



REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRISË
ENERGY REGULATORY AUTHORITY
BOARD
DECISION

No. 248, dated 3 September 2026

ON

THE APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO THE “REGULATION ON THE PROCEDURES AND CONDITIONS FOR THE ISSUANCE, AMENDMENT, TRANSFER OR TERMINATION OF LICENCES IN THE NATURAL GAS SECTOR”, APPROVED BY ERE BOARD DECISION NO. 97, DATED 4 JULY 2017

Pursuant to Article 16 of Law No. 59/2026 “*On the Power Sector*”; Articles 18, 22, 23 and 24 of Law No. 102/2015 “*On the Natural Gas Sector*”, as amended; Articles 15 and 26 of the *Regulation on ERE Organisation, Operation and Procedures*, approved by ERE Board Decision No. 96, dated 17 June 2016; and Article 19 of the *Regulation on the Procedures and Conditions for the Issuance, Amendment, Transfer, Renewal, Recognition and Termination of Licences in the Natural Gas Sector*, approved by ERE Board Decision No. 97, dated 4 July 2017, the ERE Board, at its meeting held on 3 September 2026, after reviewing Report No. 1527/1, dated 1 September 2026, prepared by the Technical Directorates, “*On the approval of amendments to the Regulation on the Procedures and Conditions for the Issuance, Amendment, Transfer, Renewal, Recognition and Termination of Licences in the Natural Gas Sector, approved by ERE Board Decision No. 97, dated 4 July 2017, and the approval of the Standard Licences for the operation of small-scale LNG/CNG facilities*”,

The ERE Board found that:

- By Board Decision No. 124, dated 6 May 2026, ERE initiated the procedure for the approval of amendments to the “Regulation on the Procedures and Conditions for the Issuance, Amendment, Transfer or Termination of Licences in the Natural Gas Sector”, approved by ERE Board Decision No. 97, dated 4 July 2017.
- Point 1 of the operative part of ERE Board Decision No. 124, dated 6 May 2026, referred to the “Regulation on the Procedures and Conditions for the Issuance, Amendment, Transfer, Renewal, Recognition and Termination of Licences in the Natural Gas Sector”, whereas ERE Board Decision No. 97, dated 4 July 2017, approved the “Regulation on the Procedures and Conditions for the Issuance, Amendment, Transfer or Termination of Licences in the Natural Gas Sector”, which is also the Regulation subject to the procedure initiated by Decision No. 124/2026. Consequently, in the further process for the approval of additions and amendments to this Regulation, reference to its title, including in point 1 of this Decision, shall be made using the title approved by ERE Board Decision No. 97, dated 4 July 2017.
- For the purposes of the Board’s decision-making, the approval of the Standard Licences for the operation of small-scale LNG and CNG facilities shall be addressed separately from the approval of the additions and amendments to the Licensing Regulation, since these licences constitute specific regulatory acts with distinct content and legal effects. Consequently, the subject matter of this Decision is limited to the approval of the additions and amendments to the Regulation, while

the Standard Licences shall be reviewed and approved by separate ERE Board decisions.

- The proposed amendments aim to update the licensing regulatory framework in line with the amendments to Law No. 102/2015 “On the Natural Gas Sector”, as amended, including the introduction of activities relating to the operation of small-scale LNG and CNG facilities.
- The initiation of the procedure was considered necessary in order to reflect in the regulatory framework the amendments introduced by Law No. 81/2021 “On Some Additions and Amendments to Law No. 102/2015 ‘On the Natural Gas Sector’, as amended”, through which new categories of activities subject to licensing by ERE were introduced, including activities relating to the operation of small-scale LNG and CNG facilities.
- The proposed amendments to the Regulation include the addition of new categories of licensed activities relating to the operation of small-scale LNG and CNG facilities; the specification of the technical, environmental, financial and administrative documentation to be submitted for these activities; the relevant licensing time limits and procedure; and the determination of the duration of the respective licences.
- The other amendments consist of supplementing and clarifying the definitions used in the Regulation; reviewing certain general requirements relating to application documentation, including documentation concerning criminal records and financial and fiscal guarantees; supplementing the provisions governing the conditional granting of a licence; specifying the time limit and manner for verifying compliance with the imposed conditions; specifying the cases in which a licence may be refused; and supplementing the data contained in the Licensing Register and the manner in which it is updated.
- Furthermore, Annex A to the Regulation proposes the inclusion of registration and application processing fees for the new licensing categories, determined in accordance with the fee model currently applicable to the other licensable activities provided for in the Regulation. Overall, the proposed amendments aim not only to reflect in the Regulation the new licensable activities provided for in Law No. 102/2015 “On the Natural Gas Sector”, as amended, but also to supplement and clarify certain procedural aspects of the licensing process. As part of the public consultation procedure, the draft amendments to the Regulation were published on ERE’s official website on 2 June 2026. In order to correct material errors identified in the published text, a corrected version of the draft act was published on ERE’s official website on 3 July 2026.
- By official letter No. 1680, dated 25 May 2026, ERE notified the interested parties of the initiation of the procedure approved by Decision No. 124, dated 6 May 2026, namely: the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy (MIE); the Combined Natural Gas Operator “ALBGAZ” sh.a.; the State Technical and Industrial Inspectorate (ISHTI); the Ministry of Finance (MF); the Competition Authority (AK); “Albpetrol” sh.a.; and the Independent Natural Gas Transmission System Operator (TAP AG), providing them with the opportunity to submit their opinions and comments on the proposed amendments to the Regulation.
- ERE also published a notice in two newspapers with nationwide circulation, namely “Tema” and “Panorama”, on 8 July 2026 and 9 July 2026, respectively.
- At the conclusion of the consultation process, it was found that “SOCAR Gas Albania”, by e-mail dated 12 June 2026, had submitted comments and suggestions concerning the draft acts published for consultation. With regard to the proposed amendments to the Regulation subject to this procedure, the company’s comments concerned two issues: (i) the establishment of a quantitative threshold or range for the term “small quantities”, used in the definition of “Small-Scale Facility”; and (ii) the use of the term “distribution”.
- With regard to the comment concerning the establishment of a quantitative threshold or range for the term “small quantities”, ERE considered that the definition of “small-scale facility” is set out in Article 4, point 17/1, of Law No. 102/2015 “On the Natural Gas Sector”, as amended, which does not establish a specific quantitative threshold or range. Consequently, it was considered

appropriate to retain the statutory definition without establishing in the regulatory act a quantitative limit that is not provided for by law.

