

3.2 GOVERNMENT AGENCIES IN THE ENERGY SECTOR

Comision Nacional de Energia (National Energy Commission):

- Studies and proposes legislation, regulations and standards.
- Designs development plans for the energy sector that interested companies may use as guidelines.
- Coordinates investments for major projects, working jointly with the Ministry of National Planning (MIDEPLAN).
- Establishes price policies and regulates pricing.
- Serves as an advisory agency to the Chilean government.

Ministerio de Economia (Ministry of Economy):

- Approves standards on fuels and electric power.
- Regulates prices in accordance with National Energy Commission recommendations.

Ministerio de Minería (Ministry of Mining):

- Represents the government in oil-related contracts.
- The Minister of Mining is Chairman of the National Petroleum Company (ENAP).

Ministerio de Planificacion Nacional (MIDEPLAN, Ministry of National Planning):

- Controls investments by state agencies and firms.

Superintendencia de Electricidad y Combustibles (Office of the Superintendent of Electricity and Fuels):

- Supervises electric power company operations.
- Assures safety standards in electric power facilities and products.
- Assures safety standards in fuel-related facilities and quality standards for liquid and gaseous fuels.