



BULGARIA

Water & Waste Water Market Brief 2008

Bulgaria: Important Links & Contacts

Ministry of Environment – www.moew.government.bg

Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works – www.mrrb.government.bg

Ministry of Agriculture - www.mzgar.government.bg

Bulgarian Water Association – <http://www.bawk-bg.com>

Market Overview

The EU membership of 2007 imposed stricter environmental standards and regulations on Bulgaria. Bulgaria needs to spend major funds on the establishment, improvement, expansion and replacement of its sewer, water supply and water/waste water treatment facilities. While the water sector is still mainly state-owned, the government of Bulgaria will adopt a new piece of legislation in May 2009 to allow private participation in the water sector.

Bulgaria is one of the countries with poorest water resources in Europe. While the water supply infrastructure is relatively well developed and 98.9% of the population has running water of good quality, the sewage network and the urban treatment plants are considerably unsatisfactory. 95% of the towns have sewer network, while only 9% of the villages have sewage system.

In addition, many existing waste water treatment plants (WWTP) do not meet minimum Bulgarian standards under EU directives. Bulgaria has the obligation to build 430 waste water treatment plants for populated areas above 2000 inhabitants by 2014.

Market demand for advanced technologies is mostly satisfied by imports. European companies dominate the market.

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Highlight Box

Only 42.9% of the population is served by Drinking Water Treatment Plants

Bulgaria has the obligation to build 430 Waste Water Treatment Plants by 2014