

**Joint notice
of
TAP, SRG and DESFA
for the
Second Binding Phase of the
2021 Incremental Capacity Process
20 October 2023**

This document is published at the websites of TAP, SRG and DESFA in accordance with Article 28 of Regulation (EU) No 2017/459 of 16 March 2017.

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Disclaimer

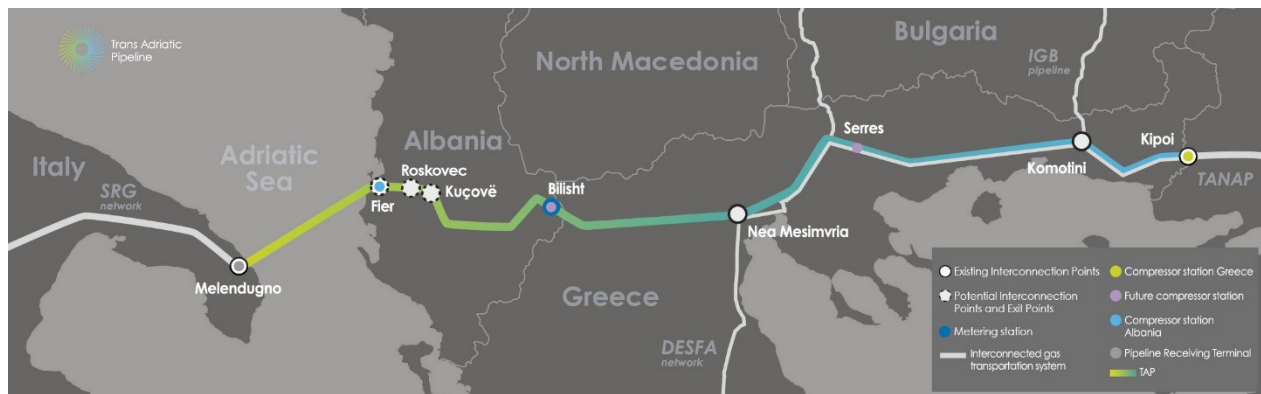
Each TSO has acted in good faith to ensure that the information in this Joint Notice is correct as at the date of this Joint Notice, however no representation or warranty is made by any TSO as to the accuracy or completeness of such information and the TSOs will not accept any liability, of any kind, to each other or to any third party, for any inaccuracies or incompleteness in such information.

Furthermore, whilst each of the TSOs will endeavour to co-ordinate the processes and steps anticipated under the Project Proposal for the second Binding Phase of the 2021 Market Test, no TSO will have any liability to any third party for any acts, omissions, breaches or decisions of the other TSOs or any other third party.

Introduction

This is a Joint Notice drafted by TAP, SRG and DESFA, in accordance with Section D.1 of the Project Proposal for the 2021 Market Test of TAP, SRG and DESFA, as approved by the Italian, Greek and Albanian National Regulatory Authorities (**Authorities**) and in line with Article 28 (3) of Regulation (EU) No 2017/459 of 16 March 2017.

This Joint Notice initiates the second Binding Phase of the 2021 Market Test (**Incremental Capacity Process**) at the Interconnection Points (IPs) along the route of the Trans Adriatic Pipeline (**TAP**): Kipoi (TR-GR), Komotini (GR), Nea Mesimvria (GR), Roskovec (AL), Kucove (AL), Fier (AL), and Melendugno (IT).



This Incremental Capacity Project is primarily driven by potential increases of the technical capacity at IPs along the TAP pipeline route and is conducted in close coordination by TAP, SRG and DESFA. Notwithstanding such co-ordination, each TSO will be responsible for its own infrastructure upgrades and the other TSOs shall not have any liability to any party for the undertaking, or fail to undertake, such infrastructure upgrades.

The purpose of this Joint Notice is to provide high level information about the procedure for registration and participation in the second Binding Phase of the 2021 Incremental Capacity Process and to inform on how to submit Binding Bids to TAP, SRG and DESFA, as applicable.

The 2021 Market Test is structured as follows: (i) a Non-Binding Phase (which started in July 2021 and lasted until the opening of the first Binding Phase), (ii) a first Binding Phase (opened on 14 November 2022 and closed on 15 February 2023) and (iii) a second Binding Phase launched on 20 October 2023. The latter is initiated by the publication of the Joint Notice by the TSOs Concerned and publication of further details and supporting documentation on the websites of each of the TSOs Concerned.¹

The first Binding Phase of the 2021 Market Test has led to the conclusion of long-term Gas Transportation Agreements, which underpin the first level of Expansion of TAP.²

¹ TSOs Concerned means TAP and SRG for the IPs of Melendugno, TAP and DESFA for the IP of Nea Mesimvria, and TAP only for the other IPs and exit points.

