



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova-Republic of Kosovo
Qeveria-Vlada-Government
Ministria e Ekonomisë
Ministarstvo Ekonomije -Ministry of Economy

Consultation document on
CONCEPT PAPER ON THERMAL ENERGY

Brief overview of the concept paper on thermal energy

The thermal energy sector in Kosovo faces a series of challenges related to deficiencies in the legal treatment of practical and operational issues and the lack of provisions that would support the implementation of significant development plans anticipated to occur in this field. The current Law on Thermal Energy has not been updated to reflect the advancements and needs of the last decade, resulting in a mismatch between the sector's requirements and the relevant legal framework. Furthermore, the current legal framework does not provide full transposition of some relevant aspects of the EU legal framework.

However, the existing legal framework is insufficient to provide the necessary legal framework which would serve to promote the construction of new energy cogeneration capacities across Kosovo's municipalities, more active involvement of municipal authorities in such developments, promotion of competition to improve services and ensure actual and stable costs for the provided service, adequate regulation of access to public and private properties for the needs of network extension, addressing the manner of covering common areas with thermal energy, addressing the responsibility for maintenance and operation of the respective network, as well as clarifying contentious situations to prevent legal disputes. Also, the current legal basis does not correspond with Kosovo's obligations regarding the Energy Community and the commitments within the Sofia Declaration, related to the improvement of energy efficiency in the heating sector and the inclusion of alternative forms of energy generation to enable energy transition and reduction of environmental pollution.

As a result, alongside updating of a part of the legislation that covers different segments of energy, the drafting of this concept paper has been initiated, with the aim of a detailed analysis of the situation, evaluation of alternatives, and issuing an appropriate recommendation for institutions with the aim of creating a modern legal basis, in accordance with the country's needs and in line with EU policies in the field of thermal energy.

- Objectives foreseen in the Thermal Energy Concept Document

- Drafting the new Law on Thermal Energy as the main legal document that integrates and replaces fragmented provisions across multiple documents, focusing on thermal energy for heating/cooling, and ensuring clarity and adequate treatment of aspects related to the regulation of generation, distribution, and supply of thermal energy;
- Establishing legal provisions that support the expansion of cogeneration capacities and the integration of renewable energy sources, as well as alternative and proven energy technologies, with the aim of reducing dependence on electricity;
- Creating a clear framework for metering, billing, and informing consumers specifically related to thermal energy for heating/cooling;
- Establishing a legal framework that clearly defines the roles and responsibilities of municipal authorities, central institutions, and thermal energy operators to facilitate better coordination and alignment of activities related to planning and management of investments in the field of thermal energy;

- Clarifying and further advancing monitoring and reporting mechanisms, to guarantee transparency, progress monitoring, and efficient addressing of any disputes, thereby improving overall governance and accountability within the sector.

The purpose of the consultation

The Ministry of Economy highly values consultations with stakeholders. The role of stakeholders and the general public in issues addressed by the Thermal Energy concept document is highly important to ME as the sponsoring institution. Therefore, your prior written contribution will be very meaningful and substantial. The Ministry of Economy remains committed to include your contribution through the comments and suggestions provided within the Thermal Energy concept document.

Where and how to send your written contributions

The deadline for submitting the written contribution within the consultation process of the Thermal Energy concept document is **15 working days from the moment of publication**.

All written contributions should be submitted in the e-mail address rina.kryeziu.rogova@rks-gov.net titled: Contribution to the consultation process on the Thermal Energy concept document.

Please clearly specify in your written contribution your position and the contributing institution to the consultation process (namely: position, organization, company, individual capacity, etc.)

Comments from organizations

Please provide your comments according to the instructions below:

Name of organization providing comments:

The main scope of work of the organization:

Organization's contact information (address, email, phone):

Date of submission of comments:

Form of inputs is open, but preferable is to include your comments within the table which is attached below to this document, which includes the key issues of this document.

	Key issues	Comments in regard to actual draft	Additional Comments
1			
2			
3			

Attached to this document please find the Thermal Energy Konzept Document.