

## **Elering AS conditions for connection to the gas transmission network as of 1 July 2025.**

As of 1 July 2025, updated Elering AS conditions for connection to the gas transmission network (hereinafter connection conditions) shall apply. The update of the connection conditions is due to the sharp increase in interest in connecting to the gas transmission network in the second half of 2024. By spring 2025, the capacity reserved in the transmission network through submitted connection applications and valid connection offers issued by Elering was approximately 4,700 MW, which made it impossible, under the connection conditions valid until 15.04.2025, for Elering to issue economically viable connection offers due to the high cost and long construction time required for network reinforcements.

Compared to the connection conditions valid until 15.04.2025, the connection conditions valid as of 01.07.2025 significantly change the proportions of instalments of the connection fee. The new proportions of the first and second instalments of the connection fee are 75% and 15%, respectively, which serve as a guarantee mechanism and limit the long-term reservation of available resources in the transmission network. Changing the proportions provides Elering with assurance regarding the implementation of the project that has entered into a connection agreement, and enables Elering, in the network analysis carried out for connections to the main pipeline of the gas transmission network, to take into account only those connection agreements for which the first instalment of the connection fee has been paid. This exception does not apply to connections on branch pipelines.

Additionally, Elering will start to gradually differentiate network reinforcement works by connection capacity stages in connection offers. This will provide the connecting parties with a clearer overview of the cost of network elements and the available capacity within the structure of the connection fee depending on the completion of different reinforcement works. In such cases, the connecting parties will also be able to decide when preparing the connection offer whether to reduce the initially requested capacity in the connection application to a level acceptable to them.

Among other things, the connection conditions introduce the following changes:

- Specific procedure for installation of metering devices in case of direct pipe connection;
- Clarified conditions for cost verification and refunding of the connection fee;
- Clarified annexes to be submitted with the connection application;
- Clarified regulation for long-term connection of a floating terminal in Pakrineeme;
- Clarified procedure for conducting procurements;
- Updated template form of the connection agreement;

The updated gas connection conditions enable Elering to issue competitive connection offers and make the connection process clearer.

## **Elering AS conditions for one-time connection to the gas network in Pakrineeme as of 1 July 2025.**

In 2023, Elering carried out a public consultation on amendments to the Elering AS gas transmission network connection conditions, which also regulated connection to a gas floating terminal at the Pakrineeme connection point. Market participants provided feedback indicating that in some cases it is economically feasible to connect

at the Pakrineeme connection point not to a permanently connected terminal but to a vessel with regasification capability for a one-time injection of a gas cargo into the transmission network.

Based on market needs, in 2024 Elering began developing standard conditions for one-time connection to the Elering AS gas transmission network in Pakrineeme (Pakrineeme connection conditions), which enable a faster connection process in Pakrineeme for short-term connections.

Under the Pakrineeme connection conditions, a gas-transporting vessel with regasification capability is connected to the connection point for a specified period (up to 60 days), and after gas injection, the vessel is disconnected from the connection point, and the connection ends.

Unlike regular connections to the gas transmission network, Elering will issue a connection offer within 15 working days after receipt of the connection application.

The general principles of short-term connection are:

- It is prohibited to provide terminal services to third parties with the connected vessel;
- The vessel to be connected to the connection point must be compatible with Elering's existing equipment, for which the connection conditions provide a clear overview of Elering's gas installations at Pakrineeme Port;
- The vessel to be connected to the connection point must have a valid classification certificate;
- The vessel must be equipped with a gas measurement system, including a gas meter, flow computer, and chromatograph;
- The connection must not require construction works in the gas transmission network;
- The Port Operator must have issued confirmation for the vessel's berthing for the desired connection period;
- The connecting party must have submitted a certificate of origin for the gas, and the gas must not originate from a country subject to a gas import ban;
- The connecting party must have concluded, prior to gas flow opening, an operating agreement with the network operator, the Estonian–Latvian joint gas zone network agreement, and a balancing agreement;
- When the vessel is ready for connection at the port, necessary tests and the connection process to the connection point shall be carried out within 5 working days.

Before submitting a connection application, the connecting parties may request from Elering a preliminary assessment of available transmission capacity at the Pakrineeme connection point for a period of up to 5 months, and may submit a transmission capacity reservation application after the connection application has been accepted. Transmission capacity is calculated based on the guideline "[Calculation of transmission capacity at the Pakrineeme connection point](#)"

The Pakrineeme connection conditions allow, through faster connection, to meet the gas market shortfall via the free market service, even in situations where gas demand is not covered by long-term connected floating terminals in the region.