- With regard to the comment concerning the use of the term “distribution” and the suggestion to use the terms “delivery” or “supply”, ERE considered that the designation and definition of the activities provided for in the Regulation should be consistent with the terminology and concepts established in Law No. 102/2015 “On the Natural Gas Sector”, as amended. For this reason, it was considered appropriate to retain the term “distribution”, as it forms part of the definition established by law, whereas “supply” constitutes a separate licensable activity. Consequently, this comment is not reflected in the amendments to the Regulation approved by this Decision.
- The review of the comments submitted by “SOCAR Gas Albania” concerning the Regulation subject to this procedure shows that they are mainly clarificatory in nature, relating to the meaning of the terms and the scope of the licensed activities, and do not raise objections to the purpose, content or effects of the proposed amendments to the Regulation.
- The proposed amendments to the Regulation ensure that the licensing regulatory framework is updated in line with the amendments to Law No. 102/2015 “On the Natural Gas Sector”, as amended, by reflecting the categories of licensable activities provided for by that Law, as well as the relevant documentation, time limits and licensing procedures.

DECIDES:

1. To approve the additions and amendments to the “Regulation on the Procedures and Conditions for the Issuance, Amendment, Transfer or Termination of Licences in the Natural Gas Sector”, approved by ERE Board Decision No. 97, dated 4 July 2017, as set out in the amendments attached to this Decision.
2. The Natural Gas Regulation Directorate shall notify the interested parties of this ERE Board Decision.

This Decision shall enter into force immediately.

Any party involved in this procedure may request ERE to review this ERE Board Decision within 7 (seven) calendar days from the date of receipt of the Decision, if it has obtained new evidence that may lead the Board to reach a decision different from the previous one or if material errors have been identified. An appeal against this Decision may be lodged with the Administrative Court of Tirana within 45 (forty-five) calendar days from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

This Decision shall be published in the Official Gazette.

ERE CHAIRMAN
Petrit AHMETI

Additions and amendments to the “Regulation on the procedures and conditions for the issuance, amendment, transfer or termination of licenses in the natural gas sector”, (approved with ERE Board Decision No. 248, dated 03 September 2026)

Article 1 shall be read: *This Regulation is drafted implementing Articles 22, 23 and 24 of Law No. 102/2015, “On the Natural Gas Sector”, as amended, as well as implementing the “Regulation on ERE Organization, Operation and Procedures”, approved with ERE Board Decision No. 96, dated 17 June 2016, as amended.*

Article 2 shall be read: *This regulation defines the procedures and conditions for issuance, amendment, transfer, or termination of licenses in natural gas regulated activities according to the definitions of Law No. 102/2015 "On the Natural Gas Sector", as amended, as well as defines ERE's authority to review the applications, the issuance of conditional licences and the set of the respective payments for each application.*

Article 3 are added the definitions as follows:

“Liquefied Natural Gas” (LNG) *means natural gas consisting primarily of methane (CH₄), which is converted into liquid at 1 atmosphere (atm) pressure and a temperature of minus 161 degrees Celsius.*

“Compressed Natural Gas” (CNG) *means methane gas CH₄, which is compressed to approximately 200 atmospheres (atm).*

“Small scale plant” *means the facility used for the production / storage, transportation and / or distribution of small quantities of LNG and / or CNG.*

“The terms used on this regulation, shall have the same meaning as those referred on Law No. 102/2015 "On Natural Gas Sector", as amended.

Article 4 point 1 are added letters:

- ë. *Operation in small – scale LNG plants;*
- f. *Operation in small – scale CNG plants.*

Article 5 shall be read: *Duration of Licence Validity issued according to this Regulation for transmission, distribution, storage and LNG activities from ERE in conformity with Article 4 of this Regulation shall be for a 30 year period, with the right to be renewed. The duration of licence validity for the supply, trading, operation in natural gas spaces, operation of natural gas market operator, operation of small-scale LNG and/or CNG activities shall be for a 10 year period, with the right to be renewed.*

Article 8, (6), letter “a”, is amended to read: *An original copy or certified true copy according to the legislation in force.*

Article 9 shall be read as follows:

Point 1 letter a) are added the activities: *Operation in small-scale LNG plants; Operation in small-scale CNG plants and the notes are made on the table as follows:*

Type of the plant	small scale LNG ☐	production	☐
		storage	☐
		transport	☐
		regasification	☐
		distribution	☐
	small scale CNG ☐	production , compensation	☐
		storage	☐
		transport	☐
		distribution	☐

Article 9 (1) letter d) point (ii) and (iii) are amended to read:

- (ii) *Certification of legal status (evidence of criminal record from General Directorate of Prisons) certifying that for the legal person and the administrator / administrators of the trading undertaking, there is not a final decision for any penal act*
- (iii) *In case of foreign citizenship undertakings, shall be submitted the certificate of judicial status of the country of residence, which shall be translated and apostile stamped.*

Article 9 (2) letter e, Documentation and the Financial, Fiscal Guarantees; is amended to read and point (iv) shall be read:

Except of this obligation the persons that apply for licensing in CNG activity (article 4.1.ë) and the case of LNG activity (article 4.1.f),

Article 9 (2) after letter f) it is added; letter g) “Market operation license”

Article 9 (2) after letter g) it is added; letter gj);

gj. Licence for the operation of small-scale LNG facilities

The applicant for a Licence for the Operation of Small-Scale LNG Facilities shall submit Information containing general and technical project data, including the following:

- i. *approval from the relevant environmental management and protection authorities (EIA,*

Environmental Declaration, Permit) for the conduct of the activity in accordance with the

- legislation in force on environmental impact assessment;
- ii. the detailed technical project, prepared by a licensed design company, containing data on the facility, the location of the installations, location maps, Piping and Instrumentation Diagrams (P&ID), technical specifications of the main equipment (cryogenic LNG storage tanks), as well as operational capacities;
- iii. A preliminary agreement for the evidence of the authorised natural gas supply source through bilateral transactions on a short-term basis, but for not less than 1 (one) month;
- iv. certification from State Technical and Industrial Inspectorate (ISHTI) regarding the inspection of all equipment certifying the technical safety and compliance of the equipment;
- v. an operational document containing the facility operation manual, maintenance procedures, the safety management system and industrial safety policies;
- vi. documentation proving the right to use the equipment;
- vii. evidence of staff qualifications;
- viii. any other permit required under the legislation in force on the transport of dangerous goods.

Article 9 (2) after letter gj) it is added; letter h);

h. Licence for the operation of small-scale CNG facilities

The applicant for a licence for the operation of CNG facilities shall submit specific information/documentation as follows:

- i. approval from the relevant environmental management and protection authorities (EIA, Environmental Declaration, Permit) for carrying out the activity in accordance with the legislation in force on environmental impact assessment;
- ii. the detailed technical project, drafted by a licensed design company, containing data on the facility, the location of the installations, location maps, data on compression systems, and the layout of filling stations (if applicable);
- iii. authorization of the gas supply source through bilateral transactions on a short-term basis, but for not less than 1 (one) month;
- iv. evidence of authorised storage facilities and specialised means of transport (trucks or vessels);
- v. certification from State Technical and Industrial Inspectorate (ISHTI) regarding the inspection of all equipment for the purposes of safety and technical compliance; (If, at the moment of application this document may not be submitted due to the plant is on construction or installation stage, ERE assesses the compliance of this request in conformity with the provisions of this Regulation for conditional grant of the license.);
- vi. an operational document containing the facility operation manual, maintenance procedures, the safety management system and industrial safety policies;
- vii. documentation proving the right to use the property; and necessary equipments for exercising the activity.
- viii. evidence of staff qualifications.

