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## Main measures concerning electricity contained in Royal Decree-law 7/2026, of 20 March, approving the Comprehensive Plan to Address the Crisis in the Middle East

The Official State Gazette of 21 March 2026 published Royal Decree-law 7/2026, of 20 March, approving the Comprehensive Plan for Responding to the Crisis in the Middle East (“**RDL 7/2026**”), which came into force on the day following its publication and must be ratified by the Congress of Deputies within 30 days of its publication.

This Legal Briefing analyses the principal energy-related measures contained in RDL 7/2026.

### I. Measures to protect vulnerable consumers

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- RDL 7/2026 applies, from 1 January to 31 December 2026, exceptional discount rates under the social electricity tariff of 42.5% for vulnerable consumers and 57.5% for severely vulnerable consumers.
- It increases the minimum amount of aid per beneficiary of the Social Heating Allowance (*Bono Social Térmico*).
- It also extends until 31 December 2026 the guarantee of water and energy supply to vulnerable consumers, severely vulnerable consumers and those at risk of social exclusion.

### II. Measures to protect industrial consumers

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- Measures are introduced for the temporary flexibilisation of electricity supply contracts until 31 December 2026, at electricity supply points owned by self-employed persons and businesses.
- Measures are adopted for the temporary flexibilisation of natural gas supply contracts until 31 December 2026, for owners of gas supply points subject to local grid toll brackets RL4 and above, as well as those with single-customer satellite plants.
- The support mechanism to ensure the competitiveness of the electricity-intensive industry is reactivated, providing an 80% reduction in the cost of access tolls to electricity transmission and distribution grids for the period from 1 January 2026 until 31 December 2026.
- An extraordinary allocation of annual underground gas storage capacity at zero fee is introduced for the period from 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027, applicable to contracted annual capacity exceeding the volume corresponding to 20 days of consumption or firm sales.
- Measures are introduced regarding the provision of information on fuel prices at service stations.

### III. Access and connection permits for demand

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#### Fee for the reservation of access capacity for demand

- » With effect from the entry into force of RDL 7/2026, holders of access and connection permits for demand whose connection point is at a voltage of 1 kV or higher are required to pay the relevant transmission or distribution system operator a fee for the reservation of access capacity (“**Reservation Fee**”).

- » The Reservation Fee must be paid from the moment the access and connection permits are obtained until the third-party grid access contract has been signed by the holder of the access and connection permits at the relevant time.
- » The Reservation Fee is calculated by reference to two variables: (i) the power terms of the electricity transmission and distribution tariffs set by the National Commission for Markets and Competition (“CNMC”), corresponding to the tariff segment applicable to the consumer and to the P1 time period, multiplied by a factor k to be determined by resolution of the Secretary of State for Energy (“SEE”)<sup>1</sup> and (ii) the capacity granted in the access and connection permit.
- » The Reservation Fee is payable monthly to the grid operator and is treated as an advance payment of electricity tolls, to be offset against the corresponding toll payments once the activity associated with the consumption facility commences. This offset applies at a rate of 100% for amounts of the Reservation Fee paid during the first year and 80% for amounts paid in subsequent years (i.e., from the second year onwards, 20% of the Reservation Fee is not offset against the charges payable)<sup>2</sup>.
- » Applications associated with the development of urban plans, industrial estates, or similar access and connection applications where the infrastructure is transferred to the grid operator because several end consumers are connected to the same infrastructure are exempt from the obligation to pay the Reservation Fee.
- » For a period of three months from the entry into force of RDL 7/2026, holders of demand access and connection permits who decide not to bear the cost associated with the Reservation Fee may renounce such permits without enforcement of the grid bonds. The procedure for allocating the access capacity released as a result of this renunciation is also regulated.
- » During that same three-month period, a single update to the access and connection permit may be carried out to reduce capacity by more than 50% of the access capacity originally requested and granted, without such a reduction resulting in the facility ceasing to be considered the same facility.

### Expiry of permits for non-payment of the Reservation Fee

- » Access and connection permits for demand are set to expire automatically for non-payment of the Reservation Fee where, within one calendar year, the amount in arrears exceeds 10% of the total amount due.
- » The expiry of access and connection permits for demand, whether for non-payment of the Reservation Fee or for any other reason, results in the loss of the right to any reduction or refund of the amounts paid in respect of the Reservation Fee.

