

## The Natural Gas Supply in Latvia



## **Transformation of the Natural Gas Sector**

The natural gas market in Latvia was opened on 3 April 2017. It was opened to business customers. On 31 December 2017, the ownership unbundling of the natural gas transmission and storage system operator was fully completed. At present transmission and storage in the natural gas market in Latvia is provided by JSC "Conexus Baltic Grid", but JSC "Latvijas Gāze" was divided into two companies — JSC "Gaso" started to provide distribution to Latvian end users, while JSC "Latvijas Gāze" continued to provide sales.

## The Natural Gas Market

This ensures absolutely free competition and allows the consumer to choose the most suitable service provider. Both the State and households, as well as companies, benefited from the opening of the natural gas market in Latvia. The country strongly promoted domestic business, improved the quality of the natural gas trading service and equalized the price of natural gas in the Baltic region.

Although on 1 January 2019 households gained the opportunity to participate in the natural gas market and change their trader, practically all natural gas users continue to receive the regulated tariff. In turn, companies gained the opportunity to choose the most suitable natural gas supplier in Latvia, as well as to purchase natural gas from a supplier outside Latvia.

At present, natural gas services in Latvia are used by approximately 450,000 customers, most of them use it for household stoves, but natural gas has many other uses.

A natural gas contract can be concluded by choosing a fixed price for a natural gas service or a price that depends on a price formula consisting of a fixed trader's mark-up and the *Gaspool* exchange



price. Also, new gas interconnections have already connected Finland with Estonia and will connect Lithuania with Poland.

Avots: elenger.lv "Conexus Baltic Grid", "Gaso"

## Detailed information on the natural gas supply in Latvia is available at:

AS "Conexus Baltic Grid"

AS "Gaso"

AS "Latvijas Gāze"

AS "Getbaltic"

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