## C'M'S' Hasche Sigle

## PRESS RELEASE

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## CMS Hasche Sigle boosts its energy law team

Düsseldorf – CMS is strengthening its Energy practice as part of the law firm's ongoing strategy of making it a leading force in Germany in this field. Lawyer Shaghayegh Smousavi is taking up a post as partner in the commercial law firm's Düsseldorf office with effect from 15 July 2013.The experienced energy lawyer is moving from Clifford Chance, where she held the position of Counsel. At CMS, Shaghayegh Smousavi will focus in particular on energy regulation law and transactions.

A delighted Dr Hubertus Kolster, managing partner of CMS Hasche Sigle, said: "Shaghayegh Smousavi brings wide-ranging knowledge to CMS and we are pleased to have her on board. Her expertise will be of great benefit in boosting our team in this sector". Together with the high-quality, innovative advice provided by the CMS team, Shaghayegh Smousavi's broad experience will help to expand the success of the Energy practice, which offers particularly wide coverage and a comprehensive range of advisory services, Kolster added.

CMS's energy regulation clients include large energy-intensive companies in addition to a number of transmission, distribution network and distribution system operators. The advice involves issues at the intersection of law and economics, which can be highly complex. "As a lawyer with an MBA, Shaghayegh Smousavi benefits from a dual qualification," said practice head Dr Christian Haellmigk. "In her many years of providing advice she has made excellent use of this skillset, having conducted a number of test cases on behalf of her clients right up to the Federal Court of Justice. She has also advised on network-related transactions on the bidder side that are of key significance for the industry, such as the sale of the Vattenfall trans-

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mission grid (50Hertz) and the E.ON distribution network (OGE). We are pleased to welcome Ms Smousavi to our high-calibre team."

Shaghayegh Smousavi (37) studied law in Germany and France before completing a postgraduate MBA course. She spent several years with a large firm of auditors and as a Blue Book intern with the European Commission in Brussels.

"I'm delighted to be joining the CMS team, which offers outstanding legal advice. I'm particularly looking forward to working with Dr Friedrich von Burchard here in Düsseldorf," said Shaghayegh Smousavi. A highly-regarded regulation expert and former senior vice president at E.ON Ruhrgas AG, von Burchard joined CMS Hasche Sigle's Energy practice as a lawyer in October 2012.

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