

Government takes measures to protect water supply, energy security and strengthen crisis response capacity



The Government of the Republic of Moldova approved today a package of decisions that pursue a common objective: protecting the population and ensuring the uninterrupted operation of vital services, in the context of increasingly accentuated risks at the regional level.

One of the decisions is **declaring a state of alert in the energy sector at national level, for a period of 30 days.**

This measure aims to prevent a possible supply disruption in the energy sector. Current data indicate a rapid deterioration of energy security, based on the following arguments:

- **Price shock and market volatility:** Platts international quotes for diesel saw a rapid rise, returning to around \$1,300/tonne from \$880-900/tonne in mid-June. At the same time, the price of Brent oil crossed the \$100/barrel mark, generating enormous financial pressure on importers.
- **The Red Sea Logistical Blockade:** The conflict between the US and Iran, along with attacks by Houthi rebels, forced the rerouting of ships. This extended shipping times up to 4 weeks, increasing vessel charter rates and affecting international Platts and Brent quotations.
- **Severe regional shortage of diesel stocks:** It is determined by an overlap of critical factors: the suspension of deliveries of Kazakh crude oil through the Caspian Pipeline Consortium's marine terminal near Novorossiisk in the Black Sea (essential for refineries in Romania, where 80% of imported crude oil is of Kazakh origin), re-export restrictions imposed by the authorities in Bulgaria and the major disruption of regional logistics chains caused by attacks on Black Sea oil points.
- **Reduction of commercial stocks:** Diesel stocks have fallen from a safe level of 17.6 days (at the end of June) to a threshold of 6.9 days that requires rigorous management.
- **Logistical and geopolitical bottlenecks:** The drought reduced the level of the Danube, limiting barge capacity to only half of normal capacity, and blocking access of

large sea vessels to the Port of Giurgiulesti, which forced a massive and costly reorientation to land transport. Moreover, the suspension for a period of deliveries of Kazakh crude oil to the Petromidia refinery in Romania affected our main fuel source.

Through this state of alert, we activate several intervention mechanisms focused on:

- **The flexibility of the price regime** to reflect actual acquisition costs.
- **Logistics fluidization** by prioritizing import clearance and creating green border corridors.
- **Consumer protection.**
- **Strategic coordination:** The National Crisis Management Commission will coordinate strategic decisions, and the Ministry of Energy will be the sectoral entity responsible for response management.

The second decision is **declaring the state of hydrological alert for a period of 30 days.**

The decision is based on the analysis of hydrological indicators and available forecasts, which show a significant decrease in water resources in the hydrographic basin from which the Republic of Moldova is fed. The evolution is determined by the major precipitation deficit recorded in the Carpathian area, where an important part of the water resources that later reach the territory of our country is formed. For this reason, the hydrological regime in the Republic of Moldova depends not only on the precipitation recorded at the national level, but also on the hydrometeorological conditions in the entire hydrographic basin.

Based on the current situation, preventive actions are necessary considering the following aspects:

- **Reduction of water reserves.** On July 27, 2026, the water level in the Nistru Reservoir dropped to 113.24 m, significantly below the normal retention level of 121 m. Water supply is low, and forecasts indicate that this trend will continue in the absence of significant precipitation in the upper basin.
- **The need for prudent management of water resources.** The Republic of Moldova uses the water resources from this basin for feeding the population, economic activities and agriculture. Under these conditions, it is necessary to coordinate monitoring and management measures, so that the available resources are managed efficiently during the period of hydrological deficit.
- **The situation requires a more rigorous protection of ecosystems and economic activities.** Reduced flows influence the operation of irrigation systems and the balance of aquatic ecosystems, which requires permanent monitoring and the adoption, if necessary, of coordinated response measures.
- **There is an imminent risk from August 1st.** The consequences of a possible

reduction of discharge flows from Novodnistrovsk starting from August 1st below the critical threshold of 100 m³/s, could endanger the operation of the catchment stations and the natural dilution capacity of the river, while increasing the concentration of pollutants. The volume of 100 m³/s represents the minimum safety limit that allows maintaining the functionality of the water intakes and the natural dilution capacity of the river, any further decrease directly endangering the water supply.

By establishing the state of alert, the Government will apply the necessary mechanisms for the effective coordination and management of the hydrological situation:

- The authorities will evaluate the available underground water capture capacities and other reserve sources, in order to ensure operational flexibility in case of unfavorable evolution of hydrological indicators.

All catchment points in the Nistru and its tributaries will be inventoried to assess the volumes used and detect irrational consumption. This action is imperative in the context of the imminent risk of reducing the discharge flow from Novodnistrovsk, starting on August 1, below the critical threshold of 100 m³/s.

- Local authorities and operators will rehabilitate and prepare operatively the reserve water wells to make up for the deficit from the intakes on Nistru.

- Operators will update and activate continuity plans, including by using backup sources, adapting the capture regime and reducing network losses.

- The Ministry of the Environment will ensure the permanent monitoring of hydrological parameters.

- Through the National Crisis Management Commission, the process of evaluation and adoption of the necessary decisions will be coordinated, depending on the evolution of the situation.

The last decision approved today is **the modification [Government Decision no. 346/2026](#)**, developed to ensure the continuity and efficiency of the national coordination mechanisms in the management of crisis situations through an adjustment of the terms of entry into force of some provisions of the said Decision.

Considering the evolution of the regional security context and the need to strengthen the reaction capacity at the governmental level, the immediate entry into force of the decision allows the activation of the National Crisis Management Commission - a strategic coordination mechanism led by the Prime Minister, through which the continuous assessment of the situation, the coordination of the institutional response and the prompt adoption of the necessary decisions at the national level are ensured.

At the same time, the deadline of August 10, 2026 is maintained for the entry into force of the provisions applicable to the regional, territorial and local level. This

approach gives local public administration authorities the necessary time to finalize organizational measures and set up their own commissions, ensuring an orderly and efficient implementation of the new mechanism.

