



New changes to the energy law from 24 August 2024.

On 24 August 2024, an amendment to the Energy Law came into force, bringing in a number of significant changes affecting the operation of the energy market and the relationship between energy suppliers and consumers.

Among other things, the amended law introduces a new institution, the Citizens Energy Communities (CEAs), and imposes obligations on energy retailers to offer dynamic pricing contracts and to improve communication with customers.

Citizen's Energy Communities

One of the key elements of the amendment is the introduction of a new institution, the Citizen Energy Communities (PL: OSE)

OSE are **groups of people or entities that collectively produce, consume, store and sell energy**. They aim to strengthen the role of local communities in the energy sector by enabling electricity end-users to participate directly in the generation and sharing of electricity with other consumers.

OSE have legal capacity and their **activities are based on voluntary and open participation**.

Decision-making and control powers in the OSE are vested in members, shareholders or partners who are **exclusively natural persons, local government units, micro-entrepreneurs or small entrepreneurs**.

From 24 August 2024, any such community can be registered in a **special register kept by the President of the Energy Regulatory Authority**.

The registration aims to ensure transparency and oversight of the activities of these communities.

Amendments to contracts with end users

The amendment also introduces new obligations for electricity retailers.

Sellers can offer **dynamic price contracts, which allow energy prices to be adjusted to current market conditions**. In addition, sellers were obliged to publish offers for dynamic price contracts on their websites and to inform customers about the possibility of entering into such contracts.

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In contrast, an electricity retailer that sells electricity to at least **200,000 end-users** is from now on obliged to offer to sell electricity under a dynamic electricity price contract and to publish offers for a dynamic electricity price contract on its website.

Improving communication with customers

The amendment also aims **to improve communication between energy companies and their customers.**

New information obligations were introduced to ensure better transparency and availability of information for energy consumers. The amendment also introduced an obligation on the part of energy sellers to inform end consumers about savings in the competitive electricity market.

The changes undertaken are aimed at modernising the Polish energy market and increasing citizen participation in energy processes. The introduction of the OSE, new obligations for energy sellers and changes to contracts with end users are just some of the important elements of the amendment.

It is worth following these changes and adapting to the new requirements.

Contact

If you have any questions about the issues described in the alert, we encourage you to contact our experts.



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