On Article 12 after point 5 are added, points 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12:

6. ERE may issue a conditional licensing decision where it determines that any of the outstanding conditions is not essential for immediate conduct of the activity and the applicant undertakes to complete it within a certain period.

7. *The period for fulfilling the condition may not exceed 12 (twelve) months from the date of entry into force of the conditional license, according to Article 24, point 2 of Law No. 102/2015.*
8. *ERE decision to issue the conditional licence specifies:*
 - a) *the unfulfilled condition and the reason why it is considered non-essential;*
 - b) *the exact deadline for fulfilling the condition;*
 - c) *the documentation or evidence that the licensee shall submit to verify compliance;*
 - d) *the legal consequences if the condition is not met within the deadlines.*
9. *The conditional licensee shall submit to ERE evidence of compliance with the condition no later than 30 (thirty) days before the expiration of the specified deadline.*
10. *If the condition is met within the deadline, ERE issues the full licence without conditions, revoking the conditional licence decision.*
11. *If the condition is not met within the deadline, ERE reviews the conditional licensing decision in conformity with the conditions and decides in conformity with the conditions and consequences set out on this decision.*
12. *ERE refuses to issue the licence in the following cases, according to Article 26 of Law No. 102/2015. On ERE decision for refusal are justified the reasons according to paragraph 1 of this Article.*

Article 17 point 4, is amended to read:

4. *The Licensing Register shall be kept by the responsible structure for licensing at ERE and shall be updated after each meeting of the ERE Board and shall be published on ERE official website. The Register shall contain these data;*
 - a. Name of the Licensee;
 - b. Unique Identification Number of the Undertaking and premises;
 - c. Number and series of the Licence;
 - d. Licensed activity;
 - e. Service area;
 - f. Number and date of ERE Board Decision;
 - g. Date for the commencement and termination of the validity of the licence;
 - h. Current status of the licence;
 - i. ERE Board Decision number and date for the licence amendment, transferring or termination;
 - j. Conditional licensing decisions.

On Annex A it is added the table as follows:

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ANNEX A
APPLICATION REGISTRATION AND PROCESSING FEES

ACTIVITY	Licensing	Amendment	Renewal	Licence/asset Transferring
Operation in small – scale LNG Plants	1 000 000 ALL	100 000 ALL	100 000 ALL	100 000 ALL
Operation in small – scale CNG Plants	1 000 000 ALL	100 000 ALL	100 000 ALL	100 000 ALL

Note:

- a) The applicant, at the time of submitting the application, must have executed the payment according to the provisions of this Annex. The application payment is non-refundable and can be made directly to the bank account with the following details, or after issuing an electronic invoice from the ERE finance structure, at the request of the applicant himself:

Bank transfer charges (both at sending and receiving banks) shall be paid by the applicant.

- b) The applicant, at the moment of submitting the application, attaches the Declaration as follows:

I DECLARE THAT:

- No licence previously granted to the applicant for activities in the natural gas sector, either in Albania or abroad, has been revoked or refused.

(If to the applicant it is removed or refused before a license, shall inform the reasons and respective decision)

- I am informed with the the applicable legal and regulatory framework and I am engaged for its implementation, as well as the regulations and rules approved by ERE for natural gas sector operation.
- The documents and data submitted for the purpose of this application are real and I am aware that, in case of declaring false data or submitting forged documents or false data, I am subject to the measures provided in the Criminal Code and other effective legal and by-legal acts.
- I undertake to appear before ERE premises if needed for any hearing session regarding this application.

- I have executed the application fee has been paid, according to the definitions of the regulation, on date __._____._____, at ____ Bank.

I declare the other business activities that I carry out in Albania or abroad, as well as, where applicable, their relationship with the activity subject to this licence application.

For the applicant

(Name, surname, signature)



REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRISË
ENERGY REGULATORY AUTHORITY

Approved with ERE Board Decision No. 97, Dated 04 July 2017, amended with ERE Board Decision No. 248, Dated 03 September 2026¹

**REGULATION ON THE PROCEDURES AND CONDITIONS FOR THE ISSUANCE,
AMENDMENT, TRANSFER, OR TERMINATION OF LICENSES IN NATURAL GAS
SECTOR**

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CHAPTER I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

Authority

This Regulation is drafted implementing Articles 22, 23 and 24 of Law No. 102/2015, “On the Natural Gas Sector”, as amended, as well as implementing the “Regulation on ERE Organization, Operation and Procedures”, approved with ERE Board Decision No. 96, dated 17 June 2016, as amended.

Article 2

Scope of the Regulation

This regulation defines the procedures and conditions for issuance, amendment, transfer, or termination of licenses in natural gas regulated activities according to the definitions of Law No. 102/2015 "On the Natural Gas Sector", as amended, as well as defines ERE's authority to review the applications, the issuance of conditional licences and the set of the respective payments for each application.

Article 3

Definitions

The definitions of the terms are defined in;

- (i) Law No. 102/2015, "On the Natural Gas Sector"
- (ii) Law No. 43/2015 "On the Power Sector"
- (iii) Rules on ERE organization and operation, are included in this document for all the purposes. In these rules the following terms shall have these meanings:

"Applicant" means any Person that applies for a proceeding for the procedures under this Regulation.

"Application" means the documents submission for one of the procedures provided on this regulation as explained in articles 8 and 9 of the Regulation.

"ERE Board" or **"the Board"** shall mean ERE decision-making body, composed of five members appointed according to the procedures provided in Law No. 43/2015 "On the Power Sector" and Law no. 102/2015 "On the Natural Gas Sector".

"ERE" shall mean Energy Regulator Authority acting in conformity with Law no.43/2015 "On the Power Sector" and Law no. 102/2015 "On the Natural Gas Sector".

"Performance Guarantee" shall mean a commitment by parent company of the Applicant or the Licensee to ensure the fulfillment in a honest and reliable way from this Applicant or Licensee for all terms and conditions of the License. In case when there is not a parent company any owner that owns 5% or more of the shares or of its capital in this Application/Licence shall issue such Performance Guarantee.

"Financial Guarantee" means a guarantee from a bank or other responsible Persons, acceptable by ERE, to cover and ensure the fulfillment in a honest and reliable way of the financial obligations of the Applicant or the Licensee, where applicable, according to the terms and conditions of the License.

"Natural gas" is methane gas, including associated gas, as well as all hydrocarbons that are gaseous at normal atmospheric conditions, which include LNG, biogas or other types of gas transmitted and distributed in the piping system.

"License" means a right given by ERE to perform an activity in conformity with Law no. 102/2015 "On the Natural Gas Sector".

