



**REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
-COMPETITION AUTHORITY-**

Tirane, 25/02/2010

PRESS RELEASE

On opening the preliminary investigation procedure in the service market-dependent unloading and storage of liquid gas

Competition Authority due to the article 28 of the Law 9121, "For Competition Protection", monitored gas trading market from possible import restrictions on competition initiated by some media observations, that the gas market competition is limited.

Competition Authority handled two forms of complains, one for business enterprises that develop their activity in the import-export market Gas (GLN) and correspondence between importing and concession companies.

Ministry of Economy Trade and Energy has also asked the Competition Authority cooperation to review on appeal if the free and effective competition in the liquid gas market is limited.

By monitoring results that require applicant companies providing service in both ports claiming the companies that hold concessions, refuse to offer unloading-deposit service of liquid gas storage in terms of Article 9, section 2, letter f of the Law "On Competition Protection " may constitute abuse of dominant position.

For these reasons, Competition Commission authorized the Secretary General to open preliminary investigation in the relevant market under Article 42, paragraph 1 of Law no. 9121 "On Competition Protection".

With decision no. 1, 17.02.2010 Secretary General has decided the opening of preliminary investigation on the market of loading-unloading service and storage of liquid gas.