



BOTAŞ

BOTAŞ PETROLEUM PIPELINE COMPANY

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PRESS RELEASE

Recently, certain individuals, particularly in their capacity as energy experts, have been systematically sharing unsubstantial and speculative information in their analyses and comments on various media outlets and social media sites regarding the recent developments in natural gas market.

These statements, many of which are far from truth and are thought to serve personal and/or corporate interests, are considered to be aimed at steering the Turkish natural gas market and increasing the gas prices.

As several countries are affected from the recent global energy crisis, energy supply companies in Europe are going bankrupt and large scale factories are either suspending production or closing down because of high energy costs. Even natural gas producing countries are facing difficulties in meeting their domestic consumption demands under the current circumstances.

In these difficult conditions the world is going through, as a result of the long-term cold spell which affects our country and has an impact level which could be categorized as a disaster, the natural gas demand has reached record levels, yet the difficulties were not reflected to the users until the gas flow **from Iran** was cut off by the supplier. Unfortunately, as a result of this temporary situation, gas supply to the large industrial consumers and power plants is provided uninterruptedly at 60%. Meanwhile, the efforts to maintain the natural gas supply-demand balance by ensuring maximum gas supply from all other supply sources are carried on diligently and carefully.

ALLEGATION: Tuz Gölü Underground Natural Gas Storage Project has not been completed.

FACT: The project is completed; **the Phase 1** was commissioned in **2017** and Phase II in 2021. Hence, a total storage capacity of **1.2 billion Sm³** has been reached.

The facility started the winter season with 100% storage level and a total of **1 billion Sm³** natural gas was withdrawn and sent out to the transmission system only in 2021, and it continues to deliver gas to the system.

Additionally, the EXPANSION PROJECT of the facility, which started in 2019, will be completed in **2023**. Accordingly, a total storage capacity of **5.4 billion Sm³** will be achieved.

ALLEGATION: Underground Natural Gas Storage Capacities

FACT: The total storage capacity of Silivri and Tuz Gölü Under Ground Facilities have reached

3.5 billion Sm³ in 2019

3.9 billion Sm³ in 2020

4.4 billion Sm³ in 2021.

The total underground storage capacity will be increased to **5.8 billion Sm³** in 2022 and to **10 billion Sm³** in 2023.

ALLEGATION: Transmission Network

FACT: Our transmission network is designed to provide natural gas flow both from east to west and in reverse, from west to east. There is no lack of infrastructure investments of BOTAŞ, and all compressor stations, facilities and units are available and in working order. Currently, our transmission network is operated in a way to ensure the supply-demand balance. Hence, despite the record levels of consumption, natural gas supply to all of our 81 provinces continues without any disruptions, and all kinds of necessary measures are taken for the future.

ALLEGATION: The Contribution of Ertuğrul Gazi FSRU vessel to the natural gas system.

FACT: BOTAŞ Ertuğrul Gazi FSRU vessel was commissioned in 2021 and provided a total of **1.1 billion Sm³** natural gas storage and re-gasification services to the transmission system only this winter season.

FSRU vessels, by their technical structure, are able to supply natural gas to the transmission system at high pressures. Accordingly, they do not require an additional compressor station on shore to send out the re-gasified LNG.

Finally, we would like to underline that, despite all the efforts and attempts to prevent it, we aim to complete the Saros FSRU facility and put it into the service of our country within 2022.

Respectfully announced to the public.