



The Role of Independent Gas Storage in the Evolving European Energy Market

The use and role of storage will continue to evolve as markets develop. An overlooked aspect of storage is the role of the gas transportation network that can either inhibit or enable gas storage. Storage in a market area will enable a better use of gas transportation infrastructure. Another interesting aspect of gas storage development is the role of the independent gas storage developer operator. In regulated markets there is no space for independent storage. In more mature gas markets such as North America, 80% of new gas storage projects developed over the last 15 years have been developed by independent storage companies. The European market is going thru some fundamental changes as it becomes less regulated. Producers, end users, traders and local distribution companies are looking to actively manage their portfolio. To manage their portfolio a critical asset necessary is flexibility via gas storage.

Independent Gas storage developer operators will bring efficiency as they will need to provide a discrete service that clears the market. In addition, independent gas storage developments with multiple customers will enable more market players to participate which will increase market liquidity. The gas market is a physical market and gas storage is the enabler for gas market evolution.

Continental Gas Storage BV