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Babiš's German problem



European natural-gas prices that were wholesaling at around €17 per MWh in 2019 are now about €33. An [analysis by BCG](#) found that a price of €60 would cause the margins of energy-intensive companies to turn negative, with the result that production would no longer be worthwhile. SKW Piesteritz chemicals of eastern Germany told Handelsblatt that a price of €60 is realistic and that the EU's Methane Emission Act could lead to a halt in gas exports to the EU because of reporting requirements that are viewed unfavorably by gas-producing countries (such as [Qatar](#)). Handelsblatt didn't mention that SKW is 100% owned by Andrej Babiš's Agrofert. That company doesn't break out [individual results for SKW](#) but has indicated in the past that it is key to Agrofert's financial health. This means that voters can probably believe Babiš when he says he wants to [destroy the Green Deal entirely, permanently and without compromise](#). It also means the higher the gas price, the more his incentive to do so.

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