

<b>Title of the measure:</b>	<b>LV47 Mandatory individual water meters for consumers connected to district heating system</b>
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### **General description**

The measure stipulates that all consumers connected to the district heating (DH) system must be provided with individual water meters. Based on historical experience, this practice encourages consumers to save energy because they have a means to manage their individual consumption, and energy costs are based on the actual energy consumption.

It is laid down in Directive 2012/27/EU that in multi-apartment and multi-purpose buildings with a central heating/cooling source or supplied from a DH network or from a central source serving multiple buildings, individual consumption meters must be installed to measure the consumption of heat or cooling or hot water for each unit where technically feasible and cost-efficient. Where the use of individual meters is not technically feasible or not cost-efficient, to measure heating, individual heat cost allocators must be used for measuring heat consumption at each radiator, unless it is shown by the member state in question that the installation of such heat cost allocators would not be cost-efficient. In those cases, alternative cost-efficient methods of heat consumption measurements may be considered (*see [1], page 24*).

**03 November 2015 the Amendments [2] to the Cabinet of Ministers (Governmental) Regulation On Heat Energy Supply and Consumption have been adopted [3].** The Regulations transpose the requirements of the Energy Efficiency Directive 2012/27/EU. Namely, the additional Sections 8<sup>1</sup>-8<sup>5</sup> have been included. The noted Amendments provide for the installation of meters or heat cost allocators in multi-apartment and non-residential buildings (where there are, with the exception of groups of common areas, several other groups of spaces, i.e., multi-purpose buildings), that share the bill for the thermal energy consumed, with a view to recording the amounts of thermal energy consumed for heating purposes in each apartment or set of premises that is invoiced separately for the thermal energy consumed. This requirement applies to new buildings, buildings to be converted or renovated (if funded by EU funds, State or municipal budgets), for which a building permit has been issued after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016 and to which heating is supplied from a common heat source or a DH system. Hot water consumption metering equipment shall be installed for each consumer - apartment as well. The costs of heat metering equipment shall be covered by the buildings owner (-s). **These provisions are in force from 31 December 2016.** [2,4]. Also the additional Article 36<sup>1</sup> had been included stating access to energy efficiency information. The heat energy supplier shall provide in the bill also information regarding (1) the web-site where the consumers might find comparison of the heat consumption in current and previous year (taking into account climate correction), (2) the web-sites of relevant institutions and agencies providing information on energy efficiency improvement measures, energy efficient equipment, comparisons of energy consumptions for end-users. Besides, such energy efficiency related information shall be included in the heat supplier web-site as well [2].

**The Cabinet of Ministers (Governmental) Regulations No 524 (15 September 2015) On the Procedure for Determining, Calculating and Recording the Share Payable by Each Owner of a Residential Building for Essential Maintenance Services** provides that owners of residential buildings must read the meters installed every months and do so within the deadline specified and in accordance with the procedure set out in the agreement on the provision of essential necessary maintenance services [5].

## References

1. Ministry of Economics (2014). Information Report on the Progress towards the Indicative National Energy Efficiency Targets in 2014-2016 according to Directive 2012/27/EU On Energy Efficiency amending Directives 2009/125/EC and 2010/30/EU and repealing Directives 2004/8/EC and 2006/32/EC, 17 March 2014, viewed by the Government 26 May 2014, <http://ec.europa.eu/energy/node/84>
2. Amendments to the Cabinet of Ministers (Governmental) Regulation No 876 (2008) "Heat Energy Supply and Consumption Regulations", adopted as the Cabinet of Ministers (Governmental) Regulations No 628 (3 November 2015), in force 10 November 2015. Published: "Latvijas Vēstnesis" 219 (5537), 09.11.2015. Available: <http://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=277661>, in Latvian
3. Cabinet of Ministers (Governmental) Regulation No 876 (2008) "Heat Energy Supply and Consumption Regulations (*Siltumenerģijas piegādes un lietošanas noteikumi*)". Actual consolidated version available: <http://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=183035>, in Latvian
4. Ministry of Economics (2016). Report on the progress achieved in 2014 towards implementing national energy efficiency targets for the year 2020 pursuant to Article 24(1) and Section 1 of Annex XIV to Directive 2012/27/EU, <http://ec.europa.eu/energy/node/84>
5. The Cabinet of Ministers (Governmental) Regulations No 524 (15 September 2015) "On the Procedure for Determining, Calculating and Recording the Share Payable by Each Owner of a Residential Building for Essential Maintenance Services (*Kārtība, kādā nosaka, aprēķina un uzskaita katra dzīvojamās mājas īpašnieka maksājamo daļu par dzīvojamās mājas uzturēšanai nepieciešamajiem pakalpojumiem*). Adopted 15 September 2015, in force 30 September 2015. Published: "Latvijas Vēstnesis" 190 (5508), 29.09.2015. Available: <http://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=276739>, in Latvian