

Thermo Power Plant Negotino, Macedonia

Thermo Power Plant Negotino is a heavy fuel fired 219MW installed power plant that the Macedonian Government spun off from its National Electricity Company (ESM) in 2005 in order to sell it to an international operating company. In February the Government launched a public tender and the final bids are due end of May/early June 2007. The Government is selling 100% stake in the plant for a minimum of €38M. The purchaser will also undertake to build additional 300MW capacity.



Seven companies have taken the tender documents including the German RWE, Austrian electricity company EVN, Italian power company Enel, Russian energy company RAO, and Greece's Public Power Corporation (PPC) in a joint venture with the US CountourGlobal. It has been reported that Russian RAO and the Greed-US consortium Public Power Corporation (PPC) and in a best position to win this tender. The Greek-US Consortium will benefit from proximity of Macedonia to Greece.

The plant is ran on heavy fuel oil that makes electricity produced rather expensive. If the Russian State Electricity Company were to win the tender they would be in a strong position to make the plant more economically viable by switching the production to gas. The conversion from fuel oil to gas would help to alleviate the higher emissions costs and will enable the plant to meet the EU emission criteria, once Macedonia joins EU.