

Mr Plamen Oresharski

Prime Minister of the Republic of Bulgaria
Sofia 1123
2 Dondukov
Blv. CO
BULGARIA

24 April 2014

Dear Prime Minister,

BUSINESSEUROPE is the leading advocate for growth and competitiveness at European level, standing up for companies across the continent and campaigning on the issues that most influence their performance.

EURELECTRIC is the electricity sector association which represents the common interests of the electricity industry at pan-European level and a part of its mission and objectives is to provide effective representation for its members in public affairs.

We would like to express our serious concerns for what is happening in the Bulgarian electricity sector. In particular we would like to address the unprecedented procedure for revocation of licenses of the three Bulgarian public suppliers of electricity (namely EVN Bulgaria Electrosnabdjavane, CEZ Electro Bulgaria and Energo-Pro Sales), initiated by the State Energy and Water Regulatory Commission (the Regulator).

We understand the procedure for revocation of licenses had been launched following a complaint from the state-owned company NEC to the Regulator.

It is our strong view that disputes between energy companies are to be handled by the commercial courts in the first place. If this is not the case, companies will be confronted with an unprecedented situation where private companies also from EU Member states and investing in another EU Member State are increasingly under pressure and face the risk to discontinue their licensed activities because they strictly adhere to the national and the European legislation.

The actions taken by the Bulgarian authorities undermine the credibility of the general European principles of equal treatment, fairness and transparency.

We urge you to take action by implementing the recommendations as proposed by the European Commission, with no delay. We attach them herewith again.

Yours sincerely,



Markus J. Beyrer
BUSINESSEUROPE Director General



Hans ten Berge
Secretary General of EURELECTRIC

Cc: Commissioner Günther Oettinger