

SERC – STRUCTURE, FUNCTIONS, AND KEY ACTIVITIES

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Sofia, 23-27 September, 2002

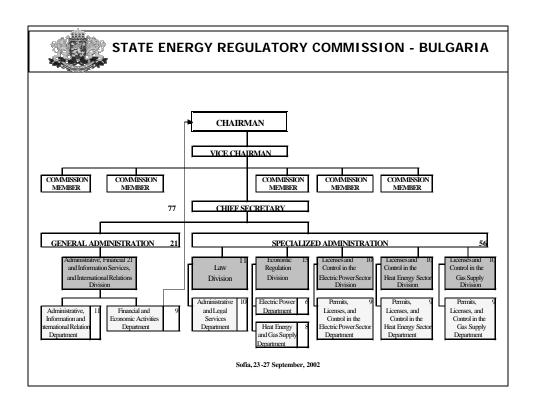


STATE ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION - BULGARIA

SERC is established on 10 of September 1999 by an Order of the Council of Ministers N 181

Structure:

- 7 Commissioners, including the chairman and vicechairman;
- 78 employees;
- 6 Division, 5 Specialized Administration Divisions and 1 General Administration Division;
- Specialized Administration 56 persons;
- 11 jurists;
- 15 economists;
- 30 engineers;
- General Administration 21 persons.





Authorities of the SERC

Issues, revokes and amends licenses for:

- heat and/or electric power generation
- transmission of heat, electric power and natural gas
- electric power and natural gas distribution
- natural gas distribution
- transit and storage of natural gas.

Issues and revokes permits for construction of new energy facilities.

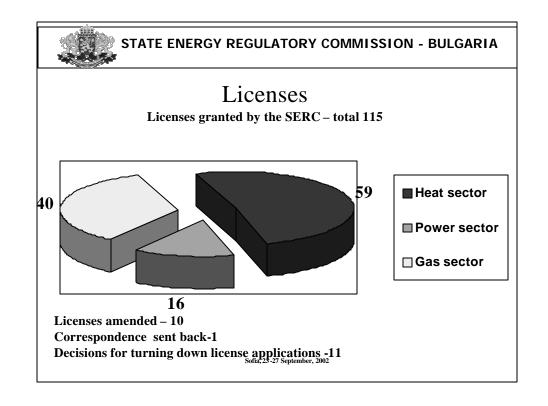
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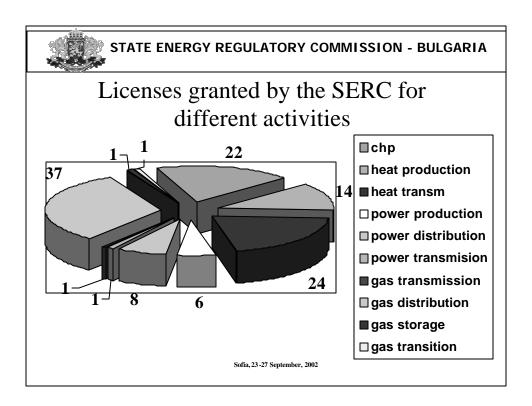




Authorities of the SERC

- Oversees compliance with the provisions of permits and licenses granted.
- Approves the energy prices set by the energy companies.
- Prepares the secondary energy legislation.
- Approves the General terms in the contracts for sale of electric power, heat and natural gas, proposed by the energy companies.







Permits granted by the SERC - 3

- Permit for extension of *Maritsa East 3 TPP* with 64,4 MW, granted to *Maritsa East 3 Power Company* with main shareholders *Entergy Power Development Corporation* and *NEK*;
- Permit for construction of a new TPP with an overall capacity of 670 MW (± 15 MW) on the site of *Maritsa East 1 plant*, granted to *AES 3C Maritsa East 1 Ltd.*;
- Permit for construction of a new energy facility CHP, granted to *Heat, Power, Gas, Ecology 21 Ltd.*



International Activities Main Priorities

The SERC's foreign activities are focused on:

- Strengthening the position of the SERC as an operating regulatory body in the restructuring of the energy sector;
- Preparation for integration with the regional Balkan electricity market and the EU internal energy market.





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International Activities

- Co-operation with the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), USA, and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
 - implementation of a Partnership Program between the SERC and the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities
- Active participation in the Energy Regulators Regional Association of the Central/Eastern European and Newly Independent States region (ERRA) and the Standing Committees
- European integration:
 - a) Programs: PHARE 2000, SARA 2 etc.;
 - b) Working group ¹ 14 Energy Sector preparation for the EU accession



International Activities

Funded Projects

- PHARE 2000 project "Institution Building at the SERC" expected to start in October 2002
- The World Bank's project Development of Tender Procedures for Selection of Investors for Natural Gas Distribution Networks – launched in July 2002
- SERC's experts' involvement in the Stability Pact's project "Southeastern Europe Electrical System Technical Support" (SEETEC) funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
- SERC's experts' involvement in the World Bank's project Energy Service Quality Regulation