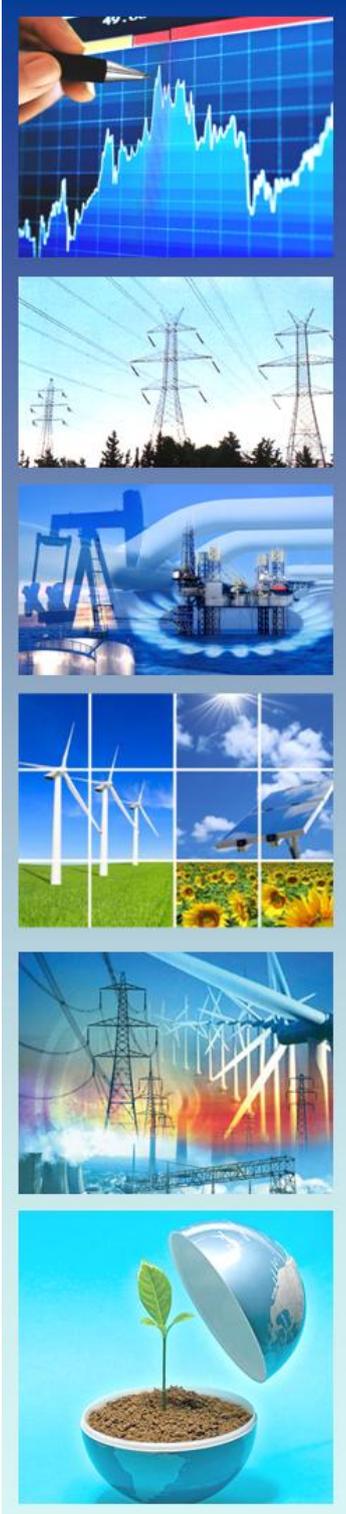


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[EU: State Aid in the Energy Infrastructure Sector under the New General Block Exemption Regulation](#)

by *Viktoria Chatzara (Athens)*

Within the framework of the State Aid Modernisation promoted by the European Commission, a new General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER) has been adopted on 17 June 2014 and will be applicable as of 1 July 2014, extending the possibilities for Member States to grant state aid without prior notification to the Commission. According to the respective Commission's Memo dated 21 May 2014 and having also in regard the New Guidelines on State Aid for environmental protection and energy 2014-2020, adopted in principle on 9 April 2014 by the Commission, the new GBER shall broaden the environmental aid categories which were already covered by the previous GBER and included state aid for energy infrastructures. However, according to the new GBER, the exempted state aid measures must also comply with certain safeguard mechanisms: transparency (reference of individual aid awards shall be made in national public registers), monitoring (there will be ex post-controls of compliance with the formal conditions for exemption) and evaluation (verification whether the assumptions and conditions underlying the compatibility of an aid scheme have been complied with, whether its objectives have been realised and what impact it had on competition and trade). Among others, the new measures aim to enable the Union to meet its broader climate and energy goals in accordance with the Europe 2020 strategy and support as well the completion of the internal energy market. As mentioned in the Commission's Guidelines, specifically with regard to state aid for energy infrastructure, a possible market failure leading to a sub-optimal provision of the necessary infrastructure shall be taken under consideration, as well as the extent to which the infrastructure is open to third-party access and subject to tariff regulation. Moreover, the aid measures must not exceed the minimum needed to achieve the objectives sought and they must not present any undue distortive effects on competition in the internal market. Given the fact that not all Member States have fully recovered from the financial crisis, the Commission expressly states in its new Guidelines that, when it comes to undertakings facing economic difficulties, energy aid may not be awarded to them according the aforementioned Guidelines, whereas the Community Guidelines on State Aid for rescuing and restructuring firms in difficulty shall be applied.

