



## PRESS RELEASE

Based on a publication of the electronic press concerning the PPC submarine cables that are “found exposed” in the area of Aspros Gremos in Paros, HEDNO clarifies that the submarine cables in question as well as the rest of the submarine network of its competence is fully protected and do not involve any danger to people and consequently to nearby swimmers.

This is assured from the fact that these special submarine cables include, apart from the supporting electricity protection systems, integrated materials and production techniques which assure powerful mechanical protection and electricity insulation.

Also, this is confirmed by the good operation status of the HEDNO submarine network with total length of 1,000 km which, although it is installed in depth of more than 100 meters and receives high pressure and stress, it fully responds to the energy requirements of our islands.

However, apart from the above, HEDNO based on its specifications installs its submarine cables in depth less than five meters, into trenches with approximately one meter of depth which are covered with the appropriate aggregates.

However, in few cases, incidents occur where powerful sea streams in combination with intense weather conditions might remove the coverage materials of the trench and the cable might be exposed. Equivalent to the above is the specific incident which as it is explained it does not bring any danger to the safety of the citizens.

Also, it should be pointed out that the competent HEDNO service in Paros responded immediately to the incident, since it has already inspected the cables which are considered completely safe. At the same time, their immediate installation is planned in the foreseen depth.

Finally, we make clear that HEDNO and not PPC, as it is falsely mentioned in the relevant publication, is responsible for the development, operation and maintenance of the Hellenic Electricity Distribution Network including the submarine cables in question.

**Athens, 25<sup>th</sup> of July 2013**

**From the Press Office**