

Brussels, 6 January 2009

Joint statement by Eurogas and the European Commission

In the context of the current dispute between Gazprom and Naftogaz and the reported very serious reductions of the volumes of natural gas supplied to Europe, the European organization of natural gas industries (Eurogas) met with Commissioner Piebalgs today to exchange views on the latest developments and related measures. **Eurogas and the European Commission expressed their strong concerns of the impact of the dispute on European customers and called for an immediate resumption of the natural gas supplies to Europe, urging both parties to respect their contractual supply and transit obligations.**

Both parties should be aware of the negative impact and the damage this dispute might generate. It is necessary to reach not only a solution to this immediate problem but to arrive at a sound common agreement for the longer term to avoid the risk of future disputes.