[EU: Commission Proposes Measures within the Context of an EU Energy Security Strategy](#)

by *Viktoria Chatzara (Athens)*

On 28 May 2014, the European Commission issued a Communication to the European Parliament and the Council regarding the European Energy Security Strategy (COM(2014) 330 fin), in the light of the recent political developments on EU's eastern border. Europe still imports 53% of the energy it consumes, whereas in some energy fields, such as gas supply, it strongly depends from a single external supplier. According to the

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Commission, these facts point out the need for measures to be taken both on national and on Union level in order for EU to promote its resilience to potential shocks and reduce its dependency on particular fuels, energy suppliers and routes in the short-term.

The Communication focuses on eight key pillars including both short term and medium/ long term measures:

- With regard to immediate actions, energy security stress tests will be launched and back-up mechanisms will be developed, so as to ensure that the Union will be ready for possible disruptions during the winter 2014/2015.
- EU shall also ensure the best possible preparation and planning concerning sudden disruptions in energy supplies, the protection of strategic infrastructures and the collective support to the most vulnerable Member States.
- Already existing legislation regarding moderation of the energy demand (the Energy Efficiency Directive, the Energy Performance on Buildings Directive), shall be implemented rigorously and with no delays.
- The transposition of internal energy market legislation shall be completed by the end of 2014, whereas regional cooperation should be intensified, towards the completion of a well-functioning and fully integrated internal market for energy.
- Incentives should be given towards the increase of the use of renewable energy, nuclear energy, as well as sustainable production of competitive fossil fuels.
- A strong push for the development of new energy technologies is necessary, requiring significant investments from the EU and the Member States, which should, however, be in compliance with EU transparency and competition legislation.
- Both Commission and Member States shall cooperate in order for access to more diversified external energy resources to be achieved. To this end, the establishment of the Southern Corridor and the identified projects of common interest will play a significant role.
- More coordination of national energy policies is necessary to increase the credibility of EU's responses to the challenge of energy security. The Commission should also be engaged in negotiations regarding international agreements or represent the Union in international fora, since this could possibly increase EU's bargaining power.

Greece: Competition Commission Adopts Decision on the Procedure for Accepting Commitments by Undertakings

by Lazaros Sidiropoulos (Athens)

On 27 May 2014, the Hellenic Competition Commission (HCC) announced the adoption of Decision No. 588/2014 which defines, according to Art. 25 (6) of the Greek competition law (L. 3959/2011), the terms, conditions and the procedure for the acceptance of commitments offered by undertakings to cease possible infringements of Art. 1 and 2 of L. 3959/2011 or 101 and 102 TFEU. Such commitments have already been accepted in the recent administrative practice of HHC and shall now be institutionalised with a view to optimisation of the relevant procedure. A distinctive example of this recent practice from the energy sector is the case of Greek Public Gas Corporation (DEPA); on 13 November 2012, HCC accepted a series of commitments proposed by DEPA in relation

to its conduct in the Greek gas transmission and supply market, following the opening of an investigation against it and against the Greek gas TSO on alleged infringements of competition rules. HCC's Decision No. 588/2014 now clarifies the conditions and the procedure for acceptance of commitments. The interested undertakings may propose commitments in any case involving possible infringements of articles 1 and/or 2 of L. 3959/2011 and may do so at any time during the course of an investigation of a case by the HCC. However, they are advised to signal their interest in discussing commitments at the earliest possible stage of the investigation. The Decision stresses that HCC enjoys wide discretionary power both in deciding on the commencement or not of a procedure of assessing a request for acceptance of commitments as well as in accepting or not the commitments proposed. In any case, no commitments at all will be accepted in certain cases, such as the ones involving serious restrictions of competition or serious abuse of dominance. HCC's decision to accept the proposed commitments renders the commitments binding and, in case of non compliance, fines may be imposed to the respective undertakings.

Energy Community: Electricity Forum Conclusions and Recommendations

by Mira Todorovic Symeonides (Athens)

Conclusions and Recommendations of the 19th Energy Community Electricity Forum, held on 2 and 3 June 2014 in Athens, address the progress of implementation of the Third Energy Package by the Contracting Parties within the deadline expiring on 1 January 2015, the functioning of the electricity retail and wholesale market and their effective liberalisation. Regarding the concrete and political difficulties of the Contracting Parties to abolish regulated retail electricity prices, the Forum proposed to introduce measures for phasing out of regulated prices.

