

EN

E-003085/2026

Answer given by Mr Jørgensen
on behalf of the European Commission
(5.10.2026)

According to Commission's current assessment, the import requirements entering into force in January 2027 will not endanger security of energy supply in the EU. According to the Commission's own assessment and recent independent studies¹, global Oil & Gas Methane Partnership Level 5-compliant gas and oil volumes exceed current EU import needs.

On 20 July 2026, the Commission issued two recommendations to provide further clarity and legal certainty to Member States and market operators.

The recommendation on compliance solutions² provides clarity on how to demonstrate compliance with the import requirements, especially in complex supply chains. The recommendation points out two solutions that already exist in the market, facilitating implementation for both industry and competent authorities.

To respond to the risks posed by tighter markets, the Commission also issued a recommendation for national competent authorities – who enforce the regulation, not to apply penalties³ on importers for a period lasting until 2029 so as to not endanger EU security of energy supply as referred to in Article 33(2) of the EU Methane Regulation⁴.

By clarifying the circumstances under which Article 33(2) of the Regulation provides for flexibility to implement the import requirements in a pragmatic manner, the latter recommendation contributes to legal certainty.

The Commission cannot autonomously postpone the application and is not considering an amendment to the legal act.

¹ Rystad Energy EDF report: <https://library.edf.org/AssetLink/7000haw3l6ml1w87b58kilq13tirkfoh.pdf>.

² Recommendation on optional model clauses on the reduction of methane emissions in the energy sector: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32026H1834&qid=1785842985603>.

³ Recommendation on the application of Article 33 of the Methane Regulation EU/2024/1787: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32026H1835&qid=1785842886639>.

⁴ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1787/oj/eng>.