### Repeal of the grid bond regime for access and connection permits for demand and the transitional regime for existing grid bonds

- » As explained in the explanatory memorandum of RDL 7/2026, the introduction of the Reservation Fee supersedes the grid bond regime initially designed for access and connection permits for demand, and that regime is accordingly repealed.
- » In respect of access and connection permits for demand already granted and for which financial grid bonds have been deposited upon the entry into force of RDL 7/2026, their holders may request a refund of such grid bonds from the moment the cumulative payment of the Reservation Fee exceeds €40/kW, with the exception of storage facilities, which may request the return of the grid bonds from two months after the entry into force of RDL 7/2026.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The first transitional provision of RDL 7/2026 sets out the amounts applicable to the Reservation Fee until such time as they are determined by a resolution of the SEE.

<sup>2</sup> These percentages may be amended by resolution of the SEE, although any downward adjustment may not be applied retroactively to access and connection permits already granted.

<sup>3</sup> Consequently, the only guarantees that storage facilities must maintain are those associated with access and connection permits for generation.

## Introduction of interim milestones in the development of demand facilities

RDL 7/2026 introduces interim milestones for demand facilities, non-compliance with which will result in the expiry of the relevant access and connection permits:<sup>4</sup>

- » payment of 10% of the transmission grid works amount within a maximum period of 12 months following the granting of the access and connection permit;
- » signing of the Project Commissioning Contract within a maximum of three years of obtaining the access and connection permit;
- » signing of the technical access contract (CTA) within a maximum of four years of obtaining the access and connection permit.

## Content of access and connection permits for demand: obligation to state the CNAE code

- » RDL 7/2026 introduces: (i) the obligation to indicate the CNAE code for the planned activity associated with the consumption facility when applying for access and connection permits for demand; and (ii) the obligation to include the CNAE code in the access and connection permit issued.
- » Once the access and connection permit has been issued, no changes to the CNAE code affecting the Division or Group of the CNAE code will be permitted, and the holder is obliged to maintain the same activity for a period of three years; failure to do so will result in the automatic expiry of the access and connection permit, with the sole exception of applications for industrial estates, or similar access and connection applications where the infrastructure is transferred to the grid operator because several end consumers of electricity are connected to the same infrastructure.
- » Holders of access and connection permits already granted have: (i) a period of six months from the entry into force of RDL 7/2026 to update their permits to reflect the CNAE code, failure to do so resulting in the automatic expiry of the permits; or alternatively (ii) a period of four months from the entry into force of RDL 7/2026 to renounce the access and connection permit without enforcement of the guarantees provided.
- » A minimum capacity is introduced for the granting of access and connection permits for self-consumption under Article 6.9 of Royal Decree 1183/2020, of 29 December, on access and connection to electricity transmission and distribution grids (“**RD 1183/2020**”), which may not be lower than that stipulated in section 3.3 of “*Operating Procedure 13.1. Criteria for transmission grid development*”<sup>5</sup>

## Flexible access for storage facilities

- » Law 24/2013, of 26 December, on the Electricity Sector (the “**Electricity Sector Law**”) is amended to specify that access and connection permits for storage facilities constitute flexible access permits from the demand perspective.
- » The deadline for adapting the access and connection permits for storage facilities is set at three months from the date on which the various types of flexible distribution access permits established by the CNMC come into effect. Failure to adapt will result in storage facilities being unable to benefit from the exemptions from tolls and charges provided for in the regulations for this type of facility, with the consequence that the Reservation Fee becomes payable.

<sup>4</sup> In the case of access and connection permits for demand facilities granted prior to the entry into force of RDL 7/2026 and for which the access contract has not yet been formalised, the deadlines for the interim milestones will be calculated as follows: (i) the 12-month period for the payment of 10% of the value of the investment in grid works runs from 7 November 2025 or from the granting of the access permit, whichever is the later; (ii) the three-year period for the signing of the Project Assignment Contract runs from the entry into force of RDL 7/2026; and (iii) the four-year period for the signing of the technical access contract runs from the entry into force of RDL 7/2026.

<sup>5</sup> This lower limit may be reduced provided that this is established in each case by resolution of the Director-General for Energy Policy and Mines, taking into account technical, economic or general interest criteria relating to the projects.