Introducing of day ahead market rules and market based balancing rules, in place of single buyer models and regulated generation, is considered as pre-condition for national and regional wholesale market opening. Progress of Bosnia & Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia in establishing market-based balancing rules is acknowledged. Referring to the Coordinated Auction Office's for South East Europe (SEE CAO) announcement that a pilot allocation of monthly capacities will start in October 2014 and allocation of yearly capacities for 2015 in November 2014, the Forum concludes that there is a lack of participation by the TSOs of Bulgaria, FYR of Macedonia and Serbia (hindering the participation of Romania) in the SEE CAO project. In this respect, it invites the Secretariat to consider measures against Serbia and FYR of Macedonia and invites the European Commission to open dialog with Bulgaria and Romania in order to enhance such participation.

Serbia: Step Forward to Establishing Regional Electricity Stock Exchange

by Vuk Stankovic (Belgrade)

On 16 May 2014 the Serbian Transmission System Operator (TSO) signed a General Principles document with the Paris based electricity stock exchange EPEX SPOT (EPEX) for cooperation in a joint venture project aiming at the establishment of the South Eastern Europe Power Exchange (SEPEX). SEPEX shall be established as an electricity day-ahead market based in the Republic of Serbia and linking the Serbian TSO with TSOs from neighbouring countries. The project itself was formerly recognised as a high importance pilot project on the 18th Athens Energy Forum. Pursuant to the conclusions of the Forum, SEPEX can be extended to other contracting parties, whereas TSOs from FYR of Macedonia and Republic of Montenegro have already shown interest in that

regard. The SEEPEX project is predominately based on the Action Plan for the establishment of a regional electricity market in South East Europe. The Serbian Energy Law envisages a regulated energy market to be established and regulated by a Regulated Market Operator (SEEPEX Operator). Pursuant to an official announcement of the Serbian TSO, EPEX will hold a 25% stake in the SEEPEX Operator, whereas the remaining shares will be owned by the Serbian TSO. The aim of SEEPEX is to promote market coupling, enhance electricity trading and market access, facilitate cross-border capacity allocation etc. However, the overall electricity market opening is not expected until 1 January 2015.



Greece: RAE Publishes Results of the Public Consultation regarding the Auction Based Electricity Market Reform

by Mira Todorovic Symeonides (Athens)

On 19 June 2014 the Greek Regulatory Energy Authority (RAE) published its communication to the Greek Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change (the Ministry) on the results of public consultation regarding the establishment of a regulated futures market enabling suppliers of electricity to have access to lignite and hydro generated electricity through regulated auction processes. In this way some 25-30% of the PPC's annual lignite and hydro generated electricity would be sold through the regulated auction processes to the suppliers and would enable them to have direct access to cheap electricity acquired beyond the mandatory pool of the Day-Ahead wholesale Market, thus enhancing competition between PPC, in its capacity as supplier, and the other suppliers participating in the Greek electricity retail market. Significant number of 22 stakeholders participated in the consultation, including electricity producers, electricity suppliers and energy intensive electricity consumers, providing detailed reasoned opinions, comments and proposals. However, the conclusion of RAE is that the comments received are completely incompatible, particularly the ones of the single seller (PPC) on the one hand and the main final customer (the industrial consumers) on the other hand. Two main questions which should be decided first, when taking into consideration the received proposals, and which RAE now addresses to the Ministry before reaching a final decision, are: a) whether only producers and suppliers (other than PPC) may participate in the auctions or the participation should be permitted to self-supplied industrial consumers as well; and b) whether the electricity price in the auctions should be equal to the accounting production price (as provided by PPC in correlation with estimated offers at the Day Ahead Market under conditions of actual competition) reduced for potential efficiency gains or alternatively i) it should cover full accounting production costs of PPC or ii) should be regulated in accordance with accepted international standards and studies of similar portfolio of producers.



