

## **Greece: Fierce competition fight of bidders over smart meters project**

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It seems that a public tender organized by the Greek electricity distribution network operator DEDDIE as a pilot project for procurement and installation of 200,000 of smart meters will be delayed, although the company announced that three bidders fulfill all technical requirements.

According to the representatives of the bidders Intracom Telecom and OTE-Intrakat-Intrasoft International, they are planning to submit an appeal against the third bidder, Microdata-SMEC consortium, claiming that its offer is inadequate. If the appeal is rejected by DEDDIE, they are expected to launch legal action, which would inevitably delay the results of the tender. Regardless of the dispute, it would take up to six months to sign an agreement with the winning bidder.

It is expected that the initial value of the tender of some 85 million euros would be scaled down by bidder to a level between 50 and 60 million euros. According to the terms of the tender, the winner will have to install 10,000 smart meters within the first nine months and additional 150,000 meters in 15 months, with an option for further 30,000 units.

This pilot project is a part of the much larger project which envisages the replacement of all obsolete electricity meters in Greece, worth at least one billion euros. It is expected that the project will be carried out gradually in the course of the next few years, transmits Serbia-energy.eu