

The CNMC investigates the Naturgy Group's electricity distributor (UFD) and its parent companies for possible abuse of a dominant position

- The company would have taken advantage of its status as a distributor to benefit from the market involving the installation of equipment and provision of metering services at supply points types 3 and 4.
- The CNMC inspected two Naturgy Group offices.

Madrid, 21 November, 2023.- The Spanish National Markets and Competition Commission (CNMC) has initiated disciplinary proceedings against UFD Distribución Electricidad, S.A., its parent companies Holding Negocios Electricidad, S.A. and Naturgy Energy Group, S.A. (Grupo Naturgy), and the subcontracted company Lean Grids Services, S.L., for a possible abuse of a dominant position. (S/0006/23)

The company would have carried out an exclusionary strategy, a series of market foreclosure practices, as well as imposing discriminatory conditions on third party competitors in the market for the installation of equipment and provision of metering services at supply points types 3 and 4.

These practices infringe Article 2 of Law 15/2007 of 3 July, 2007, on the Defence of Competition (LDC) and Article 102 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).

Investigation

The investigation was triggered by a complaint against UFD lodged by Axon Time, S.L. and Enerlin Ingenieros, S.L., for practices contrary to Articles 2 of the LDC and 102 of the TFEU, and by the confidential information gathered by the Competition Directorate (Article 49(2) of the LDC). In view of the potential anticompetitive practices, the CNMC inspected two of the Naturgy Group's offices.

The initiation of these proceedings does not prejudge the final outcome of the investigation. There is now a time limit of 24 months for the investigation and the adoption of a decision on the case.

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