[EU: ENTSOG Launches Consultation on the Initial Draft Network Code on Harmonised Transmission Tariff Structures for Gas \(TAR NC\)](#)

by Lazaros Sidiropoulos (Athens)

On 30 May 2014, ENTSOG launched a public consultation on the Initial Draft Network Code on Harmonised Transmission Tariff Structures for Gas (TAR NC). This draft TAR NC was developed following an Invitation Letter from the European Commission (19 December 2014) and is based upon the Framework Guidelines on rules regarding harmonised transmission tariff structures for gas, published on 29 November 2013 by ACER. The draft TAR NC is accompanied by a Supporting Document to invite the stakeholders to provide their views in the course of the public consultation which will be open for two months. At the end of the whole process, TAR NC shall be finally adopted by means of a Regulation, according to the procedure set out in Article 6 of Regulation (EC) No 715/2009 on conditions for access to the natural gas transmission networks, with the aim to further harmonise the rules on tariffs for access to networks laid down in Article 13 of the latter Regulation.

Contrary to the Network Code on Capacity Allocation Mechanisms in Gas Transmission Systems (Regulation No 984/2013), most of the Chapters of TAR NC are meant to apply for all entry and exit points operated by national TSOs and not just interconnection (cross-border) points. Several particular issues are addressed in the draft TAR NC published for consultation: An exhaustive list and details of the possible primary cost allocation methodologies and secondary adjustments is given; out of this list, each national regulatory authority may approve only one primary cost allocation methodology, complemented, if necessary, by one or more secondary adjustments. Further, in order to enable network users to forecast transmission tariffs to a reasonable extent and to understand the costs underlying the transmission tariffs, the draft TAR NC deals with the information to be published, the standardised format and the publication notice period, as well as with other information related to the derivation of different transmission tariffs and the reconciliation of the regulatory account. Particular reference is also made to the circumstances whereby, after the final adoption of the TAR NC by a Regulation, TSOs can implement mitigating measures within a specified time period and request to apply TAR NC as from a date no later than twenty four months as from either 1st October 2017 or from the date 18 months after entry into force, whichever is later.

[Greece: The Greek Ministry Gives Advance Notice on Forthcoming Tenders for Hydrocarbons' Exploration Concessions in Several Areas](#)

by Georgia-Ilianna Karamani (Athens)

On 21 May 2014 the Greek Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change officially announced that the Minister accepted the request put forward by a major Italian energy company for the granting of rights of exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbons with regard to three blocks in Western Greece, more specifically in

Arta-Preveza, Aitolokarnania and North West Peloponnesus. A ministerial decision shall follow, clarifying the specific areas in question and then the Government shall launch an International Public Tender giving the interested parties the opportunity to submit an offer within 90 days from the publication of the tender in the Official Journal of the European Union. The above procedure, according to which the launching of a tender follows the acceptance of a respective request by an interested party, is stipulated in Art. 2(17)(b) of the Greek law on hydrocarbons (Law 2289/1995, as amended). Such requests have also been submitted to the Greek Ministry recently by a Czech company in reference to possible gas reserves in Epanomi district, Thessaloniki, as well as by a Canadian company for two areas in Thrace. Moreover, following the evaluation of the seismic results from a survey in the Ionian sea and Southern Crete, the Greek Ministry also announced on 25 June 2014 that a respective international tender for hydrocarbons' exploration concessions in those areas will be launched in early July 2014, while the relevant data and the concrete blocks will be presented by the Minister to oil companies at a conference that will take place in London on 1 and 2 July 2014.

