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E-004918/2025

Answer given by Mr Jørgensen
on behalf of the European Commission
(5.3.2026)

In response to Russia's energy weaponisation of gas supplies, EU leaders agreed in the European Council in March 2022 to phase out Europe's dependency on Russian energy imports as soon as possible. Floating storage and regasification units (FSRUs) provide a flexible option to diversify supply sources in the short run, enhance security of supply, and do not contradict the objective of phasing out fossil fuels as they can be redeployed once no longer required.

For the German State aid case related to four liquefied natural gas (LNG) floating terminals to be operated by Deutsche Energy Terminal (DET) GmbH on behalf of the German government, the Commission refers the Honourable Member to the Commission decision and its reasoning on this matter¹.

In this State aid decision, the Commission considered that Russia's sudden halt of gas supplies had caused a serious disturbance of the economy in all Member States, also in Germany. Therefore Article 107(3)(b) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union was applicable.

In its decision, the Commission noted that the measure was needed by Germany to ensure security of gas supply during a serious disturbance of its and the EU's economy. It also observed that the planned LNG capacity from DET's FSRUs together with all other pipeline and LNG import capacity into Germany would not lead to higher total import capacity of gas than which existed before Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

The Commission refers to sections 3.3.3, 3.3.4 and 3.3.5 of its decision, in which it assessed the necessity, appropriateness and proportionality of the measure, including the limited duration and the avoidance of lock-in of gas infrastructure and stranded assets.

¹ State Aid SA.105137 (2024/NN) – Germany – Deutsche Energy Terminal GmbH of 20.12.2024, OJ C, C/2025/5768, 24.10.2025. The non-confidential version of the decision is available at <https://competition-cases.ec.europa.eu/cases/SA.105137>.