



# Changes in the Electricity Market in the Republic of North Macedonia and Its Compliance with European Regulations, Characteristics and Official Data on the Macedonian Regulated Market for the Period 2019-2021

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**Abstract:** *First and foremost, the main inspiration for the specific problem in this paper are the changes in the electricity market of the Republic of North Macedonia (in the text as - "RSM") and its compliance with European regulations, elaborating the characteristics and official data on the Macedonian regulated market. By summarizing all the theoretical and empirical aspects, the answers to the arising questions are provided through the analysis of the legal framework, the condition and the participants in the electricity-regulated market in the country in the analyzed period of three years (2019-2021). Also, the results and conclusions of the research shall be achieved via comprehensive analysis and by finding the answers to the posed questions through the theoretical analysis, the inductive and deductive methods, whereas the techniques utilized shall be: official data and reports of the Regulatory Commission of energetic and water services of RSM, questionnaires, interviews and observations as well. The main conclusion is that the changes in the regulated market are under the influence of the changed Macedonian regulations, the process of harmonization with the European regulations and the current developments related to the energy market globally. In this paper, the goal is achieved through the elaboration of changes in the legislation in the Republic of North Macedonia and its implementation in the past few years, emphasizing the effects on the liberalization of the electricity market.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The global crisis caused by the pandemic of Covid-19, due to reduced oil production, was transferred to the energy sector, which energy crisis in Europe, did not pass the energy sector in the Republic of North Macedonia. All of this affected the change in electricity prices, both in the regulated market and in the unregulated electricity market. Specifically, it led to an increase in electricity prices on the electricity market, through the price of electricity imports, the cost of electricity production, and the price to consumers as end users.

The adoption of the last Energy Law was a result of the harmonization with European directives and regulations. The electricity sector in the Republic of North Macedonia in 2019 has undergone significant changes, primarily due to the fact that starting from January 1, 2019, all electricity consumers, including households, have gained the right to choose their own electricity supplier and to mutually agree on the conditions and prices on the basis of which the electricity supply will be performed.

The full liberalization of the electricity market in 2019 contributed to the increase in the number of active electricity suppliers/traders and the increased number of procedures for changing the

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electricity supplier. This means that competition in the retail electricity market is increasing and consumers are getting better offers from suppliers/traders. In the retail market, the full liberalization started on January 1, 2019, when each consumer gained the right to independently choose their own electricity supplier and to agree on the terms of supply and the price of electricity.

## **2. ELECTRICITY MARKET AND CHANGES IN THE ELECTRICITY MARKET**

The electricity market is an organized way of buying and selling electricity based on supply and demand, applying conditions prescribed by the Law on Energy. The electricity market consists of two segments, regulated and unregulated electricity market. In the regulated electricity market, the purchase and sale of electricity and power are performed at prices and conditions approved by the Energy Regulatory Commission. In the unregulated electricity market, the purchase and sale of electricity and power are done at prices and conditions that are freely agreed upon between the buyer and the seller, at their own choice, risk and cost.

The electricity sector in 2019 is undergoing significant changes, primarily due to the fact that starting from January 1, 2019, all electricity consumers, including households, have gained the right to choose their own electricity supplier and mutually agree on the conditions and prices on the basis of which the electricity supply will be performed. The full liberalization of the electricity market in 2019 contributed to an increase in the number of active suppliers/traders of electricity for four new entities compared to 2018. This was followed by an increased number of procedures to change the electricity supplier, which in 2019 increased by 66.46% compared to 2018.

This means that competition in the retail electricity market is increasing and consumers are getting better offers from suppliers/traders. During 2019, not all consumers decided to choose their own electricity supplier and some until June 30, 2019, were supplied through the electricity supplier to tariff consumers, EVN Macedonia AD Skopje, while from July 1, 2019, they continued to be supplied under the same conditions through the universal electricity supplier EVN HOME DOO Skopje.

The introduction of the Universal Electricity Supplier proved to be a successful model that provided the best price for small consumers and households, and at the same time, the liberalization of the electricity market brought lower costs for certain consumers by up to 30%. Households have seen a 5% reduction in electricity bills as a result of the applied cheap daily tariff. Energy Regulatory Commission determined that AD MEPSO Skopje met the requirements of Directive 2009/72 / EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 on general rules of the internal market and Regulation (EC) No 714/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 on the conditions for access to cross-border electricity exchange networks and designated it as the electricity transmission system operator of the Republic of North Macedonia (Annual report, 2019). The electricity market during 2020 recorded significant positive trends despite the Covid-19 pandemic. Also, the number of active electricity suppliers has increased, in 2020 were 16 active suppliers, which is 4 more than in 2019. This means that the competition in the retail electricity market is increasing and consumers are getting better offers from suppliers/traders. In 2020, for the first time, the consumption of electricity on the open market was higher than the consumption of electricity on the regulated market and amounted to 52.24 % of the total gross electricity consumption.

