Naftogaz files objections against Nord Stream 2 certification to German regulator

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Naftogaz files objections against Nord Stream 2 certification to German regulator

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NJSC Naftogaz Ukrainy has applied for participation in the certification process for the Nord Stream 2 operator, Head of the company's board Yuriy Vitrenko has said.

"Naftogaz Ukrainy, as a national company that leads the fight for the energy security of Ukraine, defends national interests, has applied for participation in the certification process of the Nord Stream 2 operator to the German regulator," he said at a press conference in Kyiv on Oct. 18.

Naftogaz requests leave to participate in Germany's certification of Nord Stream 2

18th October 2021

Media Statement: Naftogaz of Ukraine

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On Friday 15 October, Naftogaz filed a request with the German regulator, the Federal Network Agency ("BNetzA"), for leave to participate in the process for certifying the Nord Stream 2 pipeline.

As Ukraine's national oil and gas producer, as well as a major participant in European gas markets, gas importer, transit provider and marketer of natural gas, Naftogaz has a vested interest in a fair and transparent European gas market and therefore can contribute significantly to clarifying the facts of the case, particularly those related to the negative impact of certification on security of supply and competition in the European gas market.

"Our request for intervention is based on our assessment that the Nord Stream 2 project is in breach of EU law," said Yuriy Vitrenko, CEO of Naftogaz. "Nord Stream 2 is designed to increase Europe's reliance on Russian gas and weaken European energy security and competitive gas markets. German and European institutions now have to determine if Russia will be allowed to push its agenda to the detriment of European business and consumers, or will it be obligated to operate within the rule of law. The fight to stop Nord Stream 2 is far from being over."

Naftogaz will be transmitting the same concerns to the European Commission, which is preparing its own assessment of whether the pipeline complies with European Union gas market rules.

The German certification process began on 8 September 2021 following the acceptance of an application by Nord Stream 2 AG.

Under German law, BNetzA must make a draft decision within four months whether the pipeline should be certified and in the case of certification, which rules should apply, to be forwarded to the European Commission for its consideration.

Naftogaz's request has been made under Section 66 of Germany's Energy Industry Act and follows the application by the Polish state energy company Polskie Gòrnictwo Naftowe i Gazownictwo S.A. ("PGNiG") and its German subsidiary PGNiG Supply & Trading Gmbh. Both companies were granted leave to intervene on September 21st 2021.

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