

PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
Chamber of Deputies
Committee on Environment

Resolution No. 31

6th session on 30th March 2022

Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on methane emissions reduction in the energy sector and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/942, COM(2021) 805, Concil Code 15063/21

Conclusions of the Resolution:

Committee on Environment

1. **takes note of** the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on methane emissions reduction in the energy sector and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/942, COM(2021) 805, Concil Code 15063/21;
2. **supports** the position of the Government of the Czech Republic, which generally accepts the draft of the Directive, but has fundamental reservations to certain provisions;
3. **notes** that a number of entities operating in the energy sector in the Czech Republic are already working to detect and reduce methane emissions through both mandatory and voluntary programs;
4. **calls for** the regulation to be strictly limited to the scope explicitly mentioned in Article No 1. The specified scope must be strictly adapted to the content of all articles of the regulation in order to avoid an implicit interpretation that the regulation also applies to end-user facilities;
5. **proposes** to adjust the timetable for the implementation of emissions reporting obligations so that the operators concerned have sufficient time to prepare and implement the measures set out, including ensuring the necessary adjustment to IT systems or the purchase of equipment or services;
6. **considers** the proposed frequency of methane leakage checks in the oil and gas sector every three months to be inadequate, uniformly for all types and natures of equipment, without distinction of their pressure level, importance and, in particular, their technical condition (Article No 14). This would be a return to a preventive maintenance system that is outdated and highly inefficient. The frequency of methane leakage detection is determined by the operators on the basis of the technical condition of the property, the frequency of failures and a number of other monitored parameters. This allows inspections on equipment in poorer technical condition, which minimizes methane leaks;
7. **does not agree** with the obligation to install measuring equipment on all inactive wells. An electric sensor (s) and energy source would have to be installed in the well to measure

methane emissions, which increases the risk of explosion and endangers the safety of persons performing the measurement and maintenance of methane measuring equipment (Article No 19);

8. **points out** that practical experience with the operation of surface mines show that direct measurement of gas emissions from coal mining or processing is practically impossible due to changing atmospheric conditions and their result quantification is methodologically incomprehensible (Article No 20). The frequency of the mine operator's quarterly determination of emission factors is unrealistic from the operational point of view;
9. **considers** that mine gas should be included in the text of the regulation and that mitigation measures should be extended in the sense that, if its quality parameters allow, mine gas will be able to be used on site or placed on the market and will not be considered as emissions;
10. **came to the conclusion** that the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on methane emissions reduction in the energy sector and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/942 does not comply with the principle of subsidiarity, pursuant Art. 5 Par. 3 of the Treaty on European Union, and therefore **adopts a reasoned opinion** pursuant to the Article 6 of the Protocol No 2 on the application of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality annexed to the Treaties, for the following reasons:
 - European Commission did not present an impact assessment on individual Member States, that precludes considering all implications of both proposals by the national parliaments, especially those related to issues of subsidiarity;
 - the European Commission did not provide evidence that the measures referred to in Art. 14, 18 and 20 are achievable in adequate time and at adequate costs by the Member States, and did not prove the added value of the chosen measures at the European level;
11. **authorises** the Chairperson of the Committee on Environment to inform about this resolution the Chairman of the Committee on European Affairs.