Government focal point: **Energy**

Responding ministry/office: **The Ministry of Economy of SR**

**ENERGY**

**Decision-making:** Strategies, policies, programmes and plans, legislation, policy instruments and the regulatory framework; involvement of Major Groups

The main objective of the National Economy Strategy of the Slovak Republic (SR) is to ensure the sustainable economic development of SR. This is, however, conditioned by securing safe and reliable energy supplies at optimal costs, taking into account environmental aspects, and with an emphasis on self-sufficiency in power generation.

**Main energy policy objectives are the following:**

- To provide safe and reliable energy supply in sufficient quantities and at optimal costs to cover the needs of sustainable economic development,
- To secure maximal self-sufficiency in power generation,
- To reduce energy intensity,
- To ensure sustainable development of energy industries.

**To ensure the Slovak energy policy targets should be needed to secure following:**

**Priority 1: Reliable, environmentally acceptable and economically effective energy supply**

Priority 1 principles:

- To adopt adequate measures for elimination of impacts from shut-down of some of the currently operating plants, as to avoid a dependence of SR on electricity imports in long-term perspective.
- To modernise energy plants and technology processes with simultaneous decreasing of energy intensity and reduction of negative environmental impacts.
- To replace the 220 kV system by 400 kV system gradually in compliance with planned changes in infrastructure of the national economy and industry for coordinated advancement of all Slovak regions.
- To ensure technical safety of energy plants, quality and proper maintenance level of systems and networks.
- To ensure continually nuclear safety and operation ability of nuclear power plants.
- To optimise operating and investment costs to cover the main operations and achievement of adequate profit necessary for further development of the power and gas systems,
- To increase economic and energy efficiency.
• To support the research and development, and development of applied research in energy industry.
• To introduce new technologies, innovations and best available techniques in energy industry.
• To ensure Operating management of the SR power system with the objective to reach a well-balanced electricity consumption and generation in real time.
• To decrease the dependence on sources from risk regions; to realise the measures driven towards increasing the reliability of energy supply from foreign sources.
• To monitor the security of electricity and gas supply.

**Priority 2: Involvement in international electricity and gas market**

Priority 2 principles:
• To create the conditions for Slovak competent and non-discriminatory involvement in the supranational electric power trade.
• To continue in development of international cooperation in the field of long-distance power transmission and gas transport.
• To extend continuously the cooperation with other interconnected systems in compliance with supra-national interests, conditions of and recommendations for international cooperation in the framework of the EU, resp.UCTE.
• To ensure fully qualified position of the Slovak transmission system and transport network on the power and gas markets and development of long-term fair relations on non-discriminatory principle with all actual and potential users of the transmission system and transport network.
• To ensure a functional liberalised electricity and gas market in compliance with the national interests and regulations and EU recommendations.

**Priority 3: Lowering dependency on fossil fuel imports**

Priority 3 principles:
• To use the nuclear energy industry as a diversified, cost-effective and environmentally acceptable option for power generation.
• To use the domestic primary energy sources in compliance with the raw material policy.
• To increase the utilisation of the renewable energy sources.
  
  To Support the utilisation of sources with combined heat and power generation.