"Licensee" shall mean a Person that holds a Licence issued by ERE to perform the activities in natural gas sector, in conformity with the provisions of Law 102/2015 "On Natural Gas Sector".

"TSO" shall mean Transmission System Operator for Gas.

"DSO" shall mean Distribution System Operator for Gas

"Person" shall mean any legal person.

“Official Representative” shall mean the Person appointed by the governing bodies of the legal person authorized according to the Legislation in force, to represent the Applicant or Licensee for all the purposes as defined in this Regulation.

“System” shall mean any transmission, distribution grid, LNG plant or storage space in the ownership or for use/operation by a Licensee, including “line pack” together with the installations and its operations that ensure the ancillary services as well as those necessary to enable the entry in the transmission, distribution grids and LNG plants.

“Regulation” shall mean this document entitled the "Rules and conditions for licence issue, modification, transferring and licence removal in natural gas sector

“Application Tariff ” means the respective payment, set by ERE Board in conformity with article 14 of Law No. 102/2015 “On the Natural Gas Sector”, that any Person or Licensee shall perform to ERE in conformity with this Regulation for handling the request submitted for Licensing, modification, or Licence transferring.

“Liquefied Natural Gas”(LNG) means natural gas consisting primarily of methane (CH₄), which is converted into liquid at 1 atmosphere (atm) pressure and a temperature of minus 161 degrees Celsius.

“Compressed Natural Gas” (CNG) means methane gas CH₄, which is compressed to approximately 200 atmospheres (atm).

“Small scale plant” means the facility used for the production / storage, transportation and / or distribution of small quantities of LNG and / or CNG.

“The terms used on this regulation, shall have the same meaning as those referred on Law no. 102/2015 "On the Natural Gas Sector", as amended.

Article 4

Licensed Activities

1. ERE may issue Licenses for the activities defined from Law No.102/2015, "On the Natural Gas Sector " as follows:

- a. Natural gas transmission;
- b. Natural gas distribution;
- c. Natural gas supply (retail sale);
- ç. Natural gas trading (wholesale sale)
- d. Storage space operation for natural gas;
- dh. LNG plants operation;
- e. Market operator functioning for natural gas;
- ë. Operation in small – scale LNG plants;***
- f. Operation in small – scale CNG plants.***

2. Performing any above mentioned activity requires a special License.

3. The Licenses shall be issued by ERE in conformity with this Regulation case by case and shall be supported on the respective model Licenses approved by ERE.

Article 5

Duration of Licence Validity

Duration of Licence Validity issued according to this Regulation for transmission, distribution, storage and LNG activities from ERE in conformity with Article 4 of this Regulation shall be for a 30 year period, with the right to be renewed. The duration of licence validity for the supply, trading, operation in natural gas spaces, operation of natural gas market operator, operation of small-scale LNG and/or CNG activities shall be for a 10 year period, with the right to be renewed.

CHAPTER II

LICENCE APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Article 6

The Right to Apply for a Licence

It has the right to apply for a licence issued by ERE any person located in Albania and the object of the activity required for licensing. Any foreign person shall set up a company under the legislation in force, with object the activity required for licensing by ERE for the whole period of licence validity.

Article 7

Applicant Representative

1. The Official Representative shall represent the Applicant before ERE for any case that has to do with the Application or the Licence that may be issued.
2. The Official Representative shall submit at ERE the authorization, company decision or any other document signed or approved by the Applicant to appoint the Official Representative as its delegate.
3. The Official Representative shall submit at ERE the company decision or any other document regularly approved by the Applicant authorizing this representative to submit according to the case the request for License, its modification or transferring.
4. The Official Representative shall:
 - a. submit the Application for Licence together with the documentation required according to articles 8, 9 and 10 of this Regulation.
 - b. submit additional data and information required by ERE during the process of reviewing the Application for License.
 - c. represent the Applicant in all cases that has to do with the Application.
 - d. represent the Licensee in all cases that has to do with any Licence issued following the Application within the limits of the competences given in the authorization submitted at ERE.

The Applicant or the Licensee whoever it is may change their official Representative by immediately submitting a written notification at ERE for this change accompanied with the authorization of the company decision-making bodies for this purpose.

Article 8

Submitting an Application for Licence

1. The application consists in the Application form and documentation defined in article 9 of this Regulation, completed correctly by the Applicant.
2. The applicant shall pay at ERE the effective Application Tariff at the time when it is submitted the Application.
3. The documentation submitted by the Applicant shall be the original one and in the Albanian language and if copied or translated from the original the copied or translated documents shall be notarized.
4. The certifications and declarations supporting the Application shall be issued not earlier than 1 month from the date of submitting the Application.
5. The applicant shall ensure that all technical documentation submitted together with its Application is prepared and signed from professional experts licensed in the respective area. ERE may require that these experts to certify their expertise.
5. Any Application accompanied with the respective documentation shall be submitted in two copies;
 - e. **An original copy or certified true copy according to the legislation in force.**
 - f. A printed photocopy and an electronic form of all documentation as defined in this Regulation.

Article 9

The Form and Documentation for Application

1. The Application Form (shall be completed by the Applicant)

An application for Licence shall be composed of:

a. Type of Application

1	Type of Application	☐ Licensing ☐ Transferring ☐ Change	
2	Type of licence	☐ Natural gas transmission ☐ Natural gas distribution ☐ Natural gas supply (retail sale) ☐ Natural gas trading (wholesale sale) ☐ Operation of natural gas storage facilities ☐ Operation of LNG plants ☐ small-scale LNG	Production ☐ Storage ☐ Transport ☐ regasification distribution ☐
		☐ small-scale CNG	Production compensation ☐ Storage ☐ Transport ☐ Distribution ☐

(Note: Put X in the respective box)

b. In General information for the Applicant (to be completed by the Applicant)

	Name of the Applicant	
--	-----------------------	--

1	Registration number at the National Business Registration Center		
2	Headquarters of the Company	Address	
		Mobile phone	
		Phone / Fax	
		E-mail	
3	Official Representative	Name	
		Function he holds in the company	
		Mobile phone	
		Phone/ Fax	
		E-mail	

c. Data on the Applicant (to be completed by the Applicant)

1	<u>I, the Applicant declare that:</u> (a). To the applicant it is never removed any licence granted for natural gas activity or (b). To the applicant it is never refused any Application for natural gas license. <u>in Albania or other countries</u> <u>if the response for any of the (1.a) or (1.b) questions is NO the Applicant shall attach a full explanation.</u>	Yes ☐	No ☐
2	I, t h e Official Representative, declare on the name of the Applicant that he is informed of the legal and regulatory framework in force for natural gas sector and submit the Applicant commitment for correct implementation of them.	Yes ☐	No ☐
3	Is the Applicant engaged in any other trading activity in Albania or in any other country? <u>if the response of question 3 is YES then the Applicant shall attach additional explanations.</u>	Yes ☐	No ☐

d. Legal, Administrative and Ownership Documentation

i) Registration act at National Business Registration Center and the statute and foundation act of the trading company.

ii) Certification of legal status (evidence of criminal record from General Directorate of Prisons) certifying that for the legal person and the administrator / administrators of the trading undertaking, there is not a final decision for any penal act

iii) In case of foreign citizenship undertakings, shall be submitted the certificate of judicial status of the country of residence, which shall be translated and apostile stamped.

iv) The organization chart and administrative operation of the company. Staff list according to the profile (in conformity with the activity for which it is required the License).

