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The Independent syndicate of workers in energy sector of Macedonia and the Association of Employers of energy sector in the Organization of Employers of Macedonia yesterday signed new Collective agreement that regulates the rights and obligations of the social partners in this area. The purpose of this Collective agreement is to apply international labour standards, to equalize the working conditions at branch level and to establish a framework of rights for the employees by maintaining a fair competition between employers, job security and working conditions in the sector and promoting social rights and healthy working environment.

Both parties are satisfied with the terms of the new Collective agreement and continue to work jointly to maintain a healthy and productive relations climate within the Energy Branch in the private sector in Macedonia.

“This Collective agreement provides stability for our employees in the upcoming period as we continue to improve the quality of service and progress towards service excellence“, said Mr. Stefan Peter, President of the Energy Association which is a part of the Employers organization of Macedonia.

The President of the Independent syndicate of workers in energy sector, Mr. Robert Simonoski stated “The signing and the contract extension of the Collective agreement for Energy sector represents an act of improvement of the employees’ rights in the real private energy sector in Republic of Macedonia. With this Collective agreement the right of holiday allowance and other allowances are confirmed, European framework measures for protection and safety of employees are improved and implemented and many other benefits that this Collective agreement brings will become available for all the employees in the energy sector.

The OEM chairman, Angel Dimitrov, emphasized that with open and realistic social dialogue, using the experiences of the foreign investors the goal for improvement and protection of the employees’ rights can be achieved with signing of a Branch and Employers Collective agreements on national level.

The Organization of Employers of Macedonia (OEM) represents private sector employers and consists more than 15 industries, employing nearly 70,000 workers in 1,012 enterprises from the private sector in the country.