Press Release

In Prague, 8 January 2015

Ongoing increase in traded volume continued on OTE´s markets in 2014

A total volume of electricity traded on OTE's Day-Ahead Spot Market in 2014 was 15,11 TWh and it reached its new yearly maximum. This presents year-on-year increase of 16,29 % compared with 2013, when the volume traded through Day-Ahead Spot Electricity Market was 12,99 TWh. In 2014 the average hourly price on day-ahead power market (BL 2014) was 32,96 EUR/MWh. The short-term power market organized by OTE was founded in 2002. Currently 105 market participants have access to the short-term power markets.

In 2014 the day-ahead market passed through significant changes namely by introduction of new types of orders and primarily the extension of already coupled day-ahead electricity market of Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary with day-ahead electricity market of Romania on 19th November 2014. Integration of these four markets connected through implicit allocation of cross-border capacities (Market Coupling) is considered as an intermediate step towards the single European day-ahead market. It remains the aim for OTE to promote further integration processes on both day-ahead and intraday markets and contribute to the successful development of short-term electricity trading in the Czech Republic.

Apart from Day-Ahead Spot Electricity Market there was also the significant increase in traded volume on Intraday Electricity Market and Intraday Gas Market. The total volume of electricity traded on Intraday Electricity Market was 443 GWh in 2014, i.e. year-on-year increase more than 6 %. The total volume of gas traded on Intraday Gas Market was 662 GWh in 2014 compared to 269 GWh of the traded gas in the previous year, i.e. year-on-year increase 146 %.

Flexibility in trading and attractive product portfolio have encouraged more than 100 Czech and foreign companies to enter on the short-term power markets and over 80 companies to come in the gas market. Even though most of market participants are electricity producers or energy trading companies, actually more and more large consumers consider the opportunity to participate on the short-term markets. The energy-intensive companies increasingly often look for the possibility to diversify their portfolio of the electricity purchases and, as a result, to reduce the energy cost. Ten years ago, the companies bought almost all electricity through long-term contracts, sometimes even year-long contracts, nowadays it is more economical to purchase most of electricity variably - quarterly, monthly or even for shorter period. OTE’s short-term market provides the opportunity to buy and sell electricity in very short time before the delivery - in days or even hours.

= end =

OTE, a.s.

OTE, a.s., the Czech electricity and gas market operator, (OTE) is a joint stock company established in 2001. OTE provides comprehensive services to individual electricity and gas market players in the Czech Republic. OTE started to organize trading in the day-ahead electricity market in 2002 and the intra-day and block electricity markets in later years. OTE has been the market operator on the gas market since 2010 including operation of day-ahead gas market and intraday gas market. Continuous data processing and exchange required for the accounting and settlement of imbalance between the contractual and actual volumes of electricity and gas supplied and received are among services offered by the OTE to players in the Czech electricity and gas markets, as well as administrative procedures associated with a switch of supplier. The OTE also administers the National Register of Greenhouse Gas Emissions. OTE is the holder of the license for market operator´s activities, which includes activities in the electricity and gas market in the Czech Republic. Additional information is available on www.ote-cr.cz.