MEMO DOOEL Skopje, as an operator on the organized electricity market, is also a nominated operator on the electricity market, which has the task of merging the electricity market in North Macedonia with the electricity markets in the region, i.e. primarily with Bulgaria (Annual report, 2020).

The second half of 2021 was marked by significant disruptions in the functioning of the electricity market due to the high rise in prices, which resulted in the declaration of a crisis in electricity supply by the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia on November 9, 2021, which was extended by the Assembly of the Republic of North Macedonia until June 9, 2022. In the period from July 2021, the prices of electricity on the regional stock exchanges started to increase and this was reflected in the purchase prices of the electricity suppliers in the country. They faced the termination of contracts with suppliers in the region, i.e. a significant increase in energy prices, which resulted in the termination of contracts. In parallel with this situation, there was a decrease in electricity production of the largest producer of electricity AD ESM. The lack of electricity was provided by the import and commissioning of TPP Negotino. In the first months of 2022, there is still a crisis in the electricity supply. These negative trends were also reflected in the regulated supplier EVN HOME DOO Skopje, which in 2021, part of the energy that could not be procured from the largest producer of electricity AD ESM, was procured from traders on the free market.

These purchases in 2021 are 68 times higher than the same in 2020, while the price of electricity purchased on the free market in 2021 increased by 24% compared to the previous 2020. Thus, in 2021 EVN HOME DOO Skopje procured electricity on the open market in the amount of 391,166 MWh, which is 385,408 MWh more than in 2020 when the procurement amounted to 5,758 MWh.

The average purchase price of the quantities in 2021 was 5,023.4 denars / MWh (81, 68 euros / MWh), while the purchase price in 2020 was 4,046.3 denars / MWh (65.79 euros / MWh).

For these procurements, EVN HOME DOO Skopje in 2021 paid 1,964,983,284 denars, or almost 32 million euros, while in 2020 23,298,595 denars, or about 380 thousand euros. These conditions also had an impact on the increase in the average purchase price of electricity. Electricity sales by the regulated supplier in 2021 increased by 3.5% compared to 2020, while the average selling price in 2021 was higher by 10.1% compared to the previous 2020 (Annual report, 2021).

### **3. REGULATED MARKET IN 2019**

The reform of the electricity market, the preparation of which began in 2018, and was implemented in 2019 through its full liberalization, i.e. enabling all consumers to gain the right to free choice of supplier, also contained a component for consumer protection through the introduction of universal power supply service.

EVN HOME DOO Skopje, as a universal supplier and supplier of last resort electricity, started operating on July 1, 2019, which provided protection for small consumers and households in cases where they did not choose a supplier on the free market or due to certain circumstances were left without an electricity supplier so that they could be supplied by the universal supplier EVN HOME DOO Skopje at prices and tariffs approved by the Energy Regulatory Commission.

Thereby, the prices at which electricity is sold in this case are not regulated by the Energy Regulatory Commission, i.e. these prices are determined each month based on the realized monthly market prices one day in advance on the Hungarian Electricity Exchange (HUPX), increased by 50%.

**Table 1.** Quantities and average prices of electricity purchased from the regulated supplier in 2019 (in kWh and day / kWh)

	Total/average	Quantity (kWh)	Price (MKD/kWh)
		3,806,597,464	2.5350
AD ESM Skopje		3,596,962,486	2.2947
Electricity distribution		2,747,370	3.4837
Preferential RES manufacturers		208,903,153	6,6373
AD MEPSO Skopje		-2,015,545	

**Source:** Annual report on the work of the Energy and Water Services Regulatory Commission of the Republic of North Macedonia in 2019 [https://www.erc.org.mk/odluki/3RKE%20GI\\_2019-final.pdf](https://www.erc.org.mk/odluki/3RKE%20GI_2019-final.pdf)

EVN Makedonija AD Skopje in the first half of 2019, and EVN HOME DOO Skopje in the second half of the year, most of the electricity needed for the supply of households and small consumers was provided by AD ESM Skopje. The rest of the electricity for the needs of the regulated supply in 2019 was provided by the preferential producers of electricity from renewable sources, and a small part was purchased from the surplus of purchased electricity to cover the losses of electricity from Elektrodistribucija (Electricity distribution).