- v) Except the application for supply licence (article 4.1.c), trading licence (article 4.1.ç), and market operation agreement and the permissions approved by the Council of Ministers. The identity of all Persons that have ownership interest to the Applicant is bigger and equal with 5%.
 - vi) Document that shows the titles or ownership on the assets that it has, that has dedicated or subcontracted/rent or that are reasonably expected to be acquired by or for the Applicant to perform the functions or fulfill the obligations under the required License. Permissions and environmental authorizations according to the case for the activities which exercise shall be performed with the respective assets.
 - e. Documentation and the Financial, Fiscal Guarantees;
 - i) The declarations issued from the respective authorities to pay fiscal and social security liabilities in the measure that such obligations are fulfilled by the Applicant.
 - ii) Financial statements audited by an accredited auditing company, for each of the last three years preceding the submission of the Application.
 - iii) Appropriate Financial Guarantee [not applicable for the supply (article 4.1.c) and trading (article 4.1.ç)] and Performance Guarantee that ensure the Applicant ability to fulfill its obligations under the required License, including but not being limited, to the final full/partial removal of the equipments and/or infrastructure and environment rehabilitation as well as managerial, operational and financial support, from the Applicant owners.
 - iv) Except of the supply case (article 4.1.c), the trading case (article 4.1.ç), the case of CNG (article 4.1.ë) and the case of LNG activity (article 4.1.f), the insurance certificate from the insurance undertaking (that operate in conformity with the applicable legislation in Albania) that evidences the cover of the responsibility for the injury damages, illnesses or in case of death of the Persons or the loss or destroy of property or that have resulted from the Application in the framework of the required Licence in a responsibility level not smaller than 10 milion USD. This security policy or policies shall be and remain applicable with fully effect for the entire duration of the required License. **There are exempted from this obligation even the persons that apply for licence to perform LNG activity (Article 4.1.ë) and CNG activity (Article 4.1.f).**
 - v) Certify of executing the payment to ERE the Application Tariff in force at the moment of submitting the Application
 - vi) A business plan which includes an analysis of the costs and the benefits including the costs for final removal of the equipments and environment rehabilitation with the conclusion of the operations.
 - vii) If the Applicant aims to use a managing company for its daily operations he shall inform ERE for this purpose and issue a Performance Guarantee to honestly and in a reliable way perform the actions from this managing company.
- ## 2 Specific Document for the Type of License.
- According to the type of License, the Applicant shall submit at ERE the following documents;
- a. Natural Gas Transmission License;
 - a.1 The company that applies for a natural gas transmission license, shall be primarily certified according to the procedure defined in article 37 of Law 102/2015 “On the Natural Gas Sector”
 - a.2 Information with general and technical data for the project including as follows:
 - i. Location of the installations and the pipeline track including the Topographic map for the territory where it shall perform its activity.
 - ii. Maximum technical capacity contracted and available in all off take points of the system and in take points from the System and its interconnections with the other

- Transmission and Distribution grids, storage and generation plants and LNG terminals.
- iii. Projected daily volumes to be processed according to Applicant estimations.
- iv. Technical standards, projected maximum pressures, compression requirements and other technical characteristics of the machineries and technical equipments that shall be installed.
- v. Projected work pressures supported on the estimations of the Applicant.
- vi. The categories and customer list as well as provided deliveries
- vii. Location of the meters and specifications.
- viii. Location of gas quality control.
- ix. Certification of the contracts /commitments for gas transport.
- x. The expected requirements for the entry from the third parties and any requirement for the exclusion from the third party entry right, as any decision issued before for the exclusion from the obligation of issuing the entry right in the new infrastructures according to Law no. 102/2015 "On the Natural Gas Sector",
- xi. Cross-border connections and the operation parameters with the neighboring countries.
- xii. Operational balancing agreements.
- xiii. The aimed resource and the procedure for natural gas procurement necessary for Transmission System Balancing.
- xiv. Ability to move in the opposite direction.
- xv. Applicant Jobs for the (a) proposed technical solution (b) assessment of the environmental impact (c) assessment of the cost (d) economical provisions including the financial ways that justify the business plan for the natural gas transmission project prepared by a specialized engineering company.
- xvi. The working program to implement the project and the expected lifetime of the project.
- xvii. Annual investment plans to improve, expand or other modifications of the Transmission System for a period not less than 5 years from the effective date of the Licence in conformity with the legislation in force.
- xviii. The foreseen maintenance program of the Transmission System.

b. Licence for Natural Gas Distribution:

Information with general and technical data for the project as follows:

- i. Location of the installations and the pipeline track including the Topographic map.
- ii. Geographical Area covered by the Application.
- iii. Maximum technical capacity contracted and available in all off take of the System and in take points from the System and its interconnections with the other Transmission and Distribution grids, storage and generation plants and LNG terminals.
- iv. Projected daily volumes to be processed according to Applicant estimations.
- v. Technical standards, projected maximum pressures, compression requirements and other technical characteristics of the machineries and technical equipments that shall be installed.
- vi. Projected work pressures supported on the Applicant estimation
- vii. Customer categories and the projected deliveries.
- viii. Location of the meters and the specifications.
- ix. Aromatization plans including locations

- x. Certification of the contracts /commitments.
- xi. The expected requirements for the entry from the third parties and any requirement for the exclusion from right of third party entry, as any decision issued before for the exclusion from the obligation of issuing the entry right in the new infrastructures according to Law no. 102/2015 "On Natural Gas Sector",
- xii. Cross-border connections and the operation parameters of neighbouring DSO-s if appropriate.
- xiii. Ability to move in the opposite direction if suitable.
- xiv. Applicant Jobs for the (a) proposed technical solution (b) assessment of the environmental impact (c) assessment of the cost (d) economical provisions including the financial ways that justify the business plan for the natural gas transmission project prepared by a specialized engineering company.
- xv. The working program to implement the project and the expected lifetime of the project.
- xvi. Annual investment plans to improve, expand or other modifications of the Distribution System for a period not less than 5 years from the effective date of the Licence in conformity with the legislation in force.
- xvii. The foreseen maintenance program of the Distribution System.
- xviii. Average quantity of natural gas provided to be distributed during one year supported in a typical monthly program.

c. Licence for the Operation of the Liquidified Natural Gas (LNG) Plants;
Information regarding general and technical data for the project including as follows:

