



Tbilisi, May 14, 2014

## EU support for cost reflective electricity network tariffs for Georgian consumers

*The completion of the € 1.1 million EU-funded twinning between the Georgian and Austrian energy regulatory authorities create better and transparent conditions for investments and for final consumers in Georgia.*

On Wednesday, 14 May 2014, public and press were invited to attend the final conference of the Twinning project *Strengthening capacities of the Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission (GNERC) in updating incentive based electricity tariff methodology*, funded by the European Union with a budget of € 1.1 million.

During the event at the new premises of GNERC in Tbilisi, the Deputy Head of the EU Delegation to Georgia, Boris larochevitch, noted that within the framework of the enhanced energy cooperation with the EU this project supports making one step forward towards the Energy Community membership. Mariam Valishvili, Deputy Minister of Energy of Georgia, stated that by becoming a member of the Energy Community and implementing EU energy legislation, Georgia will have closer ties with the EU's energy market, while Mr Roman Kakulia, Director of the Programme Administrative Office at the Ministry of Georgia on European and Euro-Atlantic Integration, emphasized the importance of such cooperation between Georgian and EU authorities. Mrs Irina Milorava, the Chair of GNERC, added the results would boost investments and increase the financial sustainability of the energy sector.

Martin Graf, the Executive Director of E-Control, spoke about the new methodology and its advantages, while Hansjörg Tengg, CEO of smart technologies, explained the challenges of the energy market opening.

Within their presentations, the project leaders – Mr Dietmar Preinstorfer of E-Control Austria and Mr Gocha Shonia of GNERC – gave more details about the project results and expressed their satisfaction with the work of the whole project team. Mrs Eva Berger, Honorary Consul of Austria, closed the event and underlined that the friendship and cooperation between Austria and Georgia with the support of the European Union produced important results for the Georgian energy market.

The Twinning project is entitled *Strengthening Capacities of the Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission (GNERC) in Updating Incentive Based Electricity Tariff Methodology*. It is funded by the European Union with € 1.1 million; its project duration of 21 months will end in June 2014. The project partners are the GNERC, E-Control (Austria), BNetzA (Germany) and PUC (Latvia), and the Austrian energy exchange EXAA.



A project implemented  
by E-Control  
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The European Commission is the EU's executive body.

“The European Union is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders”.