From the analyses the largest share of electricity sales in 2019 has the category Households (79.81%), of which 77.97% is for households with double tariff meters, while 1.84% is the share of household sales with a single tariff meter.

The remaining categories of consumers participate with a total of 20.19% in the sales of the regulated supplier, and most of that belongs to the remaining consumers of the second tariff level, i.e. small consumers with 9.88%.

#### 4. REGULATED MARKET IN 2020

The prices at which electricity is sold in this case are not regulated by the Energy Regulatory Commission, i.e. these prices are determined each month based on the realized monthly market prices one day in advance on the Hungarian Electricity Exchange (HUPX), magnified by 50%. Table 2 shows the quantities and average prices of electricity purchased from the regulated supplier in 2020.

**Table 2.** Quantities and average prices of electricity purchased from the regulated supplier in 2020 (in kWh and MKD/kWh)

	Total / Average	Quantity (kWh)	Price (MKD/kWh)
		3.562.408.006006	2, 5253
AD ESM Skopje		3.330.612.000	2.2514
ALPIK Skopje		5,758.000	4, 0463
Preferential RES manufacturers		201.907.769	7.0133
GENI-I Sale		- 392.000	- 148, 9214
AD MEPSO Skopje		24.522.237	

**Source:** Annual report on the work of the Energy and Water Services Regulatory Commission of the Republic of North Macedonia in 2020, [https://www.erc.org.mk/odluki/2021.04.28\\_RKE%20GI%202020-final.pdf](https://www.erc.org.mk/odluki/2021.04.28_RKE%20GI%202020-final.pdf)

Most of the electricity needed for the supply of households and small consumers was provided by AD ESM Skopje. The rest of the electricity for the needs of small consumers and households was provided by the preferential producers of electricity from renewable sources, and a small part was the withdrawal of electricity from the system due to imbalances, as well as the purchase of electricity from traders and sale of others traders in order to optimize the portfolio. Table 3 shows the quantity and average prices of electricity purchased from the regulated supplier in the period from 2018 until 2020.

**Table 3.** Quantity and average prices of electricity purchased from the regulated supplier in the period from 2018 until 2020 (in MWh and day / MWh)

Year	2018		2019		2020	
	MWh	MKD/MWh	MWh	MKD/MWh	MWh	MKD/MWh
<b>Total / average</b>	<b>3,871,270</b>	<b>2,764.7</b>	<b>3,806,597</b>	<b>2,535.0</b>	<b>3,562,408</b>	<b>2,525.3</b>
AD ESM	3,484,704	2,483.0	3,596,962	2,294.7	3,330,612	2,251.0
Electricity distribution	28,517	3,426.3	2,747	3,483.7	0	0
Preferential RES manufacturers	241.73	6,158.7	208,903	6,637.3	201,908	7,013.3
Procurement on the free market	116.32	3,988.0			5,758	4.0463
AD MEPSO				-2.016		24,522

**Source:** Annual report on the work of the Energy and Water Services Regulatory Commission of the Republic of North Macedonia in 2020, [https://www.erc.org.mk/odluki/2021.04.28\\_RKE%20GI%202020-final.pdf](https://www.erc.org.mk/odluki/2021.04.28_RKE%20GI%202020-final.pdf)

From the data shown in Table 3, it can be seen that in 2020, compared to the previous 2019, electricity was procured on the free market. During 2018 there were also certain quantities that were procured on the free market. During 2020 It can be noticed that EVN HOME Skopje no longer takes over the excess electricity from Elektrodistribucija (Electricity distribution), and as one of the reasons is that both participants in the electricity market are balance responsible.

From analyses can be noticed that there is a continuous decrease in the total quantities of electricity procured by the universal supplier, which is in correlation with the increased volume of procurement on the free electricity market. At the same time, the average price for electricity supply in 2020 is 6.80% lower than the average price in 2019, or is 8.77% lower compared to 2018.

The regulated supplier during 2020 has realized sales of 3,562,407,991 kWh, at an average price of MKD 4,429 / kWh including network service charges. The largest share of electricity sales in 2020 is in the Household category (89.58%), of which 87.83% is the share of sales for households with two-tariff meters, while 1.74% is the share of households with one-tariff meters.

