Government adjusts alert measures in energy sector

The Cabinet of Ministers has revised the measures imposed in the context of the alert state in the energy sector. They have been adjusted so as not to impose excessive constraints on the economy and port infrastructure, while maintaining an adequate level of energy security.

The main changes include:

Reducing the minimum gasoline stock threshold – the mandatory storage level in the Giurgiulești International Free Port (PILG) has been reduced from 8,000 tons to 5,000 tons.

In addition to a full tank, the sale of diesel fuel in consumer containers is now allowed only up to a maximum of 20 liters.

Partial liberalization of electricity exports – the export ban for the 06:00–09:00 time interval has been lifted, with restrictions maintained only for evening peak hours (17:00–21:00).

Stricter discipline on the electricity market – market participants who do not have contracts on the domestic market will no longer be remunerated for positive imbalances (unplanned surplus energy delivered).

The changes were adopted in response to a set of external factors and internal technical analyses:

Logistical efficiency: The analysis showed that the previous threshold of 8,000 tons of gasoline exceeded the historical operational needs of the Republic of Moldova (around 5,000 tons). Maintaining the old threshold was unnecessarily blocking storage capacity in the port, affecting regional trade flows.

Prevention of “panic buying”: Against the backdrop of tensions in the Middle East and rising international oil prices (Brent above 82 USD/barrel), there is a risk that purchases made by citizens to create excessive personal stocks could destabilize the market. The 20-liter limit for containers ensures fair access to fuel for all citizens and prevents the rapid depletion of stocks at filling stations. This limit applies only to containers, in addition to filling the vehicle’s tank.

Vulnerability of regional supply sources: Supply depends 99% on Romania and Bulgaria. Petromidia refinery in Romania has entered maintenance, and facilities in Bulgaria are affected by international sanctions, making it necessary to manage domestic reserves with extreme prudence.

Electric system capacity: Data provided by Energocom company show that local production and interconnection capacity are sufficient to cover morning consumption, thus allowing the resumption of exports during that interval without endangering national security.

The interventions are preventive and temporary, intended to stabilize the market and ensure the continuity of essential services for the population under conditions of regional uncertainty.