

The European Commission said on Thursday it has asked Bulgaria to correctly implement the EU's electricity and gas directives, both part of the Third Energy Package.

"According to the Commission's assessment, Bulgaria has incorrectly transposed several unbundling requirements concerning the ownership unbundling model, the independent transmission operator unbundling model and the distribution system operator," the Commission said in a statement.

"Also, Bulgaria has not correctly transposed the rules on connection to the network by allowing the gas transmission system operator to refuse connection on the basis of lack of system capacity," it added.

The two directives contain provisions for a proper functioning of energy markets, including rules on unbundling of transmission system operators from energy suppliers and producers, on strengthening national regulators and on improved functioning of retail markets.

The Third Energy Package covers five main areas: unbundling energy suppliers from network operators, strengthening the independence of regulators, establishment of the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators, cross-border cooperation between transmission system operators and the creation of European Networks for Transmission System Operator increased transparency in retail markets to benefit consumers.

Bulgaria has two months to transpose the directives into its national legislation or the Commission may decide to refer the case to the Court of Justice of the EU.

Source: seenews