



distrigas



Brussels, December 18, 2009

GasTerra and Distrigas extend long-term contract for supply of natural gas

Last week, GasTerra and Distrigas reached a final agreement on extending the supply of natural gas until 2030. This extension means that Distrigas will be able to supply its customers with Dutch low-calorific gas for a long time ahead. The agreement emphasises the important role that natural gas continues to play in the transition towards a sustainable energy supply.

Erwin Van Bruysel, CEO of Distrigas, said in response to the agreement: "The extension of our long-term contract with GasTerra ensures the continuity of the supply of low-calorific gas to Belgium and highlights the interests of the customers of Distrigas. This agreement means that we can avoid the heavy costs associated with a conversion from low-calorific to high-calorific gas for Belgian customers while they will continue to enjoy security and flexibility of supply from the nearby Slochteren field. At a time when security of supply is becoming increasingly important, this agreement guarantees the supply of natural gas not only from within the European Union but also from within the Benelux."

Gertjan Lankhorst, CEO of GasTerra, stresses the importance of a successful collaboration between the two companies: "The relationship between GasTerra and Distrigas goes back to 1966, the year when the first supplies took place. The gas deliveries from the Netherlands have made an important contribution towards the stability of the European and Belgian energy market up till now. The contract extension shows that even in a more liberalised European energy market, there is still room for long-term agreements, which safeguard security of supply over the medium-term and the long-term."

Note for the editor:

For any further information, please contact GasTerra's spokesperson, Anton Buijs, (+31 050 364 8810) or Distrigas' spokesperson, Thierry Rotsart (+32 2 557 31 56).