

Russia's Gazprom Challenges \$3.4 Bln Fine From Ukraine

By The Moscow Times

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Russia's Gazprom has filed a lawsuit in a Ukrainian court, challenging a decision by Ukraine's Anti-Monopoly Committee (AMCU) to fine the Russian gas giant 85.8 billion Ukrainian hryvna (\$3.4 billion), judge Roman Boika told the RIA Novosti news agency on April 13.

The AMCU fined Gazprom for "abuse of its dominant position in the country's gas supply network" and the company was given until April 12 to pay the fine.

However, Gazprom expressed surprise at the size of the fine, claiming that it does not engage in business on Ukrainian territory, but transfers gas supplies at the border to Naftogaz, Ukraine's national oil and gas company.

"There is a new lawsuit against the AMCU — which includes Naftogaz and Ukrtransgaz as third party members — which was filed by Gazprom and aims to invalidate the decision that a fine should be paid by Gazprom," Boika said.

The appointed judge Vita Bondarchuk has three days to decide on the case, he added.

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