

Germany Approves Gazprom Pipeline In Territorial Waters, Despite U.S. Opposition

February 01, 2018



Vitaly Nevar / TASS

Russia's energy monopoly Gazprom has welcomed Germany's approval of a multibillion-dollar gas pipeline to Europe that is viewed with suspicion by Moscow's geopolitical rivals.

The Nord Stream 2 project [announced](#) Wednesday that it received a construction and operation permit from a northern German regional mining authority for a 55-km section of the gas 1,200-km pipeline off the Baltic Sea coast.

Related article: [Gazprom Lobbyists Spent \\$1 Mln Shielding European Pipeline From Sanctions](#)

“This key decision opens the possibility of starting construction of the new Nord Stream-2 offshore gas pipeline’s most important section in German territorial waters,” Gazprom CEO Alexei Miller was [cited](#) as saying by Interfax on Wednesday.

The Stralsund Mining Authority issued the permit less than a week after top diplomats from the United States and Poland expressed strong opposition to the Nord Stream 2 pipeline.

“We see it as undermining Europe’s overall energy security and stability and providing Russia yet another tool to politicize energy as a political tool,” U.S. State Secretary Rex Tillerson [said](#) at the time.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2018/02/01/germany-approves-gazprom-pipeline-in-territorial-waters-despite-us-opposition-a60363>