

**Press Release**  
**EUROGAS Board adopts views on draft Security of Gas Supply Regulation**  
**and welcomes two new members**  
**TOTAL s.a. and Marcogaz, the Technical Association of the European Gas**  
**Industry**

**Eurogas held its Board meeting yesterday in Brussels. It adopted the organization's views on the draft Security of Gas Supply Regulation. It also welcomed two new members who joined the organization: TOTAL s.a. and Marcogaz, the Technical Association of the European Gas Industry.**

The Governing Board of Eurogas has adopted a final position on the European Commission's paper on the Security of Gas Supply Regulation. In this document Eurogas shares the European Commission's objective to reinforce the European Framework relating to the security of gas supply. Some important principles are promoted in the proposed legislation:

- the use of market based mechanisms as much as possible in order to ensure security of supply
- the definition of both preventive and emergency measures
- the need for a clear decision-making process at EU level, particularly when several Member States are facing emergency situations and market based mechanisms alone are no longer sufficient to deal with the emergency
- the promotion of regional actions
- the importance of information exchanges in particular in crisis situation

However, Eurogas considers that the draft Regulation still requires clarifications and improvements before setting up EU binding minimum standards.

Eurogas:

- agrees that common minimum supply and infrastructure objectives should be effectively explored at the European level. However, Eurogas believes that a two-step approach would be more appropriate. Rather than setting up mandatory European standards, the future Regulation should leave Member States to carry out a thorough risk and impact assessment and analyse their situation on the basis of a sound common methodology. The results of this assessment should then be reflected in preventive action and emergency plans that can be reviewed possibly within the Gas Coordination Group to ensure appropriateness at EU level.
- is concerned about lack of clarity in definitions, especially the "N-1 rule" definition,
- is concerned about provisions on reverse flows if no previous assessment on technical and/or economical feasibility is done first.

On the definition of protected customers, Eurogas is of the opinion that the draft regulation should not extend mandatory EU protection beyond households as this highly complex and sensitive topic should remain a national prerogative.

Moreover, Eurogas believes that the crisis levels should better be defined. Also, clarity is needed to define the role of different stakeholders (role of companies and role of the Gas Coordination Group).

On transparency requirements, Eurogas underlines the need to preserve the confidentiality of commercial agreements and to preserve sensitive information arising from supply contracts.

The position paper is sent out with this press release and can also be downloaded at <http://www.eurogas.org/uploaded/2009-Oct%20-%2009PP502%20-%20Eurogas%20Position%20on%20SOS%20Regulation.pdf>

For Eurogas the EU legislation should first of all promote an EU based spirit of cooperation between the Commission, Industry and the Member states. The lessons of the early 2009 gas disruptions should be fully taken into account and entrepreneurial flexibility preserved as a key condition for swift and efficient responses to emergency situations.

The Board also welcomed two new members, TOTAL s.a. and Marcogaz, the Technical Association of the European Gas Industry.

Within its activities, **Total** (<http://www.total.com/>) is directly involved in the entire natural gas chain including production, transport, supply, trading, marketing and storage. With this accession it expresses its wish to fully participate in Eurogas structures, to work on a common vision of the natural gas industry, and to contribute to the sustainable development of this industry in Europe.

**Marcogaz** (<http://www.marcogaz.org>) is monitoring and providing technical regulation, standardisation and certification with respect to safety and integrity of gas systems and equipment, rational use of energy and environmental issues.

**Eurogas is a Brussels based non-profit making organization and has the following members : Asociación Española del Gas – SEDIGAS (ES), Association Française du Gaz – AFG (F), Bulgargaz (BU), Bord Gáis Éireann – BGE (IRE), BOTAS\*(TR), BP plc (UK), Bundesverband der Energie - und Wasserwirtschaft e.V. – BDEW (DE), Centrica plc (UK), Czech Gas Union – CPU (CZ), DEPA (GR), DONG Energy A/S (DK), E.ON Ruhrgas AG (DE), Edison (IT), Distrigas (BE), Electricité de France (F), Elektrizitäts-Gesellschaft Laufenburg AG – EGL AG (CH), EnergieNed (NL), ENI S.p.A. (IT), European Gas Research Group – GERG (EU), Fachverband der Gas- und Wärmeversorgungsunternehmen – FGW (AT), Galp Energia (PT), Gas Natural SDG (ES), GasTerra (NL), Gasum Oy (FIN), GDF SUEZ (F), GAZBIR\*(TR), Geoplin d.o.o. (SI), HNG (DK), IZGAZ\*(TR), Marcogaz, (EU), MGE – Hungarian Gas Association (HU), OMV Gas and Power GmbH (AT), Polish Oil and Gas Company – POGC (PL), Romgaz\*(RO), Russian Gas Society\*(RU), RWE Supply & Trading GmbH (D), Slovak Gas Industry – SPP (SK), SOTEG s.a.(LU), South Hook Gas Ltd (UK), Swedish Gas Association (SE), Swiss Association of Gas Industry (CH), Swissgas (CH), Total s.a. (F), Febeg (BE), Union Fenosa Gas S.A. (ES), Verbundnetz Gas AG – VNG AG (DE), WINGAS GmbH & CO. KG (DE).**

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