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# Turkmenistan cuts free utilities but promises heavy investment in gas sector

The trouble in Turkmenistan's economy became obvious this week when President Gurbanguly Berdymukhamedov signed a decree eliminating free utilities such as gas, electricity and water, but promised to boost investment in the hydrocarbon industry.

Even though Turkmenistan sits on the fourth-largest natural gas resources in the world, it has always kept foreign investors at arm's length, hampering...

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