

Russia Confirms Receipt of \$786 Million Gas Payment from Ukraine

By The Moscow Times

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Russia's Energy Ministry confirmed on Monday it has received \$786.4 million from Ukraine's Naftogaz for gas deliveries, essential for both sides to start negotiations on a gas price, a spokeswoman for the ministry told Reuters.

"Payments are for February and March," she said. Gazprom declined to comment.

European Union mediator Guenther Oettinger said Friday a \$786 million partial payment for back gas bills was on its way to Moscow, clearing the way for further talks on Monday.

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