Gas analyzers - to be or not to be? M. Zagornov took part in the discussion of the draft law in the State Duma of the Russian Federation

February 11, 2019



The Russian Association of Small Energy became a member of the Expert Council of the State Duma Committee on Housing Policy and Housing and Communal Services. On February 7, the President of RASO, Director of the MKS Group of Companies, Maxim Zagornov, took part in an expert discussion of the bill on the installation of systems of general house gas analyzers with the function of blocking gas in case of leakage at the expense of capital repair funds. The reason for the development of this bill was the tragic events in Magnitogorsk and Shakhty, where due to a possible gas leak in houses, powerful explosions occurred that claimed lives.

Let us remind you that a bill on the installation of automated gas safety monitoring systems using capital repair funds was submitted to the State Duma on January 14. Such a system allows you to notify the dispatch service about a high concentration of gas and shut off the gas supply to the house. The developers of the amendments - deputies Sergei Mironov, Galina Khovanskaya, Oleg Nilov, Mikhail Emelyanov, Irina Guseva - called the tragic events in two Russian cities - Magnitogorsk and Shakhty, where powerful explosions occurred in houses due to a possible gas leak - as the reason for this initiative. Meanwhile, the bill caused wide discussion in the expert

community. Among the main questions are how this initiative will be implemented, how much it will cost, whether it will lead to the desired result and whether it will affect the amount of rent. Experts from various industries were involved in the discussion of the bill, including the President of the Russian Association of Small Energy, Director of the MKS Group of Companies Maxim Zagornov.

During the meeting of the Expert Council of the Committee on Housing Policy and Housing and Public Utilities, concerns were expressed that the installation of the so-called “gas alarm” will not solve the problem of gas supply security. This position was voiced by representatives of the Ministry of Construction of the Russian Federation. In their opinion, general house gas analyzers respond late, and if, for example, there is a gas leak on the first floor, and the gas analyzer is on the tenth, then the gas concentration from the first floor to the tenth will be negligible. As a result, the system is not as effective as we would like. Gas analyzers with a blocking function installed in each apartment would be more effective, but this is a huge amount of money that is not available to funds.

During the meeting, the issue was also raised about the prospect of banning the installation of gas systems in new buildings, as well as about an effective mechanism for converting gas energy into electricity, i.e. on more active use of small-scale energy facilities (mini-CHP) in the housing and communal services system. As Maxim Zagornov, President of the Russian Small Energy Association, emphasized, the main advantage of gas piston power plants is the simultaneous generation of electricity and heat, with the heat generated as a by-product and then used to heat water and heating.

“Currently, the total capacity of distributed generation facilities in Russia is 24 GW. This is more than 9% of the capacity of the country’s entire energy system,” the expert said. “One of the latest trends is the construction of gas piston power plants in the residential sector.”

In general, following the discussion, experts came to the conclusion that the bill needs significant improvements, meanwhile, the issue of increasing gas safety should become a priority for the authorities. Experts proposed developing a “road map” and identifying all the mechanisms, tools, regulations, as well as the exact timing of the implementation of this initiative.