



PRESS RELEASE

The “war” against electricity theft is intensified under the new stricter regulatory framework

HEDNO, as from its establishment, had set as high priority the handling of the phenomenon of theft of electricity which, as seen in the course of non-technical losses, has been on the increase under these difficult financial conditions.

The fact that, despite the increase in the number of inspections, the impressive increase in the number of detected cases and the systematic handling of suits, the phenomenon has not subsided, stressed the need to make the relevant regulatory framework stricter and, thus, more effective. This need was met with the relevant provisions in the Operation Code of the Hellenic Electricity Distribution Network (GG B' 78/20.01.2017) and the relevant Decisions of RAE that followed (Manual for Theft of Electricity, GG B' 1871/30.05.2017 and determination of an Administratively Set Price, GG B' 1947/07.06.2017).

According to the new framework, the calculation of the unregistered power shall be carried out by HEDNO, based on the Administratively Set Price, which, according to the relevant RAE's decision, is 150 Euro/MWh, increased by 70% to 255 Euro/MWh for the cases of verified electricity thefts. Furthermore, the violators shall be charged with the compensation cost for HEDNO, which ranges depending on the supply type from 300 to 370 euro, without a meter replacement, and from 425 to 750 euro, with a meter replacement.

If the amount is not paid within the stipulated deadline (or if an installment of this amount in case of settlement is not paid) by the violators, HEDNO terminates the supply and does not re-connect it until the amount is fully paid. Also, it can impose restrictions for access to the Network via another supply.

Moreover, the owners of real estate must take care when they rent their properties to ensure that the tenants transfer the electricity supply in their names so that the landlords are not accountable, as contracted users of the supply, for actions committed by others.



Furthermore, given that based on the new framework, theft of electricity also means now the arbitrary re-connection to a terminated supply not represented by a Supplier (i.e. if the previous tenant terminated the electricity supply by leaving the property), the landlords must not give their properties for use until the new tenants sign an electricity supply contract and transfer the supply in their names.

Furthermore, with the firm application of the new framework, HEDNO shall intensify the targeted inspections to detect cases of electricity theft, by providing all its resources in this fight to stop the phenomenon as a first step and then to drastically constraint it, expecting the consumers' help and support.

Finally, it is once again underlined that this phenomenon of electricity theft negatively affects consistent consumers because the increased electricity cost in the wholesale market due to the electricity theft passes on to them. Based on the new framework, the amount collected from the violators is used to compensate the loss inflicted on the consumers, by crediting part of this amount to the Special Duty of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction (ETMEAR), Services of General Interest (YKΩ), System and Network Use Charges and to support the special reserve of HEDNO for the development of actions against thefts of electricity.

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Press Office