridor. For both projects, NET4GAS recently re-applied for the granting of Project of Common Interest (PCI) status.

This Czech Hydrogen Backbone complements broader European hydrogen corridor projects like CGHI, CEHC, Sunshyne and SEEHyC, designed to establish seamless hydrogen transport across Europe. “Several critical corridors run through the Czech Republic,” noted Erik Kolstø, Head of Hydrogen & Carbon Business Development, Open Grid Europe GmbH.

Despite the fact that significant challenges remain, including high production costs of hydrogen, the progress is accelerating. Germany has already laid the groundwork for hydrogen infra-structure, and EU initiatives like PCI projects aim to fast-track approvals and funding.

As the conference concluded, the message was clear: the Czech Republic has the potential to become a key player in Europe's hydrogen economy. By leveraging its location, infrastructure, and regional collaborations, it can play a vital role in advancing Europe's decarbonization goals, one pipeline and one corridor at a time.

Tomáš Lev



Price Decision for the calendar year 2025

- The firm gas storage transmission tariffs remain unchanged at zero level. the variable fee for border points has decreased.

PRICES

On 29 November 2024, the Energy Regulatory Office (ERO) issued the new *Price Decision No. 10/2024*. This Price Decision sets the transmission tariffs for virtual gas storage points including the price for cross-border storage facility and the variable transmission price for border exit points for the 2025 calendar year. Additionally, it specifies regulated prices for distribution system operators and customers directly connected to the NET4GAS' transmission system. This Price Decision has been effective since 1 January 2025.

The variable price for transported natural gas at the Czech exit border points decreased by approx. 72% to $0.0016 \times C_{OTE}$, where C_{OTE} value is determined by *OTE Index* published by the Czech gas market operator.

The fixed transmission tariffs for virtual gas storages for both TSO entry and exit remain at 0 CZK/(MWh/d)/y. However, the variable price for the TSO exit to virtual gas storage has increased from 1.06 CZK/MWh to 1.74 CZK/MWh.

Price Decision No. 1/2024, issued on 31 May 2024, had earlier announced the updated fixed transmission tariffs for all border points for the calendar year 2025.

For more detailed information, please refer to the Price Decision available on the [ERO website](#) or visit the NET4GAS [website](#).

David Urban

NET4GAS enhances its transmission infrastructure with the connection of a new gas storage facility and the most modern gas-fired power source

PRICES

NET4GAS continues to bolster the Czech Republic's energy security and contribute to the decarbonization of the Czech industry and power and heat generation.

In the second half of 2024, NET4GAS made significant strides in enhancing its transmission infrastructure by connecting the new gas storage facility, Dolní Bojanovice, and the state-of-the-art gas-fired power source, Energy nest, to the system. Additional gas-fired power plants are currently in the planning and design.

Dolní Bojanovice gas storage

Although located in the Czech Republic, this facility was exclusively connected to the Slovak gas system and served only Slovak network users until 2024.

In collaboration with the operator of the gas storage, SPP Storage, s.r.o., the facility has now been connected to the Czech transmission system. The storage system operator intends to commence commercial operations on 1 April 2025, making it available to Czech customers.

Energy nest gas-fired power plant

NET4GAS is proud to contribute to this groundbreaking project, reinforcing the Czech energy grid while paving the way for a cleaner and more sustainable energy future.

This hybrid power source, among the most advanced in the Czech Republic, combines 32.4 MW of power from gas turbines and 20 MW of battery storage. It was successfully connected to the Czech gas transmission system during the summer of 2024, ensuring efficient and rapid balancing of the electricity transmission system.