- i. Type of re-gasification plant
- ii. The maps and drawings showing the ground and sea location of the installations even the connection point (points) with the ground pipelines of the transmission including the storage spaces connected with LNG operations.
- iii. Technical maximum capacity, contracted and available in the off take point from/for the terminal.
- iv. Projected daily volumes to be processed according to the Applicant estimations.
- v. Technical standards, projected maximum pressures, compression requirements and other technical characteristics of the machineries and technical equipments that shall be installed.
- vi. Projected work pressures supported on the Applicant estimations.
- vii. Targeted supply programs and the size of LNG tankers.
- viii. Size of the storage tanks.
- ix. Supply resources.
- x. The categories and the list of expected customers as well as projected deliveries.
- xi. The expected requirements for the entry from the third parties and any requirement for the exclusion from right of third party entry, as any decision issued before for the exclusion from the obligation of issuing the entry right in the new infrastructures according to Law no. 102/2015 "On Natural Gas Sector"
- xii. Applicant Jobs for the (a) proposed technical solution (b) assessment of the environmental impact (c) assessment of the cost (d) economical provisions including the financial ways that justify the business plan for the natural gas transmission project prepared by a specialized and licensed company for these services

- xiii. The working program to implement the project and the expected lifetime of the project.
- xiv. Annual investment plans to improve, expand and other modifications of the LNG plant for a period not less than 5 years from the date of effective Licence in conformity with the legislation in force.
- xv. The foreseen maintenance program for the LNG plant.

d. Licence for the Operation of Storage Capacities for Natural Gas:

Information with general and technical data of the project including as follows:

- i. Geographical location of underground storage space and the pipeline track including a geographical map.
- ii. Description of the geological conditions of the underground storage space.
- iii. Maximum storage volume and the necessary gas.
- iv. Minimum quality request that the stored gas shall fulfill.
- v. Indebt profile for natural gas re-delivery.
- vi. Maximum pressure of underground reservoir.
- vii. Number of the wells and their maximum indebts for injection and generation.
- viii. Technical standards projected maximum pressures, compression requirements and other technical characteristics of the machineries and technical equipments that shall be installed.
- ix. Minimum requirements of gas quality that shall be re-delivered and the installations that
- x. ensure that the defined quality is reached.
- xi. Certification of the contracts/commitments for storage.
- xii. The categories and the customer list. (Project).
- xiii. The expected requirements for access from the third parties and any expected requirement for the exclusion from right of third party access, as any decision issued before for the exclusion from the obligation of issuing the entry right in the new infrastructures according to Law no. 102/2015 "On Natural Gas Sector",
- xiv. Applicant Jobs for the (a) proposed technical solution (b) assessment of the environmental impact (c) assessment of the cost (d) economical provisions including the financial ways that justify the business plan for the underground storage project of natural gas prepared by a specialized company.
- xv. The working program to implement the project and the expected lifetime of the project.
- xvi. Annual investment plans to improve, expand and other modifications of the storage spaces that shall be drafted according to article 56 point 2 of Law no. 102/2015 "On Natural Gas".
- xvii. The foreseen maintenance program of storage spaces.

e. Natural Gas Supply License:

Shall contain the general information including as follows:

- i. Average quantity of natural gas expressed in N^{m3}, foreseen to be delivered during a year.
- ii. The guarantee that the gas supply quality fulfills the minimal criteria of the System

- iii. The necessary financial capacity to perform the activity required from the Licence and especially to cover the financial exposure caused by gas balancing.

f. Natural Gas Supply Licence

Shall contain the general information including as follows:

- i. Average quantity of natural gas expressed in N^{m3}, foreseen to be delivered during a year.
- ii. The guarantee that the gas supply quality fulfills the minimal criteria of the System Operator.
- iii. The necessary financial capacity to perform the activity required from the Licence and especially to cover the financial exposure caused by gas balancing.

g. Market operation licence

- a. List of the employees their profession and education
- b. Certification of possessing the hardware and software necessary for communication with all metering points as well as all participants in the market (their customers)
- c. List of Supervisory Council members

gj. Licence for the operation of small-scale LNG facilities

The applicant for a Licence for the Operation of Small-Scale LNG Facilities shall submit Information containing general and technical project data, including the following:

- i. approval from the relevant environmental management and protection authorities (EIA, Environmental Declaration, Permit) for the conduct of the activity in accordance with the legislation in force on environmental impact assessment;
- ii. the detailed technical project, prepared by a licensed design company, containing data on the facility, the location of the installations, location maps, Piping and Instrumentation Diagrams (P&ID), technical specifications of the main equipment (cryogenic LNG storage tanks), as well as operational capacities;
- iii. a preliminary agreement for the evidence of the authorised natural gas supply source through bilateral transactions on a short-term basis, but for not less than 1 (one) month;
- iv. certification from State Technical and Industrial Inspectorate (ISHTI) regarding the
- v. inspection of all equipment certifying the technical safety and compliance of the equipment;
- vi. an operational document containing the facility operation manual, maintenance procedures, the safety management system and industrial safety policies;
- vii. documentation proving the right to use the equipment;
- viii. evidence of staff qualifications;
- ix. any other permit required under the legislation in force on the transport of dangerous goods.

h. Licence for the operation of small-scale CNG facilities

The applicant for a licence for the operation of CNG facilities shall submit specific information/documentation as follows:

- i. approval from the relevant environmental management and protection authorities (EIA, Environmental Declaration, Permit) for carrying out the activity in accordance with the legislation in force on environmental impact assessment;

- ii. the detailed technical project, drafted by a licensed design company, containing data on the facility, the location of the installations, location maps, data on compression systems, and the layout of filling stations (if applicable);
- iii. authorization of the gas supply source through bilateral transactions on a short-term basis, but for not less than 1 (one) month;
- iv. evidence of authorised storage facilities and specialised means of transport (trucks or vessels);
- v. certification from State Technical and Industrial Inspectorate (ISHTI) regarding the inspection of all equipment for the purposes of safety and technical compliance;
- vi. an operational document containing the facility operation manual, maintenance procedures, the safety management system and industrial safety policies;
- vii. documentation proving the right to use the property;
- viii. evidence of staff qualifications.

Article 10

Assessing the Documentation for Licence Application

1. After reviewing the submitted application, regarding the completion of the requirements of article 8 and 9 the Charged Persons from the Responsible Directory shall prepare a report proposing to ERE Board to open or not the procedures to review the application in conformity with the deadlines defined in the Rules for ERE Organization, Operation and Procedures as well as in this regulation.
2. Any application shall be submitted in conformity with the form, content, deadlines and the definitions of this regulation, by completing the requirements and the documents. Otherwise to ERE Board is proposed not to open the procedures for reviewing the application.
3. ERE Board may decide to open or not the procedures for the application review based on the legislation in force and the abovementioned report.
4. ERE may open the procedures to review an application even in the cases described on point 4 article 8 of this regulation, but the final decision for refusing or accepting the application shall be taken only after the permissions from other bodies are submitted.
5. In case of refusal ERE shall notify the applicant for the refusal reasons by giving the necessary instructions within 7 working days from taking the decision.
6. The applicant may submit a new application according to this regulation requirements and taking in consideration ERE instructions.
7. If the applicant submits the new application in conformity with point 6 of this article within 1 (one) month from the decision for not opening the procedures to review the application, the submitted documentation for the previous application and the executed payment for this procedure shall be considered valid for the new application.
8. In case of the approval for opening the procedures to review the application, within 2 (two) working days from taking the decision, ERE shall publish in the written media for two days the notification for the submitted application, in three daily newspapers delivered in all the country and published in Tirana.

