

PRESS RELEASE

Natural gas distribution network activated in Alexandria Imathias – Completion of co-funded projects in Central Macedonia

The natural gas flame-lighting ceremony in Alexandria was carried out by Enaon EDA's CEO, Ms Francesca Zanninotti, in the presence of the Mayor of Alexandria

Enaon EDA, Hellenic Gas Distribution Company, a subsidiary of Enaon of the Italgas Group, has activated the natural gas distribution network in Alexandria Imathias, marking the completion of the cycle of co-funded projects under NSRF in the Region of Central Macedonia, delivering significant benefits to the local community.

The natural gas flame-lighting ceremony in Alexandria took place yesterday, led by Enaon EDA's CEO, Ms **Francesca Zanninotti**, in the presence of the Mayor of Alexandria, Mr. **Panagiotis Gkyrinis**, the Regional Councillor for Imathia, Ms **Syrmoula Tzima–Topi**, as well as representatives of local bodies.

The CEO of Enaon EDA, Ms **Francesca Zanninotti**, highlighted: *“We are pleased to announce the completion of the construction of the natural gas distribution network in Alexandria and its activation, providing households, businesses and industries in the area with access to a more resilient, cost-efficient and cleaner form of energy. More than 270 connection contracts have already been signed, while the first industrial facilities have also been connected. Across the six cities in Central Macedonia where we operate, with the strong support of the Region and through co-funded projects, 255 kilometres of network have been constructed, along with dedicated infrastructure for hospitals, schools and industry. At Enaon EDA, we remain committed to expanding and modernising Greece's energy infrastructure, actively contributing to the country's energy transition and creating value for local communities”*.

The Regional Governor of Central Macedonia, Ms **Athina Athanasiadou–Aidona**, conveyed in her message: *«The Region of Central Macedonia consistently invests in projects that enhance economic competitiveness, reduce energy costs, improve citizens' quality of life and contribute to the achievement of sustainable development goals. The activation of the natural gas distribution network in Alexandria marks the completion of a significant cycle of investments co-financed by the Region of Central Macedonia through the NSRF. This forms part of a comprehensive plan to create modern energy infrastructure in six cities across our Region, delivering tangible benefits to households, businesses and the overall development prospects of local communities. This particular initiative was launched during the tenure of the current European Commissioner for Sustainable Transport and*

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Tourism, Apostolos Tzitzikostas, as Regional Governor, and is being completed today—highlighting the importance of continuity in development planning and the effective utilisation of European resources».

The Mayor of Alexandria, Mr **Panagiotis Gkyrinis**, noted: «*The flame marking the commencement of the supply of the natural gas distribution network in Alexandria by Enaon EDA is more than just an energy symbol. It is proof that regional Greece can take the lead, assert its potential and deliver projects that, until a few years ago, were considered difficult or far off. The implementation of this important project marks the city's transition into a new era of development, modernisation and opportunity. It constitutes an investment in the future of the area, creating new possibilities for families, supporting local businesses, enhancing the competitiveness of the economy and making the city more attractive for new investments».*

The activation of the natural gas distribution network in Alexandria Imathias marks the completion of the co-funded projects in Central Macedonia, supported by the European Regional Development Fund through the Regional Operational Programme. Through these projects, energy infrastructure has been developed in six cities: Veria, Giannitsa, Serres, Katerini, Kilkis and Alexandria.

Overall, more than 255 kilometres of network have been constructed across these six cities, while approximately 9,400 connection contracts have been signed across all customer categories (residential, commercial and industrial) and 8.400 delivery points (consumers) have been activated up to end of May 2026. At the same time, key public infrastructure has already been connected to the network, including Serres General Hospital and Kilkis Hospital, while the connection of Giannitsa Hospital is currently underway.

The response from industry has been particularly strong, highlighting the role of natural gas distribution infrastructure in enhancing competitiveness, reducing energy costs and supporting environmental performance. In total, 44 industries in Central Macedonia are already connected to the natural gas network, while in Alexandria the first two industrial facilities have already been connected.

According to the Programme Approval Decision, the co-funded projects for the development of natural gas distribution infrastructure in the Region of Central Macedonia have a total budget of €49.2 million. Public expenditure, through the Regional Operational Programme, amounts to €20.2 million, while the remainder is covered by the company's own contribution and non-eligible costs. With co-funding from Greece and the European Union, the projects were initiated under the NSRF 2014–2020 programme and are being completed under the Central Macedonia Programme 2021–2027.

It is noted that, within the framework of the co-funded projects, residential and commercial consumers benefit from a 100% discount on connection fees to the natural gas distribution network.

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