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PRESS RELEASE

The ERO Board makes a decision to postpone the deadline for free market access of customers connected to the 10 kV and 35 kV voltage level and approves the MAR of the regulated licensees

At the fourth session for this year, held on 28 March 2019, the Board of the Energy Regulatory Office (ERO) decided to amend the Guideline on Liberalization of Market by extending the deadline for switching customers connected to the 10kV and 35kV voltage level for another year (until 31 March 2020 for customers connected to the 35 kV voltage level and until 31 March 2021 for customers connected to the 10 kV voltage level). This decision was taken after numerous requests from customers and chambers representing their interests and based on the recommendation of the Parliamentary Committee on Economic Development, Trade, Industry and Regional Development. The ERO Board, considering that the market opening did not flow according to the initial provisions of the Guideline, decided to create room, by postponing the deadline, for consumers so that they are better prepared for accessing free market and for finding new suppliers.

In addition to this, the Board also approved regular annual adjustments to the Maximum Allowed Revenues (MAR) for the 2019 tariff year for the Transmission, System and Market Operator (TSO/MO-KOSTT), Distribution System Operator (DSO-KEDS) and Universal Service Supplier (USS-KESCO). Based on these revenues, operators will apply for new tariffs for electricity transmission, distribution and universal supply services.

The Board also dealt with the issue of Kelkos Energy L.L.C.'s projects related to Hydro Power Plants (HPP) Belaja, Deçani and Lumbardhi II, and decided to grant a deadline of 90 days to HPP Belaja and HPP Deçan for completion of documentation with relevant environmental permits. With regard to HPP Lumbardhi II, the Board requested that its operation is terminated and KOSTT disconnects this HPP from the grid until they meet the licensing requirements. As part of this issue was also reviewed the company's request to modify the installed capacity of HPP Lumbardhi II from 5.5 kW to 6.2 kW, and the Board decided to approve the company's request with a majority vote.

Part of the Board's review and approval was also the request of "HYDRO LINE" L.L.C. for extension of the validity of the Decision for Authorization, with the purpose of continuing the works for finalization of the Project HPP "Albaniku 1" and HPP "Albaniku 4", expected to be built in the municipality of Mitrovica.

The Board also reviewed several customers' complaints and operators' appeals against the decisions of the Consumer Protection Department.

All decisions of the Regulatory Board are published on the website www.ero-ks.org.