

Netzentwicklungsplan Strom
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Statnett Response to the “Netzentwicklungsplan Strom 2012”

Statnett welcomes the opportunity to comment on the draft for the Netzentwicklungsplan (NEP) Strom 2012.

Statnett is Norway's national transmission grid owner and operator owned by the Norwegian State. Statnett's main objectives are to develop the Norwegian high voltage grid, plan and construct new interconnectors, maintain security of supply, contribute to value creation and facilitate better climate solutions.

We acknowledge the work performed by the four German TSOs and the Bundesnetzagentur with regard to the NEP Strom and recognise its comprehensive and detailed picture of grid development plans in Germany. We have the following specific comments on the NEP Strom, recognising that this plan is a draft and represents work in progress.

Interconnector NORD.LINK between Norway and Germany (TTG-015)

Statnett appreciates that the interconnector NORD.LINK is mentioned as part of the future German grid. NORD.LINK supports the goals of the German “Energiewende” such as increased integration of renewable energies and reduction of carbon emissions. NORD.LINK is also supporting the EU target to establish an integrated European energy market. The cable will be the first direct grid connection between Norway and Germany and will lead to an increased exchange between the countries' power systems. The project will increase security of supply in both countries, improve RES integration and pave the way towards a greener Europe.

It is worth to emphasize that the Norwegian-German Interconnector Project consists of two sub-projects – the NORD.LINK and the NorGer projects. The planning of both is at an advanced stage and enjoys strong political support both on national and regional level. Statnett has agreed with German TSO TenneT and the state owned German KfW Development Bank to team up as equity partners (i.e. both NORD.LINK and NorGer). In Schleswig-Holstein, the new federal state government sent a clear signal for increased integration of renewable energies by including an interconnector to Norway in its coalition agreement. Similar political support has been expressed by the Government of Lower Saxony related to NorGer.

It is Statnett's intention, together with our partners, to decide upon which of the projects to construct first during 2012. Together with our partners, we will also further develop the other project in order to construct

this interconnector within the following decade, when there is sufficient grid capacity, particularly on the Norwegian side. The decision will be made based on licensing status, cost evaluation, grid connection point, and an overall risk assessment of the two projects.

HVDC transmission line No. 06 Wilster – Goldsgöfe (Corridor C)

Statnett wants to draw attention to the connection of NORD.LINK to the HVDC transmission line No. 06 Wilster – Goldsgöfe (Corridor C) which promotes low-loss electricity exchange between Norway and Southern Germany. The transmission capacity and commissioning date of the HVDC transmission line Wilster – Goldsgöfe is 1 x 1.3 GW according to the lead scenario B for 2022. We suggest to harmonize its transmission capacity with NORD.LINK and the grid situation in Schleswig-Holstein, i.e. the HVDC transmission line Wilster – Goldsgöfe should have a capacity larger than 1.4 GW. Furthermore, a commissioning date before 2022 would be preferable in order to support the beneficial operation of NORD.LINK for the energy market as a whole.

If you have any queries on this response or would like to meet to discuss it further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely
Statnett SF

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