### High-priority consumption facilities: priority for obtaining access and connection permits for demand

- » A series of measures are introduced to prioritise the allocation of demand access capacity on the transmission and distribution grid to certain consumption facilities connected at a voltage of 1 kV or higher that are considered high priority (“**High-Priority Facilities**”) on the grounds that they fall within one of the following categories:
  - a) applications for access and connection for residential property developments or essential services (hospitals, police stations, military facilities, water treatment facilities, public transport facilities or their electrification, power supply to ships in ports, and facilities related to national security);
  - b) applications for access and connection for new industrial consumption declared as Strategic Investment Projects (a concept introduced by RDL 7/2026 and to which we refer further below);
  - c) applications for access and connection involving an update to the consumption of demand facilities that have a valid third-party grid access contract and are making effective use of the grid.

### Demand tenders

- » RDL 7/2026 introduces various provisions affecting the processing of demand tenders. In particular: (i) the procedure for activating demand tenders does not apply where the transmission system operator receives an application for access and connection for a High-Priority Facility; (ii) only applications received within one month of publication that have not been rejected or withdrawn may participate in a demand auction; (iii) the capacities that must be reserved for demand-side auctions are specified; (iv) the parties that may participate in such procedures are identified; and (v) certain aspects relating to the reservation of demand and storage generation capacities when the node is reserved for an auction are clarified.

### Access and connection permits for urban development projects or industrial estates

- » RDL 7/2026 introduces various specific provisions applicable to this type of permit, including, amongst others: (i) exemption from the obligation to pay the Reservation Fee; (ii) the possibility of regulating, by royal decree, the specific details of the procedure for granting access and connection permits for such projects; (iii) the possible establishment of expiry dates for access and connection permits; and (iv) a special expiry regime providing for the possibility of applying to the CNMC for an extension of the expiry period where circumstances arise that are neither directly nor indirectly attributable to the interested party and which justify such an extension.

### Other provisions

- » A **reserve of storage capacity** is introduced **at nodes reserved for generation or demand tenders**, with a view to enabling the simultaneous grant of the generation and demand access capacity required by a storage facility.
- » RDL 7/2026 specifies that, for the purposes of classifying facilities serving more than one consumer as distribution facilities, facilities for the production of electricity that are integrated with storage facilities capable of consuming electricity from the grid, and isolated storage facilities that consume and feed electricity into the grid, will not be considered consumers.

## IV. Measures relating to the development of renewable generation and electricity storage facilities

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### Designation of ‘renewable acceleration zones’ (“**ZAR**”)

- » ZARs are designated as priority areas for the deployment of renewable energy and hybridised storage systems, as they are areas with lower environmental sensitivity.

- » The designation of a ZAR entails the application of specific and simplified processing procedures, including: (i) projects located in a ZAR will not be subject to an ordinary or simplified environmental impact assessment procedure, provided that the preventive and mitigating measures established are adopted; (ii) the competent regional authorities and the General State Administration (“AGE”) may establish, by regulation, simplified procedures for the issuance of administrative authorisations for projects located in a ZAR.
- » The designation of ZARs is carried out by the competent authorities of the autonomous communities and cities following a report from the Ministry for Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge (the “MITECO”);<sup>6</sup> however, RDL 7/2026 sets out a basic state framework setting out the minimum criteria and requirements to be taken into account in the definition of ZARs.

### Other measures applicable to renewable energy generation and electricity storage facilities

- » **RDL 7/2026 strengthens public participation** in the prior administrative authorisation (*Autorización Administrativa Previa*, “AAP”) procedures for large-scale electricity generation and storage facilities falling within the remit of the AGE that require a standard environmental impact statement (“EIS”), by providing for a single substantive and environmental public consultation process lasting 45 days. For this type of project, the AAP application must be accompanied by a sworn statement from the developer certifying that they have informed the owners of the affected land, as well as the relevant local authorities, of the project.
- » It provides that MITECO will regulate a voluntary **standard of social and territorial excellence** for renewable generation projects, storage facilities and electricity transmission and distribution facilities that demonstrate a high level of social engagement, positive socio-economic impact and environmental excellence in their design. Recognition of this standard may constitute a relevant merit in procedures for granting access and connection to the grid, in tenders for the allocation of regulated economic regimes, and for projects to be declared as priority energy projects.
- » An obligation is introduced for owners of generation facilities connected at a voltage of 132 kV or higher to **pass on a portion of the benefits of their projects to local citizens and communities** in the vicinity.
- » **Pumped-storage hydroelectric facilities** are declared to be of **public interest**.
- » Developers of electricity generation facilities and pumped-storage hydroelectric facilities are required to negotiate with individuals affected by the project before applying for a declaration of public utility (“DUP”). This requirement takes the form of a **sworn statement certifying that agreements have been reached with the owners for the acquisition of property and rights** covering at least 50% of the area affected by the project in the case of generation facilities, and at least 25% in the case of pumped-storage hydroelectric facilities.
- » The Council of Ministers is authorised to designate areas as ‘just transition hubs’ where they are within a 50 km radius of the just transition hubs already included in the annex to Royal Decree-law 23/2020, of 23 June, approving measures in the field of energy and other areas for economic recovery (“**RDL 23/2020**”).
- » Various measures are introduced to facilitate the development of renewable energy projects without lowering applicable standards:
  - a) Preferential administrative processing is established for certain priority projects and projects recognised as being of social and territorial excellence, through the declaration of urgency on grounds of public interest.
  - b) Where **production and storage facilities are repowered** by an amount not exceeding 25% of the originally installed capacity: (i) the environmental impact assessment of the repowering is limited to the incremental impact of the modified or expanded part relative to the original project; and (ii) the timeframes set out in environmental and substantive administrative authorisation regulations are halved, except for public consultation periods.

