

Amendments to the Gas Directive 2009/73/EC

Topics

- 1. Context
- 2. Scope of Gas Directive 2009/73/EC
- 3. Amendment Directive 2019/692
- 4. Derogations for existing pipelines
- 5. Empowerment for bilateral IGAs



Gas Directive 2009/73/EC

- Market opening for commodity market
- Independent energy regulators
- Regulation of networks
 - ✓ Unbundling of transmission and supply/production
 - √ Third-party access to networks
 - ✓ Regulated network tariffs
- More detailed rules in Gas Regulation 715/2009 and Network Codes for gas



Scope of Gas Directive (pre-amendment)

Network regulation

- Transmission systems & transmission lines
- Upstream Pipeline Networks
- LNG facilities
- Interconnectors between Member States (= transmission lines)
- Interconnectors with third countries?



Amending Directive 2019/629

- Entry into force on 23 May 2019
- > Transposition by 22 February 2020
- Clarifies applicability to interconnectors between Member States and third countries
- Derogations for existing interconnectors with third countries
- Empowerment procedure for bilateral IGAs on pipeline operation



Definition of 'interconnector'

Pre-amendment:

"interconnector" means a transmission line which crosses or spans a border between Member States for the sole purpose of connecting the national transmission systems of those Member States

Post-amendment:

"interconnector" means a transmission line which crosses or spans a border between Member States for the purpose of connecting the national transmission system of those Member States or a transmission line between a Member State and a third country up to the territory of the Member States or the territorial sea of that Member State



Derogations for existing interconnectors with third countries (new Article 49a)

- Time-limited derogation from unbundling, third-party access and tariff regulation
- Condition: no detrimental impact of derogation on
 - √ competition,
 - √ market functioning or
 - √ security of supply
- Derogation is national decision and adopted on the basis of national procedure
- No derogation towards countries that apply Gas Directive



Empowerment for bilateral IGAs

- Gas Directive 2009/73/EC sets out common rules for pipeline operation (now clarified for third-country interconnectors)
- EU has exclusive competence for intergovernmental agreements (IGAs) on pipeline operation
- Amending Directive 2019/692 allows for ad hoc empowerment of Member States for bilateral IGAs
- Conditions for Commission approval:
 - √ Compatible with EU law
 - ✓ No detrimental impact on competition, markets and security of supply
 - √ Compatible with objectives of EU-level IGAs
 - ✓ Non-discriminatory



Thank you for your attention!

