# Luther.

**Press Release** 

15 December 2016

Hogan Lovells, White & Case and Luther provide legal advice for Open Grid Europe and Gasunie's takeover of jordgasTransport from Statoil

Essen/Hanover, Friedeburg-Etzel – On 13 December 2016, Gasunie Deutschland Transport Services GmbH (Gasunie) and Open Grid Europe GmbH (OGE) took over jordgasTransport GmbH (jordgasTransport). jordgasTransport was previously a subsidiary of Statoil Deutschland GmbH (Statoil Deutschland). Luther provided legal advice to OGE during the takeover. Hogan Lovells and White & Case were the legal advisers of Statoil Deutschland and Gasunie respectively. The takeover has already been approved by the cartel authority.

# About jordgasTransport

jordgasTransport (registered office: Emden/Lower Saxony) is a transmission system operator for natural gas. Together with Gasunie and OGE, the company owns the 341 kilometre-long natural gas pipeline NETRA, which runs from the Europipe receiving facilities in Dornum on the North Sea coast to Steinitz in Saxony-Anhalt. The gas pipeline has a transmission capacity of around 58 million cubic meters a day, which can cover up to 5.5 percent of Germany's natural gas requirement.

# About OGE

The independent transmission system operator OGE was established as a subsidiary of E.ON Ruhrgas in 2004. Today, OGE is Germany's leading natural gas transporter with a workforce of around 1,450 employees and 450 national and international customers. Since 2012, OGE has been part of a consortium consisting of the Macquarie European Infrastructure Fund 4, Infinity Investments, British Columbia Investment Management Corporation and Meag Munich Ergo Asset Management.

# About Gasunie

Gasunie's more than 15,500 kilometre-long pipeline system in the Netherlands and Germany operates as a gas hub for North-West Europe. Gasunie Deutschland is a subsidiary of N.V. Nederlandse Gasunie. With its natural gas transmission system in North Germany, which is more than 3,600 kilometres long, Gasunie's transport facilities make a significant contribution to the reliable supply of natural gas in Germany and Europe.

### **About Statoil**

Statoil Deutschland is the German subsidiary of the Norwegian group Statoil ASA. Statoil is an international energy company with 22,000 employees operating in 37 countries. Statoil has been supplying oil and gas for 40 years. Its headquarters are in Stavanger, Norway. Statoil is listed on the New York and Oslo stock exchanges.

## For Gasunie Deutschland Transport Services GmbH

In-house: Gorden Janus, Johann-Caspar Engels, Sebastian Hoppe (Hanover), Hester bij de Leij (Groningen)

White & Case: Thomas Burmeister (M&A/Energy, Dusseldorf; Lead), Dr Markus Stephanblome (M&A, Frankfurt), Dr Kristin Spiekermann (M&A/Energy, Dusseldorf), Dr Justus Herlinger (Hamburg), Prof. Dr Michael Bartsch (Dusseldorf, both Cartel law), Christina Will (M&A/Energy, Dusseldorf), Dr Jan Ole Eichstädt, Hugo Leite, Marco Stephan (all M&A, Frankfurt), Andreas Kössel (Employment law, Frankfurt), Alexander Dartsch (M&A/Energy, Dusseldorf)

### For Open Grid Europe GmbH

In-house: Uwe Becker, Dr Carla von Lossow, Lars Voss (all Essen)

Luther, Mergers & Acquisitions/Company law: Dr Stefan Galla (Lead Partner, Essen), Dr Michael Krömker, MBA (Dusseldorf), Dr Cédric Müller, LL.M., Daniel Jürgensen, LL.M. (both Essen)

Luther, Cartel and Regulation law: Dr Holger Stappert (Partner), Dr Angelo Vallone (Counsel), Franz-Rudolf Groß, LL.M. (Counsel, (all Dusseldorf) Luther, Employment law: Paul Schreiner (Partner), Klaus Thönißen, LL.M. (both Essen)

Luther, Real Estate and Real Estate Management law: Dr Björn Arndt (Essen)

Luther, Insurance law: Dr Alexander Mönnig, LL.M. (Counsel, Hamburg)

### For Statoil Deutschland GmbH

In-house: Egil Kolstø (Stavanger)

Hogan Lovells: Tobias Flasbarth (Counsel, Corporate Energy, Hamburg, Lead), Matthias Hirschmann (Partner, Corporate Energy, Hamburg), Michael Dettmeier (Partner, Dusseldorf, Tax), Mathias Schönhaus (Counsel, Dusseldorf, Tax), Jan Eggers (Counsel, Hamburg, Cartel Iaw), Matthes Schröder (Partner, Hamburg, Employment), Johanna Brock-Wenzek (Associate, Hamburg, Cartel Iaw), Alexander Koch (Senior Associate, Corporate Energy, Hamburg), Kjell Jacobsen (Associate, Hamburg, Corporate M&A), Claus Asbeck (Associate, Hamburg, Employment), Thomas Frank (Senior Associate, Munich, Pensions)

### **Brief Profile Luther**

Luther is a leading German commercial law firm that offers comprehensive legal and tax services. The full-service law firm employs more than 350 lawyers and tax advisors and is represented at 10 German economic centres and at important investment locations and financial centres in Europe and Asia with international offices in Brussels, London, Luxembourg, Shanghai, Singapore and Yangon. Our clients are medium-sized enterprises and large corporations, as well as the public sector.

Luther works closely with other commercial law firms in all the prevailing jurisdictions worldwide. On the Continent, Luther is part of a group of independent leading law firms who have worked together for many years on joint cross-border projects.

Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH is a law firm with a business approach: our innovative awareness aspires us to provide our clients with customised legal advice that addresses individual needs and delivers the greatest possible economic benefit.

Our lawyers and tax advisors have a solid understanding of interdisciplinary matters and a wealth of experience in collaborating on complex tasks. Further information is available at: www.luther-lawfirm.com

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