EU-Bulgaria: The European Court Dismissed Action of the Commission against Bulgaria for not Providing Virtual Reverse Flow Transmission Capacity

by Marina Aliferopoulou (Athens)

On 5 June 2014, a judgment of the European Court was issued in case C-198/12 on an Action of the European Commission brought against the Republic of Bulgaria for failing to fulfill its obligations under Articles 14 (1) and 16 (1) and 2 (b) of Regulation (EC) No 715/2009 on conditions for access to the natural gas transmission networks, on the ground that the Bulgarian gas TSO did not provide virtual reverse flow capacity at every entry and exit point of that network, namely Negru Voda, where the Bulgarian system connects with the Romanian system, and, Sidirokastro, where it connects with the Greek system. The European Court dismissed the Action of the European Commission and it held that Articles 14 (1) and 16 (1) and 2 (b) of Regulation No 715/2009, regulating third-party access services of TSOs on the one hand and capacity allocation mechanisms and congestion-management procedures on the other hand, do not establish an obligation to provide a virtual reverse flow transmission capacity. In particular, the obligation to provide both firm and interruptible services, pursuant to Article 14 (1) (b) does not mean that TSOs must provide all network services that can be provided on an interruptible basis and, in particular, a virtual reverse flow transmission capacity. Moreover the requirement of non-discrimination does not require those operators to provide new services but rather not to discriminate when providing existing services. Furthermore, the Court held that the obligation to take 'into account system integrity' set out in Article 16 (1) of that Regulation also applies to the physical capacity of gas transmission networks; that obligation does not require TSOs to provide a virtual transmission capacity. Also, 'maximum capacity' in Article 16 (1) of that Regulation covers only the physical capacity of gas transmission networks, excluding any virtual transmission capacity provided by the transmission system operator. Finally, the provision of Article 16 (2) (b) governs capacity-allocation mechanisms offered to market participants by TSOs pursuant to Article 16 (1) of Regulation No 715/2009. Article 16 (2) (b) of that Regulation cannot therefore be interpreted as imposing an obligation to increase capacity beyond that required under Article 16 (1) thereof.



Greece: RAE Invites Interested Parties to Update their Pending Applications for Production Licences for Photovoltaic Plants

by Georgia-Ilianna Karamani (Athens)

Following the issuance of Law 4254/2014 in April 2014 which repealed the Ministerial Decision of 9 August 2012 on the suspension of granting new production licences for photovoltaic plants, the Greek Regulatory Authority of Energy (RAE) invites by its Decision No. 288/2014, published on 29 May 2014, those who have already applied for a production licence and are still interested in acquiring one, to declare their respective intention and consequently to update the financial data on their applications until Friday 12 September 2014. RAE also clarifies in this respect that the evaluation will be based on the date of the initial application and that the licensing will occur under the provisions of the new legislative framework. In no event may it be presumed that the granting of a production license equals a reservation of electricity network capacity or a commitment to a guaranteed compensation price (feed-in-tariff).

Romania: New Draft Amendment Submitted to the Parliament on the Law 220/2008 Related to the System of Promotion of Energy Produced from Renewable Energy Sources

by Corina Badiceanu (Bucharest)

On 10 June 2014, the Romanian Senate rejected a draft amendment to the Law 220/2008 on the system of promotion of energy produced from renewable energy sources. Pursuant to this amendment, the maximum value of the green certificates' transactions on the green certificates' specialised markets (centralised market and bilateral contracts market) will amount to 30 Euros per certificate for the years 2008 - 2025. The provisions currently in force establish a minimum value of 27 Euros per certificate and a maximum of 55 Euros. After being rejected by the Romanian Senate, the draft amendment will be submitted to the Chamber of Deputies which will decide on the adoption or final rejection of this amendment. If the Chamber of Deputies adopts the amendment, it is expected that the price of energy delivered to end consumers will remain constant and, furthermore, the competition between companies will be enhanced.



