

ANALYSIS OF THE GAS SUPPLY ENTERPRISES OF UKRAINE AND THE PATHWAYS TO DIVERSIFICATION

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The article analyses the features of the Ukrainian market of natural gas and the dependence of the industry on this type of resource.

The analysis concluded that Ukraine is among the countries that have rich and diverse minerals. However, our state has a gas deficit. Strengthening the energy security of Ukraine can be due by the gas production increasing, as well as a searching of diversified sources of gas supply. That's why the article discussed possible ways to diversify gas supply of Ukraine, which were divided into external and internal. In particular to the external factors were attributed direct and reverse supply of natural gas imports, as well as liquefied natural gas through the White Stream and tankers from the Middle East and Central Asia. Potential suppliers of natural gas to Ukraine could be also Canada and the USA. However, imports of liquefied natural gas requires developed infrastructure (regasification plant, gas storage, etc.).

In regard to internal sources, there are identified two areas – mining by the conven-

tional and unconventional ways. However, production of unconventional gas slows a number of unresolved problems hindering the implementation of already developed projects in industrial development.

So, there have to be thoroughly studied all possible ways to diversify gas supply because they have considerable positive aspects of their implementation. Moreover, all ways to diversify gas supplies to Ukraine are important not only for domestic consumption, but also for conversion strategy in the energy hub of Eastern and Central Europe. Especially it necessary to take into account the strong gas storages in western Ukraine, which are able to save 50 bln. m³ of gas. There is an interest of the European Union, whose members repeatedly expressed its readiness to participate in the modernization of Ukrainian gas mains and gas storage facilities. That's why in further studies would be addressed the ways to assess the effectiveness of gas supply, because most projects require large investments.