



Gas LNG Europe

October 2007

GLE Preliminary reaction to the Third Energy Package

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GLE welcomes the Third Energy Package published by the European Commission on 19 September as an opportunity for the completion of the internal market and a further step towards greater security of supply and sustainable development. GLE is also glad about the recognition that LNG has been given in the new legislative proposals.

GLE has always advocated a stable, predictable and comprehensive regulatory framework at EU level as a prerequisite for competition, market integration and development of new infrastructures. In this context, GLE recognizes the need for continued cooperation between the European Commission, the European regulators, GLE (and GIE) and other stakeholders to jointly promote the creation of a single European gas market for the benefit of consumers and all market participants.

GLE strongly believes that LNG is going to play a key role in the future European energy framework. Beyond doubt, LNG will contribute to the increase of the security and diversification of supply level as well as the promotion of competition in gas supply in Europe. Therefore, the role of LNG should be given recognition in the regulatory framework, taking into consideration the characteristics of the LNG business, with a view to facilitating the creation of a competitive European market in gas.

Undoubtedly, the Third Package is a step forward to a fully liberalised and well functioning European market. LNG Terminal operators recognise that several well-intended measures are proposed within the Package and that further analysis and fine-tuning is needed, taking into account the specific features of each national market. In particular, not only the same level playing field for all LNG Terminal Operators should be ensured, but also it ought to be borne in mind that compatibility should prevail over a “one-size-fits-all” approach.

GLE would be happy to continue the successful cooperation with the European Commission, ERGEG and other stakeholders to discuss the new legislative proposals and will seek to provide further contribution in the process, as already demonstrated by its input in the development of ERGEG GGPLNG (“Guidelines for Good Practices for LNG Terminal Operators”).

GLE is looking forward to providing its expertise in the further development of the European regulatory framework and the creation of the European gas market where LNG will undoubtedly play an increasingly important role.