From analyses it can be concluded that there are changes over the years, i.e. electricity consumption among all categories of consumers supplied by the universal supplier, except for households, is decreasing. The most pronounced is the change in public lighting where in 2020, there is a decrease of about 97% compared to 2019 and in relation to 2018, because the municipalities, which are in charge of public lighting, procure electricity needs on the free electricity market. For consumers connected to medium voltage, electricity consumption in 2020 is about 70% lower compared to electricity consumption in 2019 and 2018, respectively. In the case of low voltage consumers, which fall into the category of other consumers, the consumption of electricity in 2020 is reduced by 40% compared to 2019, i.e. by 49% compared to 2018. All this shows that consumers are taking advantage of the free electricity market and are slowly leaving the regulated part of the electricity market. In line with trends, households are expected to remain supplied by the universal supplier in the medium term.

Table 4 provides an overview of average selling prices, including network service charges, of the Tariff Consumer Supplier in 2018, the Tariff Consumer Supplier and the Universal Supplier in 2019, i.e. the Universal Supplier in 2020.

**Table 4.** Average selling prices of a supplier to tariff consumers/universal supplier in 2018, 2019 and 2020 (in MKD / kWh and%)

Year	2018	2019	2020	2020/19	2020/18
Average	(MKD/kWh)	(MKD/kWh)	(MKD/kWh)	(%)	(%)
	<b>4,5193</b>	<b>4,4473</b>	<b>4,4929</b>	<b>1.03</b>	<b>-0.58</b>
Consumers - 35 kV	5.1182	4.0688	5.1346	26,19	0.32
Consumers - 10 (20) kV	6,0488	4,9999	4,9160	-1.68	-18.73
Other I degree	6,9251	6,2013	6,5186	5.12	-5.87
Other II degree	8,6760	8,6640	8,8905	2.61	2.47
Public lighting	5,5600	5,5600	5,6596	1.79	1.79
Households 1T	4,4454	4,4400	4,5593	2.69	2.56
Households 2T	4,0715	4,0611	4,1984	3.38	3.12

**Source:** Annual report on the work of the Energy and Water Services Regulatory Commission of the Republic of North Macedonia in 2020, [https://www.erc.org.mk/odluki/2021.04.28\\_RKE%20GI%202020-final.pdf](https://www.erc.org.mk/odluki/2021.04.28_RKE%20GI%202020-final.pdf)

The key conclusion from the last table is that the average selling price for supplying consumers in the regulated market in 2020 has increased by 1.03% compared to 2019, while it is lower compared to 2018. by 0.58% (Table 4).

When it comes to electricity prices of consumers in the regulated electricity market, during 2020 there is a clear tendency for electricity prices, especially for households, to go up and therefore it is necessary to increase the coverage of different categories of households that would fall into the category of vulnerable consumers.

## 5. REGULATED MARKET IN 2021

EVN HOME DOO Skopje, as a universal supplier and supplier of last resort with electricity, during 2021 supplied households and small consumers who did not choose a supplier on the free market or due to certain circumstances were left without an electricity supplier. EVN HOME DOO Skopje supplied consumers with prices and tariffs approved by the Energy Regulatory Commission. Other consumers who do not have the right to use the universal service, in cases when for certain reasons they are left without a supply on the free market, have the right for a period of up to 90 days until concluding a new contract with a supplier on the free market to use the electricity supply electricity service in the last case, which is also provided by EVN HOME DOO Skopje. The prices at which electricity is sold in this case are not regulated by the Energy Regulatory Commission. These prices are determined every month based on the realized monthly market prices one day in advance on the Hungarian Electricity Exchange (HUPX), which increased by 50 %. Table 5 shows the quantities and average prices of electricity purchased from the regulated supplier in 2021.

EVN HOME DOO Skopje in 2021 provided most of the electricity needed for the supply of households and small consumers from AD ESM Skopje. Table 6 shows the quantity and average prices of electricity purchased from the regulated supplier from 2019 to 2020.

