

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Eurogas encourages Council decisions on gas market opening**

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In advance of the important meeting of the Energy Council, Eurogas, the European Union of the Natural Gas Industry representing the gas supply sector in the Member States and in EU Accession Countries, encourages the EU Council to take soon clear decisions on the agenda of the future steps towards the completion of the gas Internal Market. The internal market legal framework needs to be well defined and allow the gas business to take timely decisions in a competitive market.

Other key issues to be decided with the amended Gas Directive will require the Council's taking due account of the complexities of the gas sector situation and agreeing practical solutions. Competition, market growth and security of supply should be promoted based on market working wherever possible and balanced regulation. Long term contracts should be well considered for the important role they play, and gas networks development should be left to market forces based on adequate remuneration of invested capital.