



REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRIË
ENERGY REGULATORY AUTHORITY
BOARD

DECISION

No. 79, Dated 14.04.2025

ON

APPROVING SOME ADDITIONS AND AMENDMENTS IN THE “REGULATION ON CYBER SECURITY OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURES IN THE POWER SECTOR”

Based on articles 16 and 18 of law no. 43/2015 “*On Power Sector*”, as amended; Law no. 25/2024, “*On cyber security*”; Council of Ministers Decision no. 553, dated 15.07.2020 “*On approving the list of critical information infrastructures and the List of Important Information Infrastructures*”, as amended by Council of Ministers Decision no. 761, dated 12.12.2022 “*On some additions and amendments in Council of Ministers Decision no. 553, dated 15.07.2020 “Regulation on cyber security of critical infrastructures in the power sector”*” approved with Energy Regulatory Authority (ERE) Board decision no. 126, dated 30.0.2020; article 15 of the *Regulation for ERE Organization, Operation and Procedures*, approved with ERE Board decision no.96, dated 17.06.2016, as amended; ERE Board on their meeting dated 14.04.2025, after reviewing the report Protocol no. 307/2, dated 18.03.2025 prepared by the Legal and Dispute Resolution Directory and the Head of the Cybersecurity and IT Sector “*On approving some additions and amendment in the “Regulation on cyber security of critical infrastructures in the power sector”*”,

For the purpose of reviewing and approving several additions and amendments to the "Regulation on cybersecurity of critical infrastructures in the power sector," the procedure has been followed and the documentation has been analyzed as follows:

1. The regulation in force and the need for revision

- ERE Board, with decision no. 126, dated 30.07.2020, approved the “*Regulation on cybersecurity of critical infrastructures in the power sector.*”
- Following the entry into force of Law no. 25/2024 “*On Cybersecurity,*” which repealed Law no. 2/2017, as well as the amendment of Council of Ministers Decision no. 553/2020 by Council of Ministers Decision no. 761, dated 12.12.2022, work was undertaken with the aim of updating the existing rules through amendments and additions to the current regulation, in order to align it with the new legal framework in force.

2. Initiation of the Procedure and Notification of Interested Parties

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- ERE Board, with decision no. 27, dated 27.01.2025, decided to open the procedure for the amendment of the regulation in force. With official letter Protocol no. 307, dated 04.02.2025, ERE notified the above-mentioned decision to the interested parties as follows: the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy (MIE), the National Authority for Cybersecurity (NCSA), OSHEE GROUP company, the Competition Authority (CA), the Albanian Power Corporation (KESH) company, the Transmission System Operator (TSO) company, Kurum International company, Devoll Hydropower company, Dragobia Energy company, Prell Energy company, Power Elektrik Slabinjë company, Seka Hydropower company, and Trans Adriatic Pipeline AG Albania.
- The text of the proposed amendments and additions was also published on ERE's official website, in the "Consultations" section, on 05.02.2025.
- Within the provided deadline, no comments were submitted by the interested parties. As a result, the initial proposal remained unchanged and was considered for approval without additional modifications.

3. The Content of the Amendments to the Regulation

- **Article 1** is added: "ERE is also the authority responsible for the regulation in the natural gas sector, based on Law no. 102/2015. In accordance with this law, ERE's objectives in exercising regulatory functions are: a) The promotion of the establishment of an internal competitive market, safe and friendly to the environment for all the customers and suppliers. Ensuring the appropriate conditions for the safe and sustainable operation of natural gas networks, in close cooperation with the Energy Community and the regulatory authorities of other countries."
- **Articles 2, 3, 5 (paragraph 1, letter b)**, as well as **Articles 6, 6/1, 7, 8, and 10**: after the phrases electricity / power system / energy, the phrase "*and natural gas*" is added.
- **Articles 4, 5 (paragraph 1) (paragraph 1, letter a), (paragraph 2), 6 (paragraph 1, letter d), 6/1 (paragraph 4), 7**: Wherever in the Regulation there is a reference to Law no. 2/2017 "On Cybersecurity," it is replaced with *Law no. 25/2024 "On Cybersecurity."*
- **Articles 5 (paragraph 2, letter a), 6 (paragraph 1, letters a and b), Annex 1**: Everywhere in the Regulation, the reference to AKCESK (National Authority for Electronic Certification and Cyber Security) is replaced with AKSK (NAECCS).
- **Article 4, point 6 is amended as follows: "Critical information infrastructure Operator"**: is a legal person, public or private, that administers critical information infrastructure and operates in the power sector. TSO company, OSHEE company, KESH company and the following **are added**: *Kurum International company-SCADA system, Dragobia Energy-SCADA system, Prell Energy company-SCADA system, Power Elektrik Slabinje-SCADA system, Seka HydropowerSCADA system, Devoll Hydropower company- Servers, switches, firewalls, and Trans Adriatic Pipeline (TAP) - SCADA System.*
- **In Article 4, point 6.1 is added**: "Important information infrastructures" are legal persons, public or private, that administer important information infrastructure and operate in the power sector. These include: the Electricity Distribution Operator (OSHEE) with Data Center Primary, Data Center Disaster Recovery, Data Center Business Continuity, the grid between Data Center PR, DR and BC, as well as the network between the Data Center and the Command points; Vlora Thermal power plant with DCS System and Vlushe HPP with SCADA System.

