

Retail market functioning TF

Supplier switching in Electricity and Gas Retail Markets - Five case studies

Paris, 23 September 2008





- Best practice proposition
- Case study report:
 - Austria
 - France
 - Romania
 - Spain
 - Sweden
- Observations through case studies no ERGEG position

The customer's right to switch supplier should be statutory



- All customers have the right to switch supplier
- Development of the supplier switching process in cooperation with the industry
- Legally binding supplier switching process in all case studies except one





	Electricity	Gas
Austria	2001	2002
France	2007	2007
Spain	2003	
Romania	2007	2007
Sweden	1999	

Standardised supplier switching process



Easy supplier switching process

Standardised supplier switching process for commercial customers in all case studies

Cost efficient

Standardised data format

Clear roles and responsibilities among actors

Responsible actor for meter reading

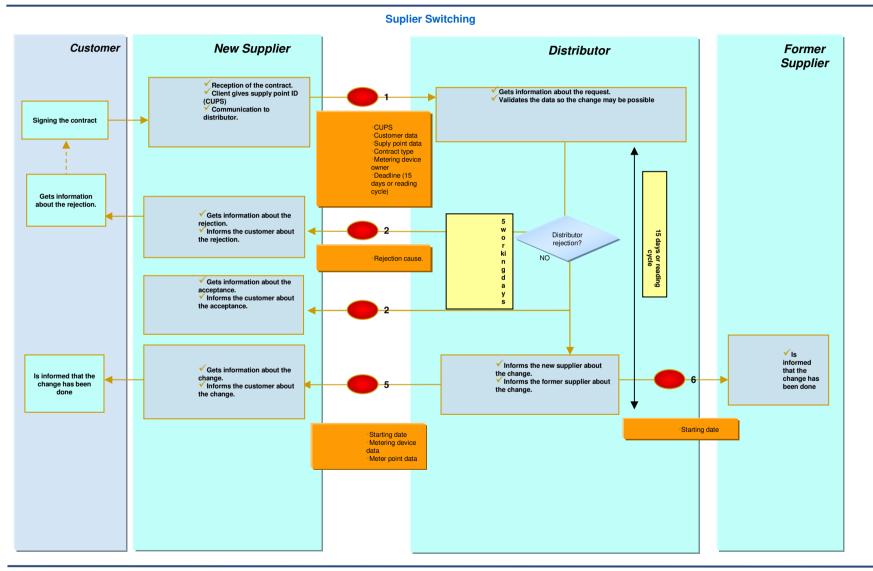
Case studies- standardised processes



	Standardised supplier switching process		Responsible actor for meter reading	Meter reading by
Austria	Yes	No	DSO	DSO/customer
France	Yes	No	DSO	DSO/customer
Spain	Yes	Yes	DSO	DSO
Romania	No	No	DSO	DSO
Sweden	Yes	Yes	DSO	DSO/customer

Example: The supplier switching process in the Spanish electricity retail market





The switching period should be as short as possible EGGEG



- The duration varies between the case study countries
- Difference between the duration according to legal framework and the duration in practice
- Restrictions when a switch can take place in some countries
- Objection to the switch possible in two countries





	Electricity	Gas
Austria	4 or 6 weeks	4 or 6 weeks
France	21 days	21 days
Spain	15 days- >2 months	
Romania	1-2 months	75 days
Sweden	15 days – 1 month and 15 days	

Information needed to switch supplier



- The switching process should be easy and there should be no unnecessary obstacles
- Amount of information needed to switch supplier varies between the case studies





	Electricity	Gas
Austria	Name, address and costumer identification number e.g. metering point access number, costumer number etc	Name, address
France	Name, address and preferably network ID	Name, address and preferably network identification number
Spain	Name, address, customer ID, metering point ID, contract code, contract type, characteristics and owner of the control and metering device	
Romania	Name, address, consumption forecast, metering point ID	Name, address, consumption, metering point ID
Sweden	Name, address, civil registration number, metering point ID, network area ID	

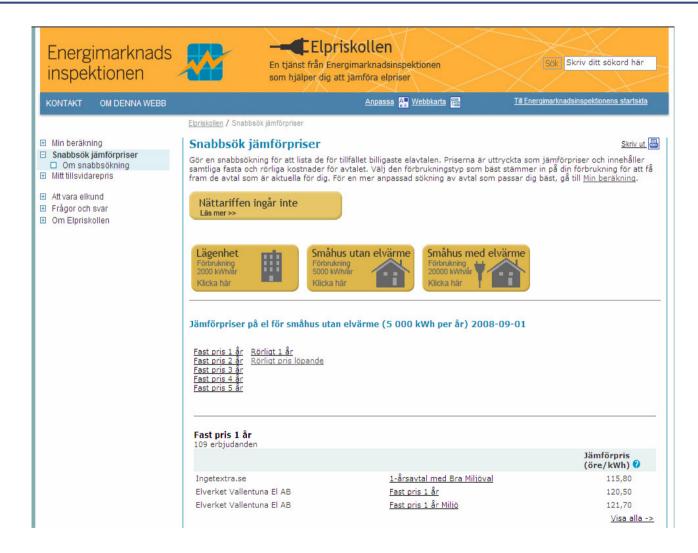
Access to relevant information prior to switching



- Information about available suppliers
- Information about different type of contracts and prices







Experience from the case studies



- The supplier switching process has been improved
- The regulators has identified further improvements

Thank you for your attention!

