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საქართველოსთვის
The European Union for Georgia



Press Release

EU Launches Project to Improve Service Quality and Support Roll-out of Smart Metering

Twinning project implemented by Austrian-French-Greek consortium will assist Georgia in improvement of energy supply quality and in roll-out of smart meters

On Thursday, April 11, 2019, the EU launched the **“Development of Incentive Based Regulation for Service Quality and Regulatory Strategy to Support Roll-out of Smart Metering”** Twinning project.

This is a 21-month project, funded by the European Union with a budget of € 1 200 000, which brings Austrian, French and Greek regulatory experts together with the Georgian colleagues to strengthen the capacity of the Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission (GNERC) in further improving energy service quality standards and developing regulatory strategy to support roll-out of smart metering.

"The EU is a long-term supporter of Georgian energy sector reform towards a well-functioning competitive energy market in line with European standards. The Twinning project that we launched today will help the energy regulator, GNERC, in designing regulations for improved quality and reliability of energy for homes and businesses, and help introducing innovations such as smart metering, which give real-time information on energy consumption, allowing consumers to make better choices regarding energy usage and helping utilities to adjust the energy sector towards more efficiency and sustainability." noted Ambassador of the European Union to Georgia Mr. Hartzell.

Ms Khatuna Totladze, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia stressed that Twinning projects for Georgia are the means to work towards European values and are an important source of knowledge transfer. Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia Mrs. Natela Turnava in her welcome speech underlined the significance of development of Georgia's energy market regulation, highlighting that the quality of energy supply is a key element for the country's economic development and smart meters will help to better plan the energy needs of customers.

Chairwoman of the Georgian Twinning partner GNERC, Ms Irina Milorava, spoke about the energy market developments and positive steps made towards reshaping the Georgian energy market, whereas Mr. Andreas Eigenbauer, Executive Director of E-Control, focused on the new EU regulation and its positive consequences for consumers. Mr. Jean-Laurent Lastelle, Head of French Energy Regulatory Institution, stressed the significance of smart metering for achieving energy efficiency targets, and Mr. Apostolos Gotsias, Head of the Greek Regulatory

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Authority for Energy, placed emphasis on the role of National Regulatory Authorities play in the formation of energy markets.

In their concluding speeches and in response to questions from the audience, the BC Project Leader, Mr. Giorgi Pangani, MS Project Leader, Mr. Dietmar Preinstorfer, Junior MS Project Leaders Mr. Michael Mastier and Mr. George Paidakakis – gave the details about the project’s goals and expected results.

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