



Grand Ruling Chamber for Energy

GBK-24-02-3#4

Decision

In the administrative proceedings pursuant to section 21a(3) para 7 and para 11 in conjunction with section 29(1) of the Energy Industry Act (EnWG)

relating to the **proceedings for the determination of the methodology for calculating the general sectoral productivity factor for electricity distribution systems, gas distribution systems and gas transmission systems**

the Grand Ruling Chamber for Energy of the Bundesnetzagentur für Elektrizität, Gas, Telekommunikation, Post und Eisenbahnen, Tulpenfeld 4, 53113 Bonn,

represented by

its Chair	Klaus Müller,
its Vice Chair	Barbie Kornelia Haller,
its Vice Chair	Dr Daniela Brönstrup,
its Vice Chair	Alexander Lüdtke-Handjery,
its Vice Chair	Achim Zerres, and
its Vice Chair	Dr Christian Schütte,

decided on 8 December 2025:

1. Addressees

¹This determination applies to operators of energy supply networks if and as far as they operate electricity distribution systems, gas distribution systems or gas transmission systems (“network operators” within the meaning of this determination). ²This does not apply to operators of closed distribution systems within the meaning of section 110 EnWG.

2. General sectoral productivity factor

2.1. Specific input price developments and productivity growth in the gas and electricity network sector (“network sector” within the meaning of this determination) must be taken into account through a correction of the consumer price index using a general sectoral productivity factor (X_{gen}) (see operative part 6.2 GBK-25-01-1#1 and operative part 6.2 GBK-25-01-2#1).

2.2. The general sectoral productivity factor is derived from the difference between the productivity growth and input price developments in the network sector and the change in the consumer price index.

2.3 ¹A separate general sectoral productivity factor is calculated for electricity distribution system operators on the one hand and for gas distribution and transmission system operators on the other by the Bundesnetzagentur in an individual determination before the start of a regulatory period in line with the methodology below. ²Further details will be set out in the relevant individual determination under section 21a(3) para 7 EnWG.

2.4 ¹The data basis for calculating the general sectoral productivity factor is the plausibility-checked structural data and cost parameters of those network operators that have participated in two successive national efficiency benchmarking exercises. ²The cost parameters to be used are the total costs (TOTEX) and the standardised total costs (sTOTEX) from the cost examination. ³In derogation of this, for gas network operators the cost parameters of the individual determination under operative part 12 sentence 4 GBK-25-02-2#1 must be used. ⁴For gas transmission system operators operative part 20 GBK-25-02-2#1 must be taken into account accordingly. ⁵The Bundesnetzagentur can include further data, in particular by means of supplementary data surveys, to ensure a data basis that is reliable and consistent over time. ⁶Network operators are required to provide information in this regard. ⁷The details of the scope,

time and form of the data to be collected and transmitted, in particular the permissible methods of data storage and transmission, will be set out in a determination pursuant to section 21a(3) sentence 3 para 11 EnWG.

2.5 ¹On the basis of the data used, the general sectoral productivity factor is derived from the shift in the efficiency frontier calculated using the method of a nominal cost Malmquist index. ²The shift in the efficiency frontier is calculated in each case between the base years of two successive regulatory periods. ³The basis for the necessary calculation of the efficient costs is the efficiency benchmarking methodologies and models. ⁴The Bundesnetzagentur can adapt the efficiency benchmarking models to allow a reliable calculation of the frontier shift over time.

3. Deviating provisions for gas distribution and transmission systems

¹If no efficiency benchmarking is carried out in a regulatory period, an individual determination under operative part 2.3 sentence 2 will set out for gas distribution and transmission systems how a general sectoral productivity factor will be derived, in derogation of the other provisions of operative part 2. ²In a case as described in sentence 1, the provisions of operative part 6.3 GBK-25-01-2#1 can additionally be applied. ³The Bundesnetzagentur can collect data necessary in a case as described in sentence 1 in derogation of operative part 2.4 sentence 5. ⁴Network operators are required to provide information in this regard. ⁵The details of the scope, time and form of the data to be collected and transmitted, in particular the permissible data and transmission media, will be set out in a determination pursuant to section 21a(3) sentence 3 para 11 EnWG.

4. Payment of costs

No fees are payable for the decision.

