

RWE will Help Slovakia Also with Gas Supplies from Its Portfolio

- > **RWE's transit system will begin transporting natural gas to Slovakia tomorrow at 8 a.m.**
- > **Gas supplies from RWE and volumes ordered by the Slovak SPP from foreign suppliers will be transited**
- > **Another increase in the supplies ordered by SPP is planned for Tuesday**
- > **RWE Transgas participates in the preparation of the European gas consortium**

Prague, January 17, 2009 – RWE Transgas will provide Slovakia not only with the transit of natural gas, but also with a supply of natural gas from its own portfolio. The supplies of the first volumes of natural gas will start tomorrow at 8:00 a.m. CET.

Yesterday prime ministers of the Czech Republic and Slovak Republic, Mirek Topolánek and Robert Fico, negotiated in Prague with Martin Herrmann, CEO of RWE Transgas, about RWE's active aid to Slovakia.

RWE has been actively working on the historically first transportation of gas from the West to the East across the Czech Republic since Thursday. Currently the technology is ready to start transportation of gas through the southern route of the gas line in the direction of the transfer station in Lanžhot. One line of the transit gas pipeline in the direction of Slovakia will be opened there tomorrow morning after twelve days since the stop of gas supply from Russia through the Ukraine.

Starting tomorrow, RWE will supply Slovakia with 3.75 mcm of natural gas per day from its own sources. This volume will be increased by 1.25 mcm from SPP's suppliers and by another 1.25 mcm on Tuesday. RWE will secure the new gas volumes by active purchases on markets abroad.

RWE's natural gas stored in Láb, Slovakia, continues to be used to supply Slovak customers, amounting to 4 mcm per day. This supply is provided as a "swap operation".

RWE Transgas, as one of Europe's suppliers of natural gas, participates in the preparation of the so-called "gas consortium". The consortium of European suppliers shall secure technical gas to resume transit of Russian gas across the Ukraine.

Martin Chalupský
Spokesman of RWE Transgas, a.s.,
T 267 974 464, F 267 976 971, E martin.chalupsky@rwe.cz

RWE, an international energy group, manages its business activities in the Czech Republic via RWE Transgas, which is responsible for the purchase, transit and wholesale of natural gas. RWE secures the sale of natural gas to over 2.3 million end customers via regional gas companies: Severočeská plynárenská, Západočeská plynárenská, Středočeská plynárenská, Jihomoravská plynárenská, Severomoravská plynárenská, and Východočeská plynárenská. The RWE Group comprises 21 companies in the Czech Republic.