

EU Energy Talks Hit Snag

By [The Moscow Times](#)

October 24, 2011

The  **Moscow Times**

Energy Minister Sergei Shmatko told an energy conference Monday that Russia and the European Commission failed to reach an understanding on the EU's third energy package, a set of energy market rules requiring gas suppliers to divest pipeline infrastructure.

Gazprom opposes the so-called "unbundling" rules, seeking to build its presence in gas distribution and marketing. "Talks with the European Commission on the third energy package ... hit a dead end," Shmatko said, adding that the talks failed to take adequate account of Russia's interests as a major energy supplier.

"What does this mean? Nothing terrible," Shmatko added. "All obligations the Russian Federation and Russian companies have taken on with regard to supplies of energy under long-term contracts will without doubt be fulfilled."

(Reuters)

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