BiH: Draft Decision Introducing an Advanced Ancillary Services Concept

by Nebojsa Milanovic (Banja Luka)

After the adoption of a Decision introducing a concept of ancillary services for the balancing of the electricity transmission system of BiH, the State Electricity Regulatory Commission of BiH (SERC) made available for consultation a Draft decision on amendments to the pricing methodology for services of electricity transmission, operation of the independent system operator and ancillary services. Taking into account the international obligations of BiH to fully open the electricity market as of 1 January 2015, SERC decided to foster the functioning of the ancillary service market based on a more advanced concept, establishing an efficient ancillary services market design, ensuring safe and reliable operation of the electricity transmission system and introducing an adequate pricing method for transmission services. On 10 June 2014, the Draft Decision was made available to the public by means of a general hearing, with the aim to obtain suggestions, comments and opinions by interested parties.

Bulgaria-Greece: National Regulators Jointly Approve Guidelines for the Second Phase of the Market Test for Management and Allocation of Capacity on the IGB Interconnector

by Lazaros Sidiropoulos (Athens)

According to an announcement of 4 June 2014, the energy regulatory authorities of Bulgaria (State Energy and Water Regulatory Commission or SEWRC) and Greece (Regulatory Authority for Energy or RAE) approved the jointly issued Guidelines for the second (binding) phase of the market test for management and allocation of capacity on the IGB Interconnector, i.e. the new transmission line designed to connect the national transmission systems of Greece and Bulgaria. Acting in accordance with Article 36 (6) of Directive 2009/73/EC which provides that the Authorities must decide upon the rules and mechanisms for management and allocation of capacity and to this end invite all potential users to indicate their interest in contracting capacity before capacity allocation takes place (Market Test), Phase I of the Market Test (Expression of Interest Phase) already took place from 13 May 2013 to 15 July 2013, on the basis of the results of which the two Authorities now requested ICGB AD to proceed with Phase II (Bidding Phase) of the Market Test in accordance with the jointly approved Bidding Phase Guidelines. Eligible participants to present binding offers to reserve capacity in the IGB Pipeline in this second Bidding Phase are all the participants to the first, Expression of Interest Phase as well as the Bulgarian and Greek TSOs.

EU: ACER's Recommendation for the Adoption of the Network Code on Forward Capacity Allocation for Electricity

by Georgia-Ilianna Karamani (Athens)

On 26 May 2014 ACER published a recommendation for the adoption of the Network Code on Forward Capacity Allocation for Electricity (FCA) by the European Commission subject to specific amendments. In a series of events, on 1 October 2013 ENTSO-E submitted to the Agency the draft Network Code, while on 20 December 2013 ACER responded providing an Opinion, admitting to the usefulness of the adoption of the draft Network Code with a view to the facilitation of market integration, non discrimination, effective competition and efficient functioning of the market, coming yet at the same time to the conclusion that certain areas are not in line with the Framework Guidelines on Capacity Allocation and Congestion Management (CACM) for Electricity of 29 July 2011. More specifically, the deadlines set to implement terms and conditions or methodologies and the firmness regime were of concern. Further to the above Opinion, on 3 April 2014 ENTSO-E resubmitted to the Agency the Network Code. The Agency acknowledges that the suggested amendments were indeed integrated, mostly in regard to the remuneration of long-term transmission rights. However, serious concerns remain on the deadlines set to implement the target model and the provisions related to the firmness regime. Therefore, ACER attached to its recommendation a list of specific amendments which the Commission should take into consideration before adopting the Network Code drafted by ENTSO-E.

EU: Regulation Establishes Eco-design Requirements for Power Transformers

by Vuk Stankovic (Belgrade)

On 21 May 2014, the European Commission passed Regulation (EU) No 548/2014 (hereinafter: Regulation) with regard to eco-design requirements for small, medium and large power transformers which came into a force on 10 June 2014. In line with the eco-design requirements for energy related products laid down in Directive 2009/125/EC, the Regulation establishes standards for transformers with a minimum power rating of 1 kVA used in 50Hz electricity transmission and distribution networks or for industrial applications, and in particular: (i) small power transformers with a highest voltage for equipment up to 1,1 kV; (ii) medium power transformers with a highest voltage for equipment in the range between 1,1 kV and 36 kV, and a rated power ranging from 5 kVA to 40 MVA; (iii) large power transformers with a highest voltage for equipment exceeding 36 kV and a rated power equal or higher than 5 kVA. Additionally, if its rated power exceeds 40 MVA a transformer shall be considered as large regardless of the highest voltage for equipment. An extensive list is included defining certain transformer categories that do not fall within the scope of the Regulation. Moreover, the Regulation's provisions are only applicable to transformers that are purchased after the entry into force of the Regulation which shall take place the 20th day following its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.. Particular eco-design requirements are stipulated in Annex I of the Regulation and shall apply in two separate tiers: firstly, starting from July 2015 and secondly, starting from July 2021.