- **Article 4, point 11 is amended as follows: “AKSK”:** *is the National Authority for Cybersecurity.*
- **Article 5, “General Rules and Basic Principles”, paragraph 1 is amended as follows:** The Regulation on cybersecurity in critical and important infrastructures in the power and natural gas sectors is drafted based on Article 18 of Law No. 43/2015 “On Power Sector”, as amended, Article 15 of Law No. 102/2015 “On Natural Gas Sector”, Law No. 25/2024 “On Cybersecurity” and Council of Ministers Decision No. 553, dated 15.07.2020, “On approving the list of critical information infrastructures and the List of Important Information Infrastructures”, as amended.
- **Article 6 changes its title from “Operators of Critical Infrastructures” to “Obligations of Operators of Critical Infrastructures and Important Information Infrastructures.”**
- **Article 6/1, “Other Obligations”:** Everywhere in the Regulation where the term “Operators of Critical Infrastructures” is referenced, it is amended to: *Critical Infrastructure Operators and Important Information Infrastructures Operators.*
- **Article 9, “Penalties” is amended to include the legal basis in accordance with Law no. 102/2015,** In case the licensee does not act in accordance with the plan of measures, sanctions shall be applied to it according to Article 107 of Law No. 43/2015 “On Power Sector”, Article 106 of Law No. 102/2015 “On Natural Gas Sector”, as well as the “Regulation on the Procedures of Imposing and Reducing the Fines” approved with ERE Board Decision.
- **Article 10, “Certification with the ISO 27001 Security Standard” is amended to include the phrase “natural gas.”** Critical Infrastructure Operators in the power and natural gas sectors shall be certified with the ISO 27001 security standard within 18 months from the entry into force of this regulation.
- **Article 10, paragraph 2 is added:** Critical Information Infrastructure Operators, including Kurum International company, Dragobia Energy, Prell Energy company, Power Elektrik Slabinje, Seka Hydropower, Devoll Hydropower company and Trans Adriatic Pipeline (TAP), are required to obtain certification according to the ISO 27001 security standard within 18 months from the entry into force of these amendments to the regulation.
- **Article 10, paragraph 3 is added:** Operators of Important Information Infrastructures, including the Electricity Distribution System Operator, Vlorë Thermal Power Plant and Vlushe HPP, are required to obtain certification according to the ISO 27001 security standard within 18 months from the entry into force of these amendments to the regulation.
- As a result of the expanded scope to include the natural gas sector, the title of the regulation is amended as follows: *“Regulation on Cybersecurity of Critical Infrastructures in the Energy Sector.”*

4. Purpose of the Amendments

- The proposed amendments to the “Regulation on Cybersecurity of Critical Infrastructures in the Power Sector” are necessary to ensure compliance with the new legal framework.

These amendments include the updating of institutional references, the expansion of the regulation’s scope to cover the natural gas sector, the inclusion of new critical infrastructures, and the strengthening of cybersecurity measures. Additionally, the amendments aim to harmonize the regulation with national obligations by fulfilling the recommendations of the

Resolution of the Albanian Parliament and ensuring a secure and stable electricity and natural gas market. An important aspect of the amendments is also the requirement for operators to be certified according to the ISO 27001 security standard, thereby enhancing effective protection against cyber threats. For these reasons, the adoption of these additions and amendments is essential for the secure and sustainable operation of critical and important infrastructures in the power and natural gas sectors.

For all of the above mentioned, ERE Board

Decided:

1. To approve some additions and amendments in the “Regulation on Cybersecurity of Critical Infrastructures in the Power Sector”
2. Amendment of the title of the Regulation and changes throughout the Regulation The title of the Regulation is amended, and the following articles are modified throughout the Regulation: Articles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (paragraph 1, letters a and b, and paragraph 2), Articles 6 (paragraph 1, letters a, b, and d), 6/1 (paragraph 4), as well as Articles 7, 8, 9, and 10. (The approved amendments are attached to this decision).
3. Legal and Dispute Resolution Directory shall inform the interested parties about ERE Board decision.

This decision shall enter into force immediately.

Any party involved in this procedure may request the Energy Regulatory Authority (ERE) to review the Board's decision within seven (7) calendar days from the date of issuance, provided that new evidence is submitted that may lead the Board to reach a different conclusion; or material errors have been identified. This decision may be appealed before the Administrative Court of Tirana within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

This decision shall be published in the Official Gazette.

