



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR EUROPEAN CIVIL PROTECTION AND HUMANITARIAN AID
OPERATIONS (ECHO)
Emergency Management and rescEU
Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC)

Brussels
ECHO.A.1/EK

Dear Sir, / Dear Madam,

The purpose of this letter is to invite clusters and companies specialised in producing specific energy items to assist Ukraine in its efforts to rebuild infrastructure destroyed during the war. To this end, it is important to explain the current workstreams that the European Commission agreed with the Energy Community Secretariat (ECS) to assist with donations from private companies.

The Energy Community is an international organisation which brings together the European Union and its neighbours to create an integrated pan-European energy market. The organisation was founded by the Treaty establishing the Energy Community signed in October 2005 in Athens, in force since July 2006. The key objective of the Energy Community is to extend the EU internal energy market rules and principles to countries in South East Europe, the Black Sea region and beyond on the basis of a legally binding framework. The European Union is a Party to the Energy Community Treaty. Represented by the European Commission, it serves as a permanent Vice-President of the organisation.

There are three workstreams undertaken by the Energy Community to support Ukraine.

First, the Energy Community has been providing technical help to the Ukrainian Ministry of Energy in establishing a list of specialised items that are needed to restore the Ukrainian electricity and gas systems. Second, it is working with private companies to help them prepare an offer with energy related items to Ukraine that could be provided through the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) with the support of the European Commission's Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC). Third, in close coordination with the European Commission, it has established a fund where Member States can donate money to purchase the highly specialised energy equipment and fuels for Ukraine.

These workstreams are described in more detail below.

Ukraine's list of specialised energy-related equipment. Since the beginning of the war, Ukraine has been sending lists of needs in the energy sector to the European Commission, EU Member States and companies. These lists included mostly equipment needed to repair the existing Ukrainian energy system that has been damaged or destroyed during the war. The quick delivery of these items is necessary to ensure access to natural gas, heat and electricity for the communities that are cut off, and repairs are urgently required. The Ministry of Energy of Ukraine requested the Energy Community

Secretariat to utilise its expertise and resources to work on streamlining this list (including in presenting the required items in a standardised manner). It has been agreed that this list would be regularly updated by the Ministry, and then circulated by the Energy Community Secretariat to the European Commission including the ERCC and the ‘Support Group for Ukraine’, to the Energy Community Contracting Parties and to selected energy sector companies and associations. Albeit coordinated by the Ministry, certain key energy infrastructure operator companies in Ukraine continue to send out lists of their own to European partners.

Once the European Commission receives the list of requested items, the list is sent to a contact person at every energy ministry in the EU, who then contact energy companies in their respective countries to look for offers of the specialised energy equipment. Member States then offer the donated items via the national Civil Protection Agencies through the UCPM. The direct contact between national energy ministries and civil protection authorities proved very important as many of them were not in contact with each other. The contact with the ministries ensures political support that helps to deliver goods to Ukraine more quickly and provides a channel of communication for general coordination of support to Ukraine.

Energy related donations from private companies. The European Commission and the Energy Community Secretariat have been contacted by a number of companies who wished to donate energy related goods to Ukraine. The European Commission agreed to run a pilot whereby specific in-kind offers from private companies in the energy sector are to be donated to Ukraine through the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM).

The Energy Community Secretariat acts as a first point of contact with private companies. It directly informs the energy sector companies and associations about the urgent needs list compiled by the Ministry, explains how the system works and helps them prepare a concrete list of offers. The offer is then submitted through the UCPM (via the ERCC by the Civil Protection authorities). The ERCC then verifies with Ukraine if the offer is accepted.

Upon a request from private companies, the ERCC can also organise the transport from the private company’s site to one of the functional UCPM logistical hubs on the EU-Ukrainian border in Poland, Slovakia and Romania, and support up to 100% of the transport costs. The ERCC informs the Energy Community Secretariat once the goods are picked up. The Energy Community Secretariat continues to act as a contact point for private companies for inquiries related to the delivery of goods. So far, over 15 deliveries of energy items have been successfully delivered to Ukraine under the framework of cooperation with the Energy Community, while many more are in the pipeline.

Ukraine Emergency Fund. Some Member States requested the European Commission to establish a fund where they could donate money for the purchase of specialised energy equipment. The Energy Community established such a fund, where the Energy Community acts as a fiduciary, accepting donations from Member States, other sovereign governments and international organisations to a special purpose bank account created for this purpose in Vienna, the seat of the Energy Community Secretariat. Donations from non-EU countries are also accepted.

The funds are made available to the Ministry of Energy of Ukraine for the payment of supplier invoices of equipment and fuel. Only governments and international organisations can provide donations to the fund; no private donations are envisaged. The

Commission informed all EU Energy Ministers that the Fund was created and Denmark was the first Member State to make a donation.

The European Commission is thankful to all the private sector donations received to date, and, in light of the incoming winter period, calls on the private sector and industry for a new impetus of donations to assist Ukraine.

Yours faithfully,

Antoine Lemasson
Head of Unit

Enclosure: Energy Community Brochures