9. The notification contains short information for the submitted application, a notification that the submission of the objections and complaints from the interested persons may be submitted at ERE within the deadlines defined by this regulation.
10. After publishing the notification in the media, ERE shall ensure that for a 30 working days period from the first date of publishing the notification for the licence applications in the generation activity, the application and all the accompanying documentations or any other information are available for public inspection in its offices.
11. With ERE Board Decision, taking into consideration the applicant complaints, may be decided that information or documents that may cause commercial damage to the applicant, shall be taken confidential and may prevent their inspection from the third parties.
12. In any case ERE notifies the applicant for the objections submitted regarding the application for which are opened the licensing procedures and requires clarifications for the objections submitted from the interested parties.

Article 11

ERE Board Decision

1. In completing the deadline to submit the objections and complaints ERE Board shall access the Application supported on the criteria provided in Law no. 102/2015 “On Natural Gas Sector”. In taking the decision to approve or refuse an Application for Licence as well as the terms and conditions of this License, ERE Board shall take in consideration and support its decision on the criteria as follows:
 - a. The application and accurate completion of information and the submitted documentation in conformity with this Regulation and the requirements for additional information if any by ERE;
 - b. Report of the respective Directory at ERE prepared in conformity with of Article 10 (11).
 - c. The objections and complaints regarding the issue, if any, submitted by the interested parties or from the public regarding the Applicant in an assessment process.
 - d. In case of Applications for Transmission and Distribution License, the existence of the still valuable Licenses issued before for the same activities in the location and territory where the proposed activity aims to be performed.
 - e. Safe and stable operation of the equipments, plants and/or systems. (not implemented in cases of supply (article 4.1.c) and trading (article 4.1.ç) of this Regulation)
 - f. The request for natural gas resources.
 - g. Requirements for the national security, life of the citizens, their property, health and public order (are not implemented for the cases of supply (article 4.1.c) and trading (article 4.1.ç) of this Regulation).
 - h. Financial commitments taken and the guarantees offered from the Applicant.
 - i. Environmental protection; (is not implemented for the supply cases (article 4.1.c) and trading (article 4.1.ç) of this Regulation)
 - j. Promoting efficient use of electricity in natural gas sector.
 - k. Public service obligations expected from the Applicant as defined from the Albanian

legislation and in particular Law no 102/ 2015 "On Natural Gas Sector".

- l. Promoting a competitive market for natural gas and at least in case of tariff customers supply, low cost principle for natural gas supply.
 - m. Safety and reliability of natural gas supply and the upstream flow of this supply within the Republic of Albania.
2. In conformity with its organization and operation Rules, ERE shall inform in the written form the interested parties for the Board decision within 3 working days after taking this decision.

Article 12

Granting or Refusing the License.

1. ERE Board shall take the final decision for granting or refusing the Licence within 90 working days from the date of first publication for the notification in the media, supporting its decision based on the criteria provided on article 11 of this Regulation.
 2. Final Board Decision shall be in the written form and shall contain the reasons for granting or refusing the License.
 3. ERE Decision for approving or refusing a Licence according to this Regulation shall be published in the Official Gazette.
 4. ERE decision may be appealed in conformity with the provisions of Law no.102/2015 "On Natural Gas Sector".
 5. If ERE does not accept to extend a Licence validity shall be implemented the conditions of article 16 of this Regulation
 6. ERE may issue a conditional licensing decision where it determines that any of the outstanding conditions is not essential for immediate conduct of the activity and the applicant undertakes to complete it within a certain period.
 7. The period for fulfilling the condition may not exceed 12 (twelve) months from the date of entry into force of the conditional license, according to Article 24, point 2 of Law No. 102/2015.
 8. ERE decision to issue the conditional licence specifies:
 - a) the unfulfilled condition and the reason why it is considered non-essential;
 - b) the exact deadline for fulfilling the condition;
 - c) the documentation or evidence that the licensee shall submit to verify compliance;
 - d) the legal consequences if the condition is not met within the deadline.
 9. The conditional licensee shall submit to ERE evidence of compliance with the condition no later than 30 (thirty) days before the expiration of the specified deadline.
 10. If the condition is met within the deadline, ERE issues the full licence without conditions, revoking the conditional licence decision.
 11. If the condition is not met within the deadline, ERE initiates the licence revocation procedures according to Article 16 of this Regulation, notifying the licensee in advance in writing.
 12. ERE refuses to issue the licence in the following cases, according to Article 26 of Law No. 102/2015, as amended
- On ERE decision for refusal are justified the reasons according to point 1 of this Article.

CHAPTER III

LICENCE MODIFICATION AND TRANSFERRING

Article 13

Procedures for Licence Modification.

1. On Licensee request, with its own initiative or based on a final court decision ERE may modify the terms and conditions of a License, which it considers suitable, in conformity with the procedures defined by Law No. 102/2015 “On Natural Gas Sector” may decide to modify a licence in the cases as follows:
 - a. when there are modifications of some circumstances (as may be the legal framework, court decisions) that have happened between the date of granting the licence and the date of requiring a modification, or
 - b. in cases that bring considerable effects in the Transmission and Distribution System or in natural gas market, or
 - c. in case of legal, technical or financial amendments that make impossible the partial/full completion of the terms and conditions provided in the License;
2. Në If ERE decides to modify a License, it shall issue to the Licensee an amended Licence with the modifications by cancelling in this way the parts of the Licence that are not valid any more. If the Licensee objects the terms and conditions of the amended Licence then there shall be implemented the conditions of article 16 of this Regulation.
3. In case of the Licensee request to modify its License, ERE shall implement the same deadlines and procedures as in the case of licensing as defined by this Regulation. This modification request shall include;
 - The proposed text for the required specific modification.
 - A written information explaining the reasons for Licence modification request.
 - The company decision or any other document certifying the request of the Licensee for the specific amendment of the License.
4. Before approving the licence modification, ERE publishes the proposed modifications and reviews the possible objections or complaints, submitted from the stakeholders regarding this modification.

Article 15

Full/Partial Transferring of the Licensee License.

