



REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRISE
MINISTRIA E ENERGJISË
DHE INDUSTRIË

Albania specific to pipelines OSH regulations

1st Tirana Gas Pipelines Safety Workshop

Tirana 08 October 2015

Updates on Gas Market in Albania

- **Inauguration Ceremony** of TAP in July 2015
- **New Gas Law** approved in September 2015, transposing 3rd Energy Package
- **Gas Master Plan** to be completed in June 2016
- **MoU Albania – Azerbaijan** for financing Gas Market Feasibility Study
- **SECO Capacity Building** 6.6 million EUR contract to be signed within 2015
- **IAP Permanent Operational Unit** established in June 2015
- **Gas to Power** - Evaluation of TPP Vlore to be supplied by natural gas
- **Big industrial customers** expressed interest for purchasing natural gas

Current status of Safety Regulations

- **Order of Minister of Energy no. 666, date 03.08.2009** approved the temporary technical rules and security criteria for the minimum requirements of the technical design, construction and operation of the transmission and distribution natural gas systems, the installation of LNG system, the storage spaces and the direct pipelines.
- The temporary rules will be based on the existing rules in **Greece** and/or **Italy**, until the new rules to be approved in Albania, based on the new Gas Law.
- The **new technical safety rules** for the Albanian Gas Industry are prepared by an expert group under the Ministry of Energy and Industry (MEI), as an adaption of the Gas Industry Technical Regulations of the German Scientific and Technical Association for Water and Gas (DVGW).
- The project “**Translation and adaption of Technical Regulations for Gas Albanian Sector**”, financed by German Government, included "Know-how transfer and experts' support, services for the Translation and Adaptation of Technical Regulations for the Albanian Gas Sector”, started on May 14th, 2012.

Current status of Safety Regulations (cont.)

- Until today, are finalized **22 technical rules** for the Albania gas sector, approved by decisions of the Council of Ministers which constitute a real contribution and very important in the way of development of the gas sector in Albania.
- DVGW gas technical regulations are **identical with the ISO and EN** standards and are also approved and adapted from the General Directory of Standardization.
- **First package** with 9 gas technical rules was approved by the Council of Ministers Decision no.1030, date 27.11.2013 *"On approval of the technical rules and the security criterions, the first part, for the minimum requirements of the technical design, construction and operation of the transmission and distribution gas systems, the installation of LNG system, underground gas storages and direct pipelines"*.
- **Second package** with 13 technical rules was approved by and DCM no. 104, date 04. 02. 2015, *"On the approval of the technical rules and the safety criterions, the second part, for the minimum requirements of the technical design, construction and operation of the natural gas transmission and distribution systems, the installation of LNG system, underground gas storages and direct pipelines"*.

First Package of Gas Technical Rules

The **first part** of the technical rules for the gas industry includes the rules for the **gas transmission system**, referring the Codes of Practice as below:

1. Code of Practice G463 “Gas steel pipelines for operating pressures > 16 bar-Construction”.
2. Code of Practice G466-1 “Steel gas pipelines for operating pressure over 5 bar-Maintenance”.
3. Code of Practice G469 “Pressure testing methods for transmission and distribution gas pipelines”.
4. Code of Practice G488 “Gas quality measurement stations-design, construction, operation”.
5. Code of Practice G491 “Gas pressure regulating stations for inlet pressures up 100 bars; designing, production, construction, testing, commissioning and operation”.
6. Code of Practice G492 “Facilities for gas measurements and operating pressure up 100 bar; designing, production, construction, testing, commissioning and operation”.
7. Code of Practice G497 “Compressor stations”.
8. Code of Practice G497-B1 “Supplement 1- the explosion risk zones in compressor stations”.
9. Code of Practice G499 “Preheating of natural gas in gas plants”.

Second Package of Gas Technical Rules

The **second part** of the technical rules for the gas industry includes the rules for the **gas transmission system**, referring the Codes of Practice as below:

1. Code of practice G 260, "Gas Quality"
2. Code of practice G 280-1, "Gas odourisation"
3. Technical instruction G 280-3, "Test Gases for Calibration of the odourant measuring instruments."
4. Technical instruction G 494, "Measures of sound protection of devices and appliances for gas pressure control and gas measurement."
5. Code of practice G 495, "Gas Installations – Maintenance."
6. Code of practice G 1000, "Requirements on the qualification and organization of companies for the operation of facilities which supply network-bound gas to the general public. (gas supply facilities)"
7. Code of practice G 1010, "Requirements on the qualification and organization of operators of natural gas installations on industrial sites"
8. Code of practice GW 12, "Design and installation of cathodes protection (CP) for underground storage tanks and steel pipe."
9. Code of practice GW 16, "Cathodes Protection (CP) of Buried Storage Tanks and Steel Pipes – Remote Monitoring."
10. Code of practice GW 350, "Welded joints on steel pipelines in the gas and water supply; Fabrication, testing and assessment."
11. Code of practice GW 1200, "Principles and organization of the stand-by service for gas utilities and water distribution companies."
12. Technical instruction GW 14, "Repair of local defects in protective coatings of ferrous metal pipes."
13. Technical rules for Gas Industry, "Regulation of the high pressure gas pipelines."

Future of Gas Technical Rules

- Project ***"Translation and adaptation of the technical rules for Albanian Gas Sector"***, will be part of Project Agreement between Ministry of Energy and Industry and Swiss Government, represent by SECO.
- SECO project "Capacity Building Project for Large Gas Infrastructure Developments in Albania II", has included the amount of **150,000 euro** for the preparation of the rest of technical rules for the Albanian gas sector in cooperation with DVGW.
- MEI, DVGW and SECO will sign a tripartite agreement for the preparation of the **second part** of the Technical Rules for Albania Gas Sector.
- **New Gas Technical Rules** will be prepared for the distribution, LNG system, underground gas storages and direct pipelines.
- Technical Experts Group of the Ministry of Energy maybe part of the **Institute of Oil and Gas** in Albania.



REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRISE
MINISTRIA E ENERGJISË
DHE INDUSTRIË

Thank you for your attention!

DRITAN SPAHIU

Ministry of Energy & Industry of Albania

Director of Policies and Development of Hydrocarbons

dritan.spahiu@energjia.gov.al