<sup>6</sup> For ZARs located in more than one autonomous community, this responsibility falls to the Sectoral Conference on Energy.

- c) **Specific provisions** are introduced **into environmental assessment legislation with the aim of improving legal certainty and streamlining procedures**, including: (i) a hearing with the developer prior to the drafting of the EIS; (ii) mechanisms to ensure the continuity of proceedings in the absence of reports from consulted authorities; and (iii) clarification of the treatment of certain minor modifications to projects that have already been assessed.
  - » The framework set out in Law 13/2003, of 23 May, regulating public works concession contracts for collaboration between public administrations and the construction of public works of general interest, also applies to the basic hydrogen transport grid, secondary electricity transmission facilities, and production and pumped-storage hydroelectric facilities that are designated as strategic energy facilities.
  - » RDL 7/2026 specifies that transmission infrastructure forms an integral part of storage facilities, with the result that the entire facility is subject to the same regulatory regime.
  - » With regard to shared evacuation infrastructure, RDL 7/2026 provides that the owners of production facilities are jointly liable for any event, act or omission that occurs or is caused by the shared evacuation infrastructure used to feed into the same point of a substation. Prior to obtaining the AAP, those using such infrastructure for evacuation must submit an agreement signed by all operators setting out the allocation of responsibilities.
  - » **The suspension of the calculation of the time limits for the administrative milestones under RDL 23/2020** is expressly regulated **where the developer provides evidence of the adoption of a judicial interim measure or administrative suspension** (including suspension resulting from administrative silence) that entails the suspension of the validity of the administrative authorisations for a project.
  - » RDL 7/2026 introduces the possibility of requesting a further extension of the deadline for obtaining the definitive administrative operating authorisation (*Autorización Administrativa de Explotación Definitiva*, “AAED”), in six-monthly periods, up to a maximum deadline of 31 December 2030, for generation facilities that obtained access and connection permits between 28 December 2013 and 21 March 2026 and hold an administrative construction authorisation (*Autorización Administrativa de Construcción*, “AAC”).

## V. Measures relating to the Electricity Transmission Grid Plan

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- An obligation is established to initiate a new transmission grid development plan within a maximum period of three years from the approval of the last Transmission Grid Plan, taking into account the content of the Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan.
- An obligation is introduced to make amendments to specific aspects of the current Transmission Grid Plan every two years, with new provisions added to be incorporated through such amendments.
- Furthermore, RDL 7/2026 provides that the Government may regulate, by royal decree, the criteria for determining the uses to which transmission substation positions will be allocated, including the possibility of stipulating that such positions may only be used temporarily for the connection of specific demand deemed to be a priority.
- In relation to the mechanism for planning positions to supply demand, RDL 7/2026 adds a new condition regarding the requirements that must be met at the node to incorporate new positions: applications must relate to industrial or residential consumption or have been declared strategic.

In addition, applicants are required to submit, together with their applications to the system operator, a document validated by the transmission system operator confirming that a payment of 75% of the investment value of the requested position has been made. This payment will be taken into account in any further payments that may be necessary should the position be implemented for the requested purpose. The amount paid will be refunded to the consumer or distributor who made the payment if the requested position is not introduced, if the use is modified for the requested purpose, or if the position is ultimately not allocated to that applicant in an access procedure.