1. Upon the request of the Licensee, ERE may partially/fully transfer the Licence to any other Person in conformity with Law No 102/2015. In case of full/partial transferring of the asset ownership, the Person to whom shall be transferred the assets shall apply at ERE for a new Licence for the activities that shall be transferred by submitting the documentation as follows:

- a. The Application Form as defined on points 1(a), 1(b), and 1(c) of article 9,
- b. Legal, administrative and ownership documentation as defined on point 1(d) article 9,
- c. The documentation and financial, fiscal guarantees as defined on point 1 (e) of Article 9,
- d. Any proposal for amendment or replacement in the technical documentation,
- e. A declaration with the full facts that has to do with the need or the reasons for the proposed transferring.
- f. The transferring shall be according to the conditions of the "Regulation for the Procedures to Transfer the Licensee Assets".

2. Upon taking the decision from ERE to begin the procedures for assessing the Application for partial/full transferring of the License, ERE shall publish the Application in conformity with point 5 article 10 of this Regulation. The conditions of point 6 article 10 shall be implemented by all Applications for Licence transferring

3. ERE shall take the decision to approve or refuse the Application for full/partial transferring of the Licence within 90 calendar days from the date of beginning the procedures for assessing the Application and during this period the actual holder of the Licence shall continue to perform the services in conformity with the obligations of the effective Licence.

4. The proposed Applicant for Licence shall:

- a. have the ability and technical, financial experience to assume the obligations that belong to the Licensee under this License;
- b. accept and assume all terms and conditions of the Licence including the grant of a Financial and Performance Guarantee and
- c. be registered and in conformity with all legal obligations to make business in Albania.

5. In conformity with the legislation in force, such transferring shall be conditioned from the written preliminary approval of ERE which shall not be refused or delayed in an unreasonable way.

6. The notification for the targeted transferring described on point 2 of this article and shall be accompanied with the following:

- a. A copy of the legal proposed documentation or other documented evidence for the targeted transferring;
- b. Documents related with the Applicant for the proposed Licence which shall include;
 - the audited financial statements and other data to ensure the reasonable ERE belief to fulfill the requirements defined in article 9 of this Regulation;
 - Data for the identity of the Applicant owners for the proposed License, having in consideration that in case of a company, whose shares are registered in a well-known stock exchange, these data shall be required for the main owners (as defined and used from the laws and rules in force based on which these

- companies have registered their shares).
- Data for the direct/indirect parent companies, including the identity of the parent company owners for the proposed Licence Applicant,
- Any additional document or information required by ERE in a reasonable way may be judged necessary to take the decision for approving the proposed transferring.

7. Within 90 calendar days after taking full documentation and other data, ERE shall issue its decision to approve or refuse the proposed transferring. The publication and taking the public comments shall be according to the provisions of article 10.

Article 16

Licence Removal

With ERE initiative, to the interested persons or the licence holders, ERE begins the procedure to remove the licence implementing the provisions of the regulation and the procedures for removing a license.

CHAPTER V

GRANTING AND REGISTRATING THE LICENSES

Article 17

Licensing Register

1. After taking ERE decision for licensing, full/partial transferring or Licence modification, the respective Licence is granted to the Applicant.
2. A copy of each granted Licence to perform the activities in natural gas sector shall be kept by ERE and registered in the Licenses Register.

3. The Licenses Register shall be kept in a written form from the Board Secretary as well as in the electronic form. It shall be published even in ERE website and be regularly updated.

4. The Licensing Register shall be kept by the responsible structure for licensing at ERE and shall be updated after each meeting of the ERE Board and shall be published on ERE official website. The Register shall contain these data;

- a. Name of the Licensee;
- b. Unique Identification Number of the Undertaking (NUIS) and premises;
- c. Number and series of the License;
- d. Licensed activity;
- e. Service area
- f. Number and date of ERE Board Decision;
- g. Initiation and termination date of licence validity;
- h. Current status of the licence;
- i. Number and date of ERE Board Decisions for amendment, transfer or licence removal according to the case;
- j. Conditional licensing decisions.

Article 18

Public Information

- 1. The Licensing Register is available for the public during the official working hours.
- 2. Based on the justified request of the Applicant, ERE may decide that some parts of the Applicant component information, its supporting or accompanying documents, or the Licence itself are of commercial sensitive information nature and shall not be exposed. The documentation classified as such shall be handled as confidential information and shall be protected from the exposure and shall be handled only according to ERE decision, taken in conformity with the legislation in force.
- 3. The confidential information shall not be available for the public since their publication may bring economical damages.

CHAPTER VI FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 19

Amenment of the Regulation

This Regulation may be amended with ERE Board decision.

Article 20

Entry into force

This Regulation enters into force after publication in the Official Gazette

ANNEX A

REGISTRATION AND PROCEEDING PAYMENT OF AN APPLICATION

ACTIVITY	Licensing	Modification	Renewal	Licence transfer
Operation in LNG plants	1 000 000	100 000 ALL	100 000	100 000 ALL
Natural Gas Distribution	1 000 000 ALL	100 000 ALL	100 000 ALL	100 000 ALL
Natural Gas Supply	1 000 000 ALL	100 000 ALL	100 000 ALL	100 000 ALL
Operation of Natural Gas Market Operator	1 000 000 ALL	100 000 ALL	100 000 ALL	100 000 ALL
Operation in Natural Gas Storage Spaces	1 000 000 ALL	100 000 ALL	100 000 ALL	100 000 ALL
Natural Gas Trading	40 000 ALL	30 000 ALL	30 000 ALL	30 000 ALL
<i>Operation in small – scale LNG plants</i>	<i>1 000 000 ALL</i>	<i>100 000 ALL</i>	<i>100 000 ALL</i>	<i>100 000 ALL</i>
<i>Operation in small – scale CNG plants</i>	<i>1 000 000 ALL</i>	<i>100 000 ALL</i>	<i>100 000 ALL</i>	<i>100 000 ALL</i>

Note:

- a) *The applicant, at the time of submitting the application, must have executed the payment according to the provisions of this Annex. The application payment is non-refundable and can be made directly to the bank account with the following details, or after issuing an electronic invoice from the ERE finance structure, at the request of the applicant himself:*

Bank transfer charges (both at sending and receiving banks) shall be paid by the applicant.

- b) *The applicant, at the moment of submitting the application, attaches the Declaration as follows:*

I DECLARE THAT:

- No licence previously granted to the applicant for activities in the natural gas sector, either in Albania or abroad, has been revoked or refused.*

(if to the applicant it is removed or refused before a license, shall inform the reasons and respective decision)

- I am informed with the the applicable legal and regulatory framework and I am engaged for its implementation, as well as the regulations and rules approved by ERE for natural gas sector operation.
- The documents and data submitted for the purpose of this application are real and I am aware that, in case of declaring false data or submitting forged documents or false data, I am subject to the measures provided in the Criminal Code and other effective legal and by-legal acts.
- I undertake to appear before ERE premises if needed for any hearing session regarding this application.
- I have executed the application fee has been paid, according to the definitions of the regulation, on date __.__.__, at _____ Bank.
- I am not engaged in any other commercial activity in Albania or any other country.
(If the applicant is engaged in any other commercial activity, he shall provide the relevant Explanations)

For the applicant

(name, surname, signature)