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Biomethane injection stamp

Biomethane producers injecting into the gas distribution or transmission networks (including NaTran's one) are subject to the payment of an injection stamp, the components of which are defined in the deliberations of the CRE.
This factsheet explains, point by point, the calculation of the components of this injection stamp and the terms of its invoicing and payment.

- Establishment of an injection stamp

The deliberations of the CRE setting the transmission (ATRT7) and distribution (ATRD6) network tariffs for the 2020–2024 period introduced a new tariff component: the injection stamp.
The purpose of the injection stamp is to partly cover the network reinforcement costs arising from the injection of biomethane by producers.

The CRE deliberation setting the injection stamp for the 2024–2028 period has modified its structure by defining two separate components :

- A "volume based" component, calculated on the basis of the volumes of biomethane injected by the site
- A "capacity based" component, calculated on the basis of the site's maximum production capacities

- Applicable rates for the two components of the injection stamp

.1 Determination of the injection stamp level for the volume component

The level of the "volume-based" component of the injection stamp is assigned to the site's phase (as recorded in the capacity register) at the time the network operator provides the producer with its feasibility study (for NaTran) or detailed study (for GRD).
Three levels of injection stamp are defined in order to differentiate the amount paid by producers based on the network costs resulting from their chosen location.
Three types of zones are identified :

STAMP 3

Zones requiring a ~~reverse flow~~backhaul compression installation or a shared compression = level 3

STAMP 2

Zones involving ~~meshing~~ linking networks or shared network extension = level 2

STAMP 1

Other zones = level 1

Tariff levels for injection stamps 1 to 3

For the period [July 2024 – June 2025], the tariffs for the "volume" components are:

Stamp level	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
Variable component	0.7 €/MWh injected	0.4 €/MWh injected	0 €/MWh injected

For the following tariff years, an annual indexation is planned, as described at the end of this factsheet.

Determination of the injection stamp level for the 'capacity-based' component

The level of the "capacity-based" component of the injection stamp is the same for all production sites injecting into the NaTran's networks (as well as Teréga and GRDF) and is set at €50/MWh/day/year for the period [July 2024 – June 2025].

Calculation of the payable amount

.1 Calculation of the amount for the "volume-based" component of the stamp

Counting of injected volumes

Injected volumes are taken into account from the site's commissioning. These are energy volumes measured in MWh at 0°C, and assigned a stamp level of 1, 2, or 3 in €/MWh.

Accounting for different phases of the same site

If a production site has multiple phases in operation recorded in the register, each with different stamp levels, the volumes are prorated according to each stamp level.
For example, if a site has a Phase 1 with 200 Nm³/h at stamp level 1 and a Phase 2 with 100 Nm³/h at stamp level 3, the injected volumes will be accounted for as two-thirds at stamp level 1 and one-third at stamp level 3.

.2 Calculation of the amount for the "capacity-based" component of the stamp

The "capacity-based" component applies to the site capacity in MWh/day.

Site with a Cmax expressed in Nm³/h

The site's Cmax is converted into MWh/day using the standard PCS value applied in the capacity register procedure (link). 10.1 kWh/Nm³ in zone B, 10.9 kWh/Nm³ in zone H.
Capacity-based Cmax (MWh/day) = Cmax (Nm³/h) × 24 (hours/day) × PCS (kWh/Nm³) ÷ 1000 (MWh/kWh)

Site with a Forecasted Annual Production (PAP) in GWh/year.

The site's Cmax is obtained in MWh/day by converting the PAP as specified in the capacity register procedure, considering an operating time of 8,200 hours per year.
Cmax in MWh/day = PAP * 1,000 * 24 / 8,200

Invoicing terms

The injection stamp components apply as of the effective date of the deliberations introducing them.
The invoicing conditions (bank account, deadlines, etc.) are the same as for the other services covered under the connection and injection contract between the producer and NaTran. However, connection services and the injection stamp are invoiced separately.

Producer obligations

The calculation of the injection stamp components depends on the Cmax levels (or, where applicable, the PAP) of each phase of the site.
The producer is required to inform GRTgaz of any modification to the Cmax levels (or PAP) of any phase of their site.

Changes to the injection stamp components

.1 Annual tariff adjustment

The CRE specifies that the tariff levels of the injection stamp components will evolve annually from July 2025 onwards, according to the "CPI + X + K" indexation formula, where:

- **CPI** refers to the consumer price index excluding tobacco (INSEE code 1763852), which may be adjusted;
- **X** is an annual adjustment factor set by the CRE;
- **K** is an annual adjustment factor resulting from the clearance of the CRCP account, and is subject to a cap.

CRE deliberation 2024-040 sets out the expected evolutions over the ATRD7 period.

CRE deliberation 2025-122 sets out the expected evolutions over the period [July 2025 – June 2026] :

Stamp level	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
« Volume » component	0.74 €/MWh injected	0.42 €/MWh injected	0 €/MWh injected
« Capacity » component	53,03 €/MWh/day		

.2 Evolution of a site's "volume-based" stamp level

The level 1, 2 or 3 of the "volume-based" component of the injection stamp is assigned to a site phase upon delivery of its feasibility study (milestone D2 in the capacity register) and applies for the entire duration of the site's production.
However, the CRE may decide to downgrade a level 3 site to level 1 if the planned reverse flow (or shared compression) infrastructure in the site's zone is not effectively implemented within five years.