

Romanian Minister of Energy Anton Anton said after meeting with representatives of Energy Complex (EC) Oltenia that authorities were considering the idea of exempting the companies who produce electricity using coal from paying recently introduced 2 % turnover tax.

Minister Anton added that the tax cut is justified considering that these companies must also pay CO2 emission certificates, which are very expensive, accounting for over 30 % of the coal-based energy production costs.

According to him, one of the biggest problems is the need for CO2 certificates, which account for almost 40 % of the turnover. The certificates have reached the price that Romanian companies cannot sustain, therefore the Ministry presented the problem to the European Commissioner for Energy. The Ministry will have to come up with a scheme which will allow EC Oltenia and other similar coal-based companies to have less of a burden due to these certificates. They were introduced to encourage decarbonization, and EC Oltenia's future plans already include new technologies, which will slowly help it cut emissions.