

## energy - legal changes published in January 2017

**Order no. 2/2017 approving the procedure of designating a natural gas distribution operator to take over operation of a natural gas distribution system** published in the Official Gazette of Romania, Part I, no. 62 of January 25, 2017.

The purpose of approving the procedure is to establish the framework for the NRAE, the designation of an operator of natural gas distribution to take over operation of a distribution system for natural gas in a bounded area - a territorial-administrative unit in the event of the withdrawal of the operating license for the natural gas distribution system or termination of the concession so as not to hinder continuity. Designation of the operator shall be done by a decision issued by the NRAE President.

**Decision no. 10/2017 regarding certain safety measures on the electricity market** published in the Official Gazette of Romania, Part I, no. 40 of January 13, 2017.

The decision was adopted in the context of the imminent appearance of a crisis caused by developments in fuel stocks in relation to expected extreme weather conditions. These circumstances have imposed the quick adoption of safety measures for the period between January 16 - February 15, 2017, should the crisis in the energy market materialize, to be implemented by the National Company of Power Transmission "Transelectrica" - S.A. in the following priority order:

- increasing the technological reserves in production units that can operate on alternative fuel, for example fuel oil, for use as the case may be;
- reducing/canceling available interconnection capacity on the direction of exports;
- reducing/canceling notified exchanges on the direction of exports;
- limiting electricity consumption in tranches under conditions established by the Norms limiting electricity consumption, in tranches, in crisis situations arising during the operation of the national power grid, according to the annex which forms part of this decision.

The decision also provides the obligation to notify the electricity market participants at least 24 hours prior to the actual application of the measures outlined above.

For additional details on this material, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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