**Table 5.** Quantities and average prices of electricity from the universal supplier in 2021 (in kWh and MKD/kWh )

	Total / average	Quantity (kWh)	Price (MKD/kWh)
		3,687,508,661	2.8615
AD MEPSO Skopje		-24,481,699	5,2474
AD ESM Skopje		3,103,998,000	2.3527
ALPIK Skopje		70,083,000	3.8675
DANSKE Skopje		7,440,000	4.0613
Energy Wind		7,072,000	3.5377
Geni - I Energy MK		287,091,000	5.4655
HSE Mak Energy		15,760,000	3.4860
Preferential manufacturers		3,720,000	6,5140
Grin Energy		216,826,360	3.9411

**Source:** Annual report on the operation of the Energy and Water Services Regulatory Commission of the Republic of North Macedonia in 2021, [https://www.erc.mk/odluk/2022.04.29\\_RKE%20GI%202021-FINAL.pdf](https://www.erc.mk/odluk/2022.04.29_RKE%20GI%202021-FINAL.pdf)

**Table 6.** Quantity and average prices of electricity purchased from the regulated supplier in the period from 2019 to 2021 (in MWh and day / MWh)

Year	2019		2020		2021	
	MWh	MKD/MWh	MWh	MKD/MWh	MWh	MKD/MWh
<b>Total / average</b>	<b>3,806,597</b>	<b>2,535.0</b>	<b>3,562,408</b>	<b>2,525.3</b>	<b>3,687,509</b>	<b>2,861.5</b>
AD ESM	3,596,962	2,294.7	3,330,612	2,251.0	3,103,998	2,352.7
Electricity distribution	2,747	3,483.7	0	0	0	0
Preferential RES manufacturers	208,903	6,637.3	201,908	7,013.3	216,826	6,514.0
Procurement on the free market			5,758	4.0463	391,166	5,023.4
AD MEPSO	-2.016		24,522		-24,482	5,247.4

**Source:** Annual report on the operation of the Energy and Water Services Regulatory Commission of the Republic of North Macedonia in 2021, [https://www.erc.mk/odluk/2022.04.29\\_RKE%20GI%202021-FINAL.pdf](https://www.erc.mk/odluk/2022.04.29_RKE%20GI%202021-FINAL.pdf)

From the analyzed data it can be seen that in 2021, compared to the previous 2020, the supply of electricity on the free market has increased by 68 times. The price of the purchased electricity on the free market in 2021 has increased by 24%. This also has an impact on the total cost of electricity purchased from the universal supplier. In 2021 EVN HOME DOO Skopje has left part of the procured electricity in the system, i.e. it has realized positive imbalances for which it has realized income from AD MEPSO Skopje.

In the past three years, EVN HOME DOO Skopje has paid a total of 23,053,931,408 denars (374.9 million euros) for AD ESM Skopje or 8,253,948,701 denars (134.2 million euros) in 2019, 7,497,207,612 denars (121.9 million euros) in 2020 and 7,302,776,095 denars (118.7 million euros) in 2021.

EVN HOME DOO Skopje has paid a total of 4,214,997,822 denars (68.5 million euros) for electricity from the preferential producers of electricity, namely 1,386,551,882 denars (22.5 million euros) in 2019, then 1,416,041,376 denars (23 million euros) in 2020 and 1,412,404,564 denars (23 million euros) in 2021.

Finally, EVN HOME DOO Skopje in the last three years on the liberalized electricity market has procured electricity in a total value of 1,988,281,879 denars (32.3 million euros), of which 23,298,595 denars (378,839 euros) in 2020 and 1,964,983,284 denars (31.9 million euros) in 2021, while in 2019 there were no procurements on the liberalized electricity market.

The regulated supplier during 2021 has realized sales of 3,688,348,758 kWh, at an average price of MKD 4,9453 / kWh, including fees for network services, fee for organizing and managing the electricity market, energy and compensation for preferential producers, so it has generated a total revenue of about 296 million euros.

The largest share of electricity sales in 2021 has the category Households (90%), of which 88.49% is the share of sales for households with two-tariff meters, while 1.44% is the share of households with single-tariff meters.

The remaining categories of consumers participate with a total of 10% in the sales of the universal supplier, and most of them have the remaining consumers of the second tariff level with 6.73%.

From the above data it can be noticed changes over the years, i.e. that the consumption of electricity increases in most categories of consumers supplied by the universal supplier. Thereby, the change in the public lighting is most pronounced, where in 2021 there is a decrease of about 63% and compared to 2020 and 99% compared to 2019 and 2018, because the municipalities, which are in charge of public lighting, procure electricity needs on the free electricity market.