Source: www.decci.cz

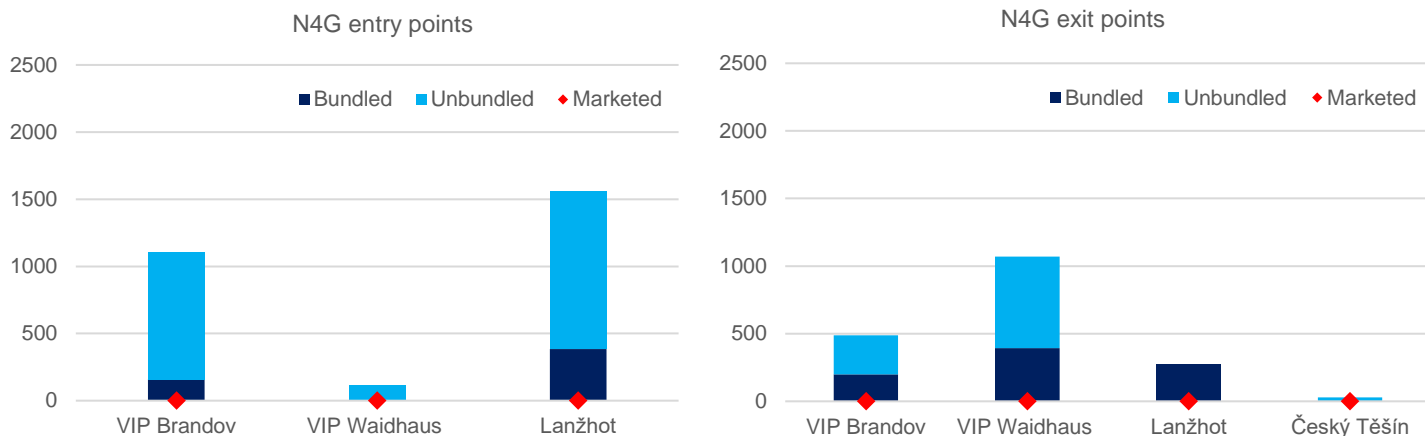
With the Czech Republic undergoing a significant transition in its energy mix, the need to replace coal-fired power plants with cleaner alternatives is becoming increasingly important. Gas-fired power plants are emerging as the most viable option to bridge this gap, aligned with climate goals and the rise of renewable energy. Stakeholders have shown substantial interest in connecting several large combined-cycle gas turbine power plants across the country. Plans for new power plants could increase exit transmission capacity by up to 113 GWh/day between 2027 and 2030, signalling a robust step toward reducing reliance on coal.

Further details about such developments are outlined in the *Czech Ten-Year Network Development Plan 2025 – 2034* (in Czech only), approved by the Energy Regulatory Office on 19 December 2024.

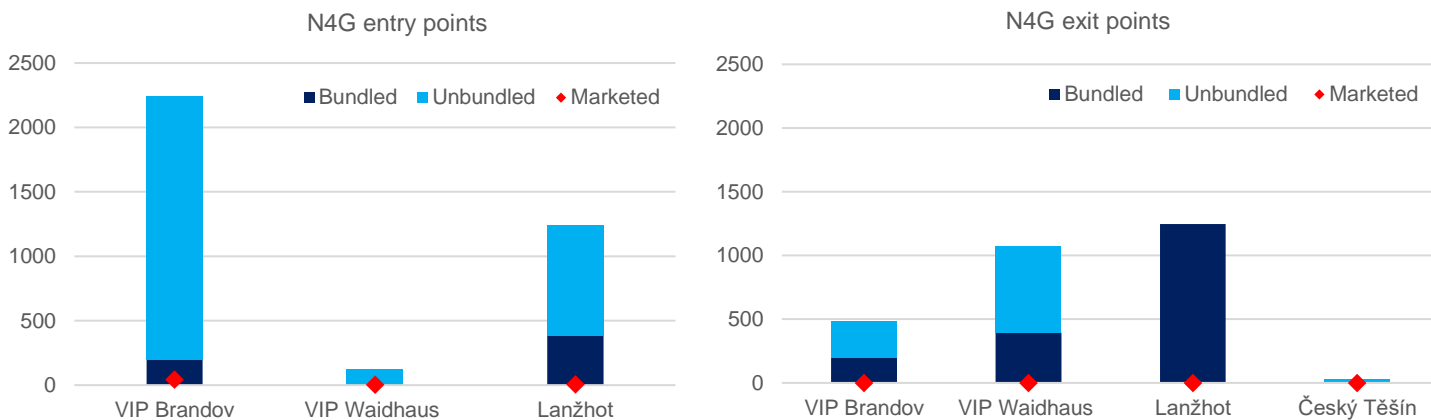
Petr Vaněk

NET4GAS capacity offer and utilization

NET4GAS capacities offered and booked in monthly auctions for January 2025 in GWh/d