## VI. Consumer rights

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- The Electricity Sector Act is amended to strengthen **the information rights of consumers in relation to changes to contractual terms and price reviews**. Specifically: (i) a minimum notice period of one month is established for communicating any intention to amend the terms of the contract<sup>7</sup> —bringing it into line with the existing requirement for price reviews — and both such notice and notifications of price reviews must be provided in writing and separately from the bill; (ii) the relevant contractual clauses must set out the specific parameters and formulas determining when the agreed terms may be revised; and (iii) fixed-price contracts are expressly excluded from these obligations.
- Similarly, Law 24/1998, of 7 October on the hydrocarbons sector (the “**Hydrocarbons Sector Law**”) is amended to strengthen consumers’ rights to information, establishing a minimum notice period of one month to be given in writing and separately from the bill, and requiring that variable-price contracts specify the parameters and formulas according to which prices may be revised until the end of the contract.

## VII. Measures to promote self-consumption and energy communities

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- **The maximum permitted distance** between a ‘production facility located near and associated with the consumption facilities for self-consumption’ and the relevant consumption facility is **extended** to 5 kilometres, where the generation facility uses photovoltaic or wind technology with a capacity of up to 5 MW.
- RDL 7/2026 introduces the role of **self-consumption manager**, referring to those who represent the interests of consumers associated with a self-consumption arrangement and carry out the necessary procedures on their behalf to ensure its proper functioning.
- **10% of the capacity in the nodes reserved for tender is released**, which may be allocated to renewable generation facilities that: (i) are associated with a form of self-consumption; and (ii) have a ratio between the contracted power in the P1 period and the installed generation capacity of at least 0.5 for self-consumption.
- Furthermore, it is established that, within three months, the Government must adopt a royal decree to develop the regulatory framework for Energy Communities, which will allow a quota of installed capacity in renewable energy auctions to be reserved for projects involving public participation or promoted by local authorities.

## VIII. Renewable gases

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- The CNMC is temporarily assigned the supervisory functions provided for the national regulatory authority under Article 16 of the TEN-E Regulation<sup>8</sup> with regard to hydrogen infrastructure projects of common European interest, until such powers are definitively assigned to a national regulatory authority.
- **The Government is required to set annual targets for the uptake of biomethane** for purposes other than transport, defining the obligated parties, the calculation methodology and the accreditation mechanisms to ensure compliance.
- MITECO is tasked, in collaboration with other associations, non-governmental organisations and public bodies, with establishing a **seal of social, territorial and environmental excellence which may be required of biomethane production plants** coming into operation once the targets have been implemented, based on criteria such as the circular economy, territorial participation, local job creation and contribution to decarbonisation. This measure applies to both domestically produced biomethane and imported biomethane.
- In addition, the Hydrocarbons Sector Act is amended to accommodate the new biomethane obligations and to introduce a penalty scheme that encourages proper compliance.

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<sup>7</sup> Once the expiry date or any extensions thereof have elapsed.

<sup>8</sup> Regulation (EU) 2022/869 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2022 on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure and amending Regulations (EC) No 715/2009, (EU) 2019/942 and (EU) 2019/943 and Directives 2009/73/EC and (EU) 2019/944 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 347/2013.

## IX. Specific provisions for data centres

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- RDL 7/2026 includes a mandate for the Council of Ministers to regulate, by royal decree, the **requirements regarding energy sustainability, environmental sustainability, resilience and digital sovereignty** applicable to data centres connected to electricity transmission and distribution grids. It is expressly stated that these requirements may include, amongst others, criteria of additionality and temporal correlation in relation to the consumption of electricity from renewable energy sources, energy efficiency, sustainability in water use, economic and social benefits, as well as criteria that demonstrate their contribution to the resilience and digital sovereignty of the Spanish or European economy.
- It is expressly stated that **failure to comply with these requirements may result in the loss of access and connection permits** and/or penalties, in accordance with the terms determined by regulation. The requirements apply to all data centres connecting to the grid after the entry into force of the relevant Royal Decree.