Furthermore, for consumers connected to medium voltage, electricity consumption in 2021 is about 1.2% higher compared to electricity consumption in 2020, i.e. 69% lower than in 2019. For low voltage consumers, which fall into the category of other consumers, electricity consumption in 2021 has increased by 0.4% compared to 2020, i.e. decreased by 40% compared to 2019. In line with the trends, however, households are expected to remain supplied by the universal supplier in the medium term.

The indicator that the electricity consumption of this category of consumers has increased by 0.4 %, does not mean a trend in terms of returning consumers to the regulated part of the electricity market, but simply a certain increase in consumer consumption in the regulated market. The key conclusion is that the average selling price for supply of consumers on the regulated market in 2021 has increased by 10.42% compared to 2020, i.e. by 11.20% compared to 2019. The Energy Regulatory Commission, when it comes to electricity prices of consumers in the regulated electricity market, during 2020 and 2021, has repeatedly stated that there is a clear tendency for electricity prices, especially for households, to go up. What can be noticed in the last quarter of 2021 is that a significant number of small consumers, due to the increase in electricity prices on the free market, returned to the regulated market where electricity prices were already lower than market prices. The following Table 7 shows the realized sale of electricity to small consumers by the universal supplier in the last quarter of 2020 and 2021.

From the table 7. it can be seen that in the last quarter of 2021, compared to the last quarter of 2020, total electricity sales to small consumers by the universal supplier increased by 38.04%.



**Table 7.** Sale of electricity to small consumers by the universal supplier in the last quarter of 2020 and 2021 (in MWh and%)

	Q4-2020 (MWh)	Q4-2021 (MWh)	Q4-2021 / Q4-2020 (in %)
Consumers - 35 kV	462	1,103	138.59
Consumers - 10 (20) kV	10,475	18,924	80.66
Other I degree	17,322	28,677	65.56
Other II degree	54,706	66,303	21.20
Public lighting	527	246	-53.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>83,492</b>	<b>115,253</b>	<b>38.04</b>

**Source:** Annual report on the operation of the Energy and Water Services Regulatory Commission of the Republic of North Macedonia in 2021, [https://www.erc.org.mk/odluki/22022.04.29\\_RKE%20GI%202021-FINAL.pdf](https://www.erc.org.mk/odluki/22022.04.29_RKE%20GI%202021-FINAL.pdf)

## 6. CONCLUSION

The Regulatory Commission for Energy and Water Services of the RNM, within its competencies, made a significant contribution to achieving the set goals in the energy sector, through the implementation of an appropriate regulatory framework, created on the basis of the obligations arising from the Third Energy Package for the Internal Market Energy of the European Union, and are accepted by the Energy Community.

The electricity sector in 2019 is undergoing significant changes, primarily due to the fact that starting from January 1, 2019, all electricity consumers, including households, have gained the right to choose their own electricity supplier and mutually agree on terms and prices under which the electricity supply will be performed. Starting from July 1, 2019, the price for production of electricity of the largest producer of electricity, AD ESM (Elektrani na Severna Makedonija) is no longer determined by the Energy Regulatory Commission, which enabled the full opening of the wholesale electricity market.

EVN HOME DOO Skopje supplied consumers at prices and tariffs approved by the Energy Regulatory Commission, and in 2021 most of the electricity needed to supply households and small consumers was provided by AD ESM Skopje. From the analyzed official data, it can be seen that in 2021, compared to the previous 2020, the supply of electricity on the free market has increased 68 times. The price of the purchased electricity on the free market in 2021 has increased by 24%. This also has an impact on the total cost of electricity purchased from the universal supplier.

From the above data, it can be noticed changes over the years, i.e. that the consumption of electricity increases in most categories of consumers supplied by the universal supplier. Thereby, the change in the public lighting is most pronounced, where in 2021 there is a decrease of about 63% compared to 2020 and 99% compared to 2019 and 2018, because the municipalities, which are in charge of public lighting, procure electricity needs on the free electricity market.

The key conclusion is that the average selling price for supply of consumers on the regulated market in 2021 has increased by 10.42% compared to 2020, i.e. by 11.20% compared to 2019. When it comes to electricity prices of consumers in the regulated electricity market, during 2020 and 2021 is a clear tendency for electricity prices, especially for households, to go up. What can be noticed in the last quarter of 2021 is that a significant number of small consumers, due to the increase of electricity prices on the free market, returned to the regulated market

where electricity prices were already lower than the market due to which in the last quarter of 2021, compared to the last quarter of 2020, total electricity sales to small consumers by the universal supplier increased by 38.04%.

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