ERE CHAIRMAN
Petrit AHMETI

**APPROVED AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATION ON CYBERSECURITY OF
CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURES IN THE POWER SECTOR**

<p><i>The title is amended and becomes:</i></p>	<p>Regulation on Cybersecurity of Critical Infrastructures in the Energy Sector</p>	
<p><i>It is amended and becomes</i></p>	<p>Article 1</p>	<p>The Energy Regulatory Authority (ERE), as outlined in Article 18 of Law No. 43/2015 “On Power Sector,” as amended, has the objective of promoting and fostering a competitive, secure, and environmentally sustainable internal market for all customers and suppliers.</p> <p>Additionally, ERE is responsible for ensuring the safe and sustainable operation of electricity networks through close cooperation with the Energy Community and regulatory authorities of other countries.</p> <p>ERE is also the authority responsible for regulating the natural gas sector, based on Law No. 102/2015. In accordance with this Law, the objectives of ERE in exercising its regulatory functions are: a) Promoting the establishment of a competitive, safe, and environmentally sustainable internal market for all customers and suppliers; b) Ensuring the appropriate conditions for the safe and sustainable operation of natural gas networks, through close cooperation with the Energy Community and regulatory authorities of other countries.</p> <p>Based on the above, ERE considers cybersecurity in the power and natural gas sectors as a fundamental element for maintaining the security and integrity of the Albanian energy system.</p>

<i>It is amended and becomes</i>	in Articles 2, 3, 5 (paragraph 1, letter b), as well as in Articles 6, 6/1, 7, 8, and 10.	after the phrases electricity / power system / energy, the phrase “ <i>and natural gas</i> ” is added

<i>It is amended and becomes</i>	<i>in Articles 4, 5 (paragraph 1, letter a; paragraph 2), 6 (paragraph 1, letter d), 6/1 (paragraph 4), and 7.</i>	Throughout the Regulation, references to Law No. 2/2017 “On Cybersecurity” are replaced by Law No. 25/2024 “On Cybersecurity”.
<i>It is amended and becomes</i>	<i>In Articles 5 (paragraph 2, letter a), 6 (paragraph 1, letters a and b), and Annex 1.</i>	Throughout the Regulation, the reference to AKCESK is replaced with AKSK.

<i>It is amended and becomes</i>	Article 4, Point 6	Critical information infrastructure Operator is a legal person, public or private, that administers critical information infrastructure and operates in the power sector. TSO company, OSHEE company, KESH company, Kurum International company-SCADA system, Dragobia Energy-SCADA system, Prell Energy company-SCADA system, Power Elektrik Slabinje-SCADA system, Seka HydropowerSCADA system, Devoll Hydropower company- Servers, switches, firewalls, and Trans Adriatic Pipeline (TAP) - SCADA System
<i>It is added</i>	Article 4, Point 6.1	Important information infrastructures are legal persons, public or private, that administer important information infrastructure and operate in the power sector. These include: the Electricity Distribution Operator (OSHEE) with Data Center Primary, Data Center Disaster Recovery, Data Center Business Continuity, the grid between Data Center PR, DR and BC, as well as the network between the Data Center and the Command points; Vlora Thermal power plant with DCS System and Vlushe HPP with SCADA System.

<i>It is amended and becomes</i>	Article 4, Point 11	"AKSK" – is the National Authority for Cyber Security
<i>It is amended and becomes</i>	Article 5, paragraph 1	The Regulation on cybersecurity in critical and important infrastructures in the power and natural gas sectors is drafted based on Article 18 of Law No. 43/2015 “On Power Sector”, as amended, Article 15 of Law No. 102/2015 “On Natural Gas Sector”, Law No. 25/2024 “On Cybersecurity” and Council of Ministers Decision No. 553, dated 15.07.2020, “On approving the list of critical information infrastructures and the List of Important Information Infrastructures”, as amended.
<i>It is amended and becomes</i>	Article 6	Obligations of Operators of Critical Infrastructures and Important Information Infrastructures
<i>It is amended and becomes</i>	Article 6/1	Wherever in the Regulation, Critical Infrastructure Operators are referred to, the term changes and becomes Critical Infrastructure Operators and Important Information Infrastructures Operators

<i>It is amended and becomes</i>	Article 9	In case the licensee does not act in accordance with the plan of measures, sanctions shall be applied to it according to Article 107 of Law No. 43/2015 “On Power Sector”, Article 106 of Law No. 102/2015 “On Natural Gas Sector”, as well as the “Regulation on the Procedures of Imposing and Reducing the Fines” approved with ERE Board Decision
<i>It is amended and becomes</i>	Article 10	Critical Infrastructure Operators in the electricity and natural gas sectors shall be certified with the ISO 27001 security standard within 18 months from the entry into force of this regulation.
<i>It is added</i>	Article 10 paragraph 2	Critical Information Infrastructure Operators, including Kurum International company, Dragobia Energy, Prell Energy company, Power Elektrik Slabinje, Seka Hydropower, Devoll Hydropower company and Trans Adriatic Pipeline (TAP), are required to obtain certification according to the ISO 27001 security standard within 18 months from the entry into force of these amendments to the regulation.
<i>It is added</i>	Article 10 paragraph 3	Operators of Important Information Infrastructures, including the Electricity Distribution System Operator, Vlorë Thermal Power Plant and Vlushe HPP, are required to obtain certification according to the ISO 27001 security standard within 18 months from the entry into force of these amendments to the regulation.