EU: European Commission Released Report on the Smart Metering Deployment

by Vuk Stankovic (Belgrade)

On 17 June 2014, the European Commission released a Report on measuring smart metering deployment in EU with a focus on electricity, accompanied with two related Staff Working Documents. The Report deals with issues related to implementation of smart metering requirements laid down in the Electricity and Gas Directives of the Third Package as well as in the Energy Efficiency Directive 2012/27/EC. The aim of the Report is to measure the progress on deployment of the intelligent metering and smart grid development within the territory of the 27 European Union countries. Among others, it is reported that Member States have committed to install close to 200 million smart meters for electricity by 2020, which shall cover approximately 72% of all European consumers. In regard to electricity metering, the total potential investment is estimated to reach 35 billion EUR. In reference to the gas sector, a lower target has been set by the Member States, amounting in total to 45 million meters with 40% coverage and investment of about 10 billion EUR. The Report additionally outlines the encouraging example of Finland, Italy and Sweden where nearly 45 million smart meters are already installed currently representing 23% of total envisaged installation in the EU by 2020.

Greece: Certification of the Greek Gas Transmission System Operator

by Mira Todorovic Symeonides (Athens)

On 29 May 2014 the Greek Regulatory Energy Authority (RAE) issued Decision no 287/20014 on Certification of the Operator of the National System of Natural Gas (DESFA) as Independent Transition System Operator. The Decision on certification was immediately notified to the European Commission, who should within two months (with possible extension for another two months) issue its opinion in regard to its compatibility with articles 9 and 11 of the Directive 2009/73EC, after which RAE may adopt its final decision regarding the certification. The certification of DESFA is one step forward towards completion of the procedure of acquisition of 66% of DESFA by the State Oil Company of the Azerbaijan Republic (SOCAR). By its certification RAE confirms the independence of the operator in general (as it is its first certification) and in regard to its acquisition by SOCAR, i.e. its management, financial (particularly in regard to implementation the long term plan for development of the grid) and operational independence. Furthermore, it confirms that the natural gas reserves in Azerbaijan shall not put at risk the security of energy supply of EU since its quantities and potentials for export are small in comparison with EU's import from third countries. On the contrary, the acquisition may facilitate diversity of the natural gas import routes and origin of supply in EU.



Croatia: Financing of Energy Audits and Energy Efficiency Projects by the Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund

by Sanja Tolj Par (Zagreb)

The Board of Directors of the Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund (hereinafter: Fund) issued on 4 March 2014 a call for immediate energy audits of buildings and for the introduction of energy management systems in the industry and the commercial services sector, as well as a call for immediate energy efficiency and renewable energy projects co-financed by the EU. The calls will be open until 31 December 2014 or until the Fund announces exhaustion of the amount of 2 million HRK allocated for co-financing energy audits and/or of the amount of 1.5 million HRK allocated for direct financing of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. Participation in the call for energy audits is open to companies and professionals from the industrial and commercial services sectors, provided that they have their registered seat in the Republic of Croatia and they can invest own resources. As for the call for financing energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, eligible are local/regional governments, companies, organisations, institutions, civil society organisations, small businesses and other entities that have registered seat in the Republic of Croatia which can invest their own resources. The Fund will award grants in the range from 40% up to 80% of total eligible costs, the percentage of the subsidy depending on the geographical location of the building or of the beneficiary of the funding.

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