

SCHEDULING AND MANAGEMENT OF MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS

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1) FOREWORD

Efficient management of the Regasification Terminal involves carrying out scheduled activities required to supervise all its plant components: this chapter deals with the general methods to determine and notify the users of maintenance operations that impact the Terminal's operation, and that require a "plant downtime" period.

2) METHODS FOR DETERMINING MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS

2.1) General Principles

In order to ensure that all plant equipment is fully operational and compliant with safety standards, GNL Italia shall take action on these structures, considering:

- a) the availability of spare parts for "critical" production equipment;
- b) the possibility of continuing to operate such equipment in full safety and operational capability.

The negative assessment of the availability described in a) above, as the result of the technical obsolescence of some specific components that are no longer available on the market, requires the replacement of such equipment to be replaced with another, newer, component but of the latest generation.

Even if the safe and reliable operation of such "critical" equipment (point b) cannot be guaranteed due to the wear and tear of mechanical parts or similar problems, the Operator may opt for one of the following alternatives:

- the full replacement of the equipment;
- the maintenance of the equipment in order to restore full functionality.

In order to optimize plant downtime, in addition to making its best efforts to concentrate the maintenance operations in question within a single period of the Thermal Year, GNL Italia shall schedule maintenance activities in parallel as much as possible.

2.2) Additional Maintenance Operations

In order to be able to work on the "critical" equipment, while ensuring an adequate level of safety, the plant must also be made "gas-free", by means of a special transitional shutdown period for emptying the pipes and securing the area concerned, before the actual work is carried out: the duration of this period generally varies from one to three days.

In addition, the Terminal also requires a restart phase during which the main activities carried out are cooling the pipes and filling and starting-up the first production run, lasting on average one or two days.

2.3) Impact of Maintenance Activities on the Regasification Fee

With reference to the maintenance activities in question, GNL Italia shall schedule a number of plant maintenance days, equal to 100 days over four years (full day capacity equivalent) and calculated starting from Thermal Year 2006 to 2007, with a maximum number of 35 days scheduled during each Thermal Year (full day capacity equivalent): these values include any additional interventions identified in paragraph 2.2.

Where the limits stated above are exceeded, Users shall be entitled to a reduction of their commitment fees in proportion to the reduction of regasified volumes.

3) METHODS OF COMMUNICATION WITH USERS

GNL Italia shall publish all communications relating to scheduled maintenance activities and the duration thereof on its website.