## X. Strategic investment projects

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- The concept of Strategic Investment Projects (*Proyectos Estratégicos de Inversión*, “PEI”) is established, identified in the preamble to RDL 7/2026 as high-energy-consumption projects, such as data centres or renewable hydrogen projects, and defined in the operative provisions as business initiatives or public-private partnerships involving investment or reinvestment projects in Spain aimed at improving technological, scientific or productive capacities, and where there are reasons of public, social and/or economic interest for the country as a whole.
- The preliminary declaration of a PEI is made by the Strategic Investment Committee, an inter-ministerial collegiate body established by RDL 7/2026, and the final declaration is made by the Government’s Delegated Commission for Economic Affairs.
- The PEI declaration may entail various effects provided for in RDL 7/2026, including:
  - i) Measures aimed at facilitating the project’s access and connection to the electricity, water, land transport or other infrastructure necessary for its commissioning and implementation.
  - ii) With regard to grid access, PEIs may be given **priority in terms of access and connection as electricity demand** in the event of competition with other consumption. A temporary reserve of access capacity may be established for these projects at one or more grid nodes, which the relevant transmission and/or distribution system operators must guarantee for a period to be determined.
  - iii) Where the PEI is linked to an electricity generation and/or storage project on which its viability depends, such generation and/or storage project may be given **priority in the allocation of access and connection capacity for generation**, in the event that such capacity is reserved for allocation through a grid access tender.

## XI. Carbon contracts for difference

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- RDL 7/2026 introduces carbon contracts for difference to enable industrial companies to invest in technologies with lower dependence on fossil fuels and, consequently, lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, even if they entail higher costs.
- To implement this instrument, the Spanish Reserve Fund for Guarantees for Energy-Intensive Entities (FCPI) – FERGEI – which focuses on covering risks associated with energy procurement, is amended and renamed the Fund for the Promotion of Industrial Decarbonisation (FCPI), expanding its scope of action through the formalisation of carbon contracts for difference.
- In terms of its operation, the Government guarantees a reference carbon price for a specified period, making investment in low-emission technologies viable. If the actual market price of carbon falls below this level, the contract covers the difference. In this way, investments in decarbonisation are incentivised through the State’s guarantee of a stable long-term price for carbon dioxide emission allowances.

## XII. Facilities under the remuneration regime

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- **The remuneration parameters affecting non-peninsular electricity systems are adjusted for the 2026–2031 regulatory period.** In particular: (i) the financial remuneration rate for electricity generation in non-peninsular territories under the additional remuneration scheme is updated and set at 6.58%; (ii) the CNMC is required to analyse generation cost overruns and the conditions and prices of electricity supply periodically and, in any event, at the end of each regulatory half-period; and (iii) any positive balances corresponding to the extra costs of electricity production in non-peninsular territories charged to the General State Budget for financial years 2017, 2018 and 2020 will, exceptionally, be transferred to the settlement system for financial year 2026.
- Furthermore, RDL 7/2026 provides that the CNMC, as the body responsible for settlements, will carry out the necessary settlement to adjust the remuneration arising from the specific remuneration scheme, deducting the amounts not paid by the facilities as a result of the reduction in the tax base for the tax on the value of electricity production. This adjustment will take place in the first settlement in which the corresponding adjustments are available.

## XIII. Amendments to the National Energy Efficiency Obligations System (“SNOEE”)

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- RDL 7/2026 introduces new categories of obligated party, with the applicable obligation depending on the origin of their consumption or sales: (i) direct consumers in the electricity and gas markets; (ii) companies engaged in the retail distribution of petroleum products or liquefied petroleum gas (“LPG”); and (iii) consumers of petroleum products or LPG.
- The calculation methodology is amended so that the annual energy saving obligation is calculated by establishing a final energy saving rate for year ‘n’, identical for all obligated parties, which they must apply to their actual final energy sales or consumption data for that financial year in order to contribute to the SNOEE in accordance with their actual activity.<sup>9</sup>
- The penalty regime is amended so that the severity of the infringement is determined by the amount of revenue not paid into the National Energy Efficiency Fund by the obligated party concerned.
- Royal Decree 36/2023, of 24 January, establishing an Energy Saving Certificate System, is amended to provide for the development, implementation and management of an electronic platform for the Energy Saving Certificate System (“CAEs”).
- RDL 7/2026 provides for a plan to promote heat pumps through CAEs, under which the Government will approve correction coefficients of a fixed duration to facilitate the urgent implementation of measures to replace combustion boilers with electrically powered heat pumps. These coefficients will be increased for interventions in vulnerable households.

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<sup>9</sup> The amendments introduced apply to the determination of energy saving obligations for financial years commencing on or after 1 January 2027. For energy saving obligations for the 2026 financial year, the regulations in force prior to RDL 7/2026 apply.

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