[Market tests > Trans Adriatic Pipeline \(TAP\) \(tap-ag.com\);](#)

[2021 Incremental Capacity Procedure \(snam.it\);](#)

[DESFA \(desfa.gr\)](#)

² [2021 Market test > Trans Adriatic Pipeline \(TAP\) \(tap-ag.com\)](#)

This second Binding Phase process is subject to the terms and conditions of the Project Proposal for the second Binding Phase of the 2021 Market Test developed jointly by TAP, SRG and DESFA and approved by the Authorities in October 2023 (***the Project Proposal for the second Binding Phase***).³ Capacity allocation during the second Binding Phase shall take place according to the Alternative Allocation Mechanism, as approved in the Project Proposal for the second Binding Phase.

The second Binding Phase of the 2021 Market Test is open to all interested parties , irrespective of their participation in the Non-Binding Phase or in the first Binding Phase.

The parties wishing to submit Binding Bids, shall do so under and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Project Proposal for the second Binding Phase, as approved by the Authorities, and are also required to follow the procedural rules as laid out in respective documentation (e.g., notices of TAP, SRG and DESFA).

Milestones

The second Binding Phase is commencing with the publication of the Project Proposal for the second Binding Phase of the 2021 Market Test together with this Joint Notice and the individual Binding Phase Notice(s) of TAP, SRG and DESFA.

Parties interested in participating in the Binding Bidding Phase are requested to register with the TSOs Concerned in order to participate in the Binding Bidding Phase according to the rules and conditions set in the Project Proposal for the second Binding Phase and the procedure specified in the individual Binding Phase Notices of each TSO Concerned:

- TAP [2021 Market test › Trans Adriatic Pipeline \(TAP\) \(tap-ag.com\)](https://tap-ag.com)
- SRG [2021 Incremental Capacity Procedure \(snam.it\)](https://snam.it) – reference to Second Binding Phase section
- DESFA (available [here](#))

In a Bid Submission Window which will last from **16 to 22 December 2023**, the parties interested in participating in the Binding Bidding Phase will be required to submit Binding Bids. Following the end of the Bid Submission Window, TAP, SRG and DESFA will proceed with bid evaluation, Preliminary Capacity Allocation and the Economic Viability Test (**EVT**), and if EVT is positive, entering into Gas Transportation Agreements (**GTAs**) with the successful parties.

³ Decision No. 285 dated 5.10. 2023 for approval by the ERE Board https://ere.gov.al/media/files/2023/10/09/Vendimi_nr285_2023.pdf

ARERA's resolution of 3 October 2023, 438/2023/R/gas for the approval of the “*Project Proposal of TAP, SRG and DESFA for the 2021 Incremental Capacity Process – Second binding phase*”. [ARERA Delibera 438/2023/R/gas](https://www.arera.it/it/decisions/ARERA-Delibera-438/2023/R/gas).

DECISION OF THE ENERGY SECTOR OF RAWEW no, E-162/5 October 2023 on the Approval of the Increased Capacity Project Proposal of the Operators TAP, SNAM and DESFA for the Second Binding Phase of the Market Test 2021 [\[pending link\]](#)

Milestones Timeline

A	Information Phase	20 October – 15 December 2023
	Joint Notice: TAP/SRG/DESFA make available a list of documentation to be submitted to each TSO	20 October 2023
	Registration Period	20 October – 1 December 2023
	TAP/SRG/DESFA evaluate the applicants' eligibility	2 December – 15 December 2023
B	Binding Bidding Phase	16 December 2023 – 31 January 2024
	Bid Submission Window	16 December – 22 December 2023
	Bid Evaluation Period	23 December 2023 – 12 January 2024
	Preliminary Capacity Allocation ⁴	13 January – 17 January 2024
	Economic Viability Test Results published	18 January 2024
C	Capacity Allocation	18 January 2024
D	Execution of GTAs	31 January 2024

Final remarks

Please refer to the Project Proposal for further details including:

- References to contractual information including the general rules and conditions that a network user must accept to participate and access capacity in the binding capacity allocation phase of the incremental capacity process, including any collaterals to be provided by network users;
- Information on offer levels, reflecting the range of expected demand for incremental capacity at the relevant interconnection points;
- Further specifics on detailed timelines of the incremental capacity project per respective TSO;
- The relevant parameters defined in Article 22(1) of CAM NC;
- Regulatory details including products, and the use of alternative allocation mechanism.

⁴ If during the Preliminary Capacity Allocation TAP reaches a preliminary conclusion of a negative EVT result, TAP may enter into discussions with Participants for a revision of their Binding Bids, with the purpose of yielding a positive EVT, in accordance with Section 3.3.1(d) TAP Tariff Code. TAP will also proceed to inform the Authorities of the negative EVT result. Depending on decisions of the Authorities, the preliminary capacity allocation period may (as an indicative, non-binding estimate) be extended by up to 4 months, as follows: according to Section 4.1.8 of the FJO, in case the EVT is negative, TAP is obliged to demonstrate this situation to the Authorities within one month following the closing date of the market test. If so, requested by the Authorities, TAP will provide an opinion by an independent third party. In case such an opinion is requested, the one-month timeline is extended by two months. The Authorities will then decide on the economic viability of the expansion within one month following receipt of TAP's argumentation / from the receipt of the independent opinion.