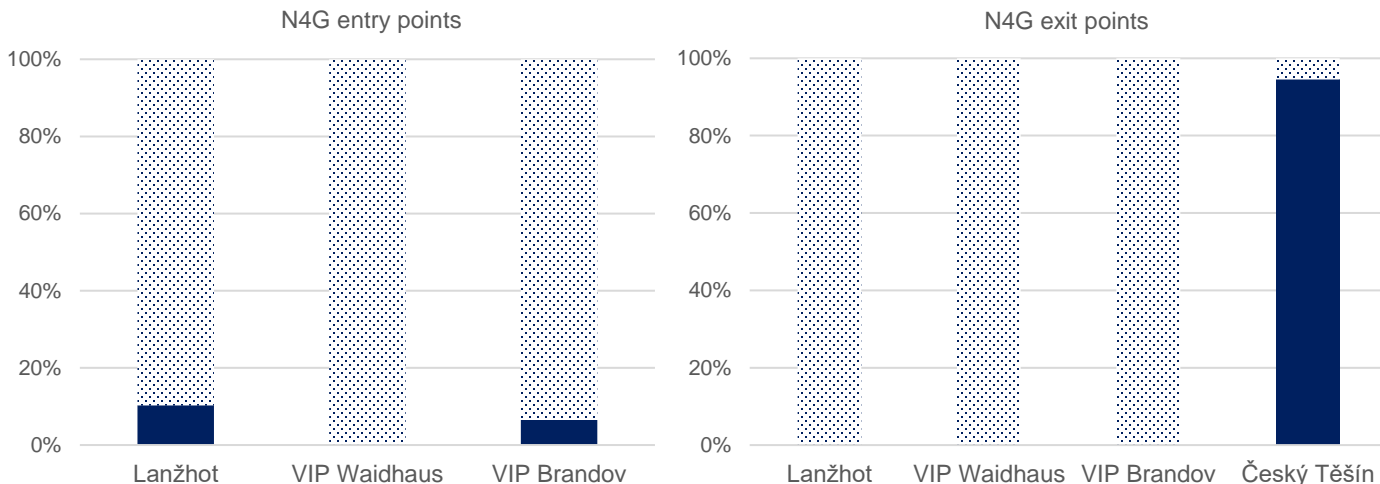


NET4GAS capacities offered and booked in daily auctions in GWh/d for the period 1 – 8 January 2025 *)



Note: Hatched charts represent unbundled capacities offered on an interruptible basis.
 *) Charts represent the daily maximums offered and marketed during the respective time period.

Maximum daily technical capacity utilization at border points for the period August – December 2024



Planned maintenance work of NET4GAS infrastructure

SHUTDOWNS

Please find below a brief overview of the currently planned maintenance up to March 2025. All and complete planned maintenance work and consequent firm capacity interruptions at all entry and exit points of NET4GAS infrastructure for every gas day are available on our [website](#). The final maintenance plan is announced 42 days in advance in line with legislation.

Entry points

Month	Entry point	Technical capacity [GWh/d]	Maximum daily interruption [GWh/d]	Maximum available daily firm capacity [GWh/d]
January 2025	No planned maintenance			
February 2025	No planned maintenance			
March 2025	VIP Brandov	2,427.582	74.220	2,353.362

Exit points

Month	Exit point	Technical capacity [GWh/d]	Maximum daily interruption [GWh/d]	Maximum available daily firm capacity [GWh/d]
January 2025	No planned maintenance			
February 2025	No planned maintenance			
March 2025	No planned maintenance			

The last two columns show the maximum daily interruption and the maximum available daily firm capacity in a given month during maintenance, i.e. in case the maintenance affects infrastructure only during some days of the month, the maximum available daily firm capacity equals the whole technical capacity.

Upcoming auctions of NET4GAS capacities

AUCTIONS

All upcoming auctions can be found in the auction calendar on the [PRISMA](#) platform. Find all monthly and quarterly auctions to be published in the coming months in the table below:

Publication date	Auctions start	Auction type	Product runtime	Capacity types
20 January 2025 9:00	3 February 2025 9:00	Quarterly	1 April 2025 – 1 October 2025	Firm
10 February 2025 9:00	17 February 2025 9:00	Monthly	1 March 2025 – 1 April 2025	Firm
18 February 2025 7:00	25 February 2025 9:00	Monthly	1 March 2025 – 1 April 2025	Interruptible
24 February 2025 7:00	3 March 2025 9:00	Quarterly	1 April 2025 – 1 October 2025	Interruptible
10 March 2025 09:00	17 March 2025 09:00	Monthly	1 April 2025 – 1 May 2025	Firm
18 March 2025 07:00	25 March 2025 09:00	Monthly	1 April 2025 – 1 May 2025	Interruptible
14 April 2025 09:00	21 April 2025 09:00	Monthly	1 May 2025 – 1 June 2025	Firm
21 April 2025 9:00	5 May 2025 9:00	Quarterly	1 July 2025 – 1 October 2025	Firm
15 April 2025 7:00	22 April 2025 09:00	Monthly	1 May 2025 – 1 June 2025	Interruptible
26 May 2025 7:00	2 June 2025 9:00	Quarterly	1 July 2025 – 1 October 2025	Interruptible

Daily auctions for firm capacity always start at 4:30 PM on the day before the gas day, and the auctions for interruptible capacity always start at 5:30 PM on the day before the gas day. Within-day auctions start at 7:00 PM on the day before the gas day. Bidding windows open at the start of an auction and start every hour H , with bids to be placed for the remaining part of the gas day starting at hour $H+4$.