

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(83) 210 final

Brussels, 11 April 1983

## COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION

on the methods of setting natural gas prices and tariffs  
in the Community

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(submitted to the Council by the Commission pursuant  
to the second paragraph of Article 149 of the EEC Treaty)

COM(83) 210 final

AMENDED  
PROPOSAL FOR A COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION

on the methods of setting natural gas prices and tariffs in the Community

TEXT PROPOSED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES<sup>1</sup>

TEXT AMENDED BY THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

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Preamble and recitals unchanged

HEREBY RECOMMENDS TO THE MEMBER STATES:

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(a) that they take appropriate steps, if they have not already done so, to ensure that the methods of setting natural gas prices and tariffs in the Community are based on the following common principles:

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Paragraphs 1 to 3 unchanged

4. The two-part tariff system, consisting of a fixed component to cover fixed costs, in particular the cost of permanent connection to the network, and a component which varies with the quantity of gas supplied, is the system which, of the various tariff options available, should be generally used.

4. The two-part tariff system, consisting of a fixed component to cover fixed costs, in particular the cost of permanent connection to the network, and a component which varies with the quantity of gas supplied, is the system which, of the various tariff options available, should be generally the basis for charges to domestic consumers and small consumers of gas for industrial purposes.

This should be the case, in particular, for categories of consumers which have homogeneous features from the point of view of use, the scale of consumption and the regularity of offtakes and to which tariffs based on these features would be applied.

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<sup>1</sup>OJ C 270, 14.10.1982, p. 11

TEXT PROPOSED BY THE COMMISSION OF  
THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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5. For the other categories of consumption subject to tariffs, provision should be made for two (or more) components which decrease as consumption rises, in order to take account of economies of scale in transport which arise as volume increases. The tariffs applied for a given location should also vary in relation to the off-take characteristics, such as the load factor, in order better to pass on the costs.

TEXT AMENDED BY THE  
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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5. For large consumers of gas, where fixed costs form a small part of total costs, a single tariff should normally apply, but provision should be made for two (or more) components which decrease as consumption rises, in order to take account of economies of scale in transport which arise as volume increases. The tariffs applied for a given location should also vary in relation to the off-take characteristics, such as the load factor, in order better to pass on the costs.

5a. In the case of non-tariff sales to large consumers (i.e. contract sales), prices should reflect cost and market conditions.

Remainder of proposal unchanged