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## Síkela and BIS



There are rumors in business circles that the bribe for buying Net4Gas was up to Kč 8bn. Instead of explaining the [suspicious purchase](#) after being criticized for it by Daniel Křetínský's [Blesk](#), Industry Min. Jozef Síkela (STAN) went on the attack and accused Křetínský in the [Financial Times](#) of using his newspaper to promote his own business interests. This prompted Daniel Častváj of Křetínský's EPH to tell [CzechCrunch](#) that Síkela overpaid for Net4Gas by about Kč 23-27bn. This would indeed leave room for a big bribe. Where is the BIS counter-intelligence agency when you need it? There are four main possibilities: 1) BIS and its foreign partners monitored the deal and found it to be squeaky clean; 2) BIS monitored the deal, found that it wasn't squeaky clean and is in the process of taking the appropriate action; 3) BIS is in cahoots with Síkela; 4) BIS isn't in cahoots with Síkela but decided that Net4Gas is so important to Czech national interests that a little baksheesh can be tolerated, at least for now.

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