



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Commissioner Günther H. Oettinger

Brussels 30. 06. 2010
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Mr Sergei Shmatko
Minister of Energy
Moscow
Russian Federation

Dear Mr Shmatko,

As we discussed during my recent visit to Moscow, please find attached a reply prepared by my services to the set of questions you handed over in writing on the application of certain provisions of the Third Internal Energy Market Package on the liberalisation of EU energy markets ("Third Package").

This reply reflects the understanding of my services as to how the provisions of this legislative package should be interpreted. It therefore constitutes a useful guiding document for our continued dialogue on the proper implementation of the package, but can however not create as such legal rights or obligations.

I am happy to note that for several months my services have been in close and informal contact with both Russian authorities and companies in order to discuss in detail the application of the provisions of the Third Package. I refer in particular to a series of workshops in Vienna, in which EU regulators, representatives of my services as well as representatives from Russian companies participated, including Mr Alexander Medvedev, Director General of Gazprom Export. These exchanges have been particularly useful, allowing both sides to clarify issues and to remove existing misunderstandings and misconceptions.

I would once again like to underline that the objective of the Third Package is to create an open, integrated and competitive energy market in the European Union. Meeting this objective will create excellent business opportunities for competitive companies, including for Russian companies.

Considering the mutual benefits the Third Package will offer for both the EU and Russian companies, I am looking forward to the continuation of a constructive dialogue and cooperation on these issues. Since the same set of questions was also handed over to me by Gazprom CEO Miller during my visit to Moscow, I also passed on the attached replies to Gazprom at a meeting with Mr A Medvedev, Director General of Gazpromexport.

*The free will of the
Regulation is the best
basis!*

Yours sincerely,

Encl.