

## *Press Release*

### ***ENTSOG hosted its online Annual Conference ‘Future of Gas Grids’ on 8 December 2020***

(Brussels, 10 December 2020, PR0223-20) **Earlier this week, the European Network of Transmission System Operators (ENTSOG) hosted online its fourth annual conference ‘Future of Gas Grids: Decarbonisation and Energy System Integration’.** EC Energy Commissioner Kadri Simson, Member of the European Parliament Cristian-Silviu Buşoi, and Thorsten Herdan from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy provided keynote speeches to open the conference and shared their views on the constructive role that gas grids can play in decarbonisation.

Representatives from the full gas value chain – policy makers, regulators, industry end-users, as well as associations for low carbon and decarbonised gases, like hydrogen, participated in the discussions on the challenges and the opportunities for the future of European gas transmission grids. Dr. Klaus-Dieter Borchardt and Christopher Jones moderated the panel discussions. All speakers’ biographies can be found on the ENTSOG website, [here](#).

The panel speakers discussed how to practically deliver on the European Commission’s Energy System Integration (ESI) and Hydrogen Strategies, and the possible necessary changes required to the EU market regulation to achieve this. They also considered how TSOs can prepare for the EU's future gas and hydrogen grids, including a European hydrogen backbone, and how best to make this happen in a timely manner.

Jan Ingwersen, ENTSOG General Director commented: *In the ENTSOG 2050 Roadmap Action Plan we transparently shared ENTSOG’s ideas and agenda for the delivery on Hydrogen and Energy System Integration Strategies, building on existing market fundamentals. TSOs will have an important role to play in supporting the upscale of the hydrogen economy both in creating the open access to grids, connecting the supply and demand dots, and also by sharing TSOs experience in markets organisation.*

Two videos presented at the conference are available in the ‘downloads’ section on the ENTSOG conference event [webpage page](#). One outlines the key principles in the [ENTSOG 2050 Roadmap Action Plan](#) and includes statements from TSOs on the concrete actions being taken to implement the EC ESI and Hydrogen Strategies. The other video showcases the TSO innovative projects being undertaken to support the energy transition to meet EU energy and climate goals.

A full recording of the conference is also available on the ENTSOG website, [here](#).

Should you require any further information, please contact Carmel Carey (+32 2 894 5136, [ENTSOG.Communications@entsog.eu](mailto:ENTSOG.Communications@entsog.eu)).

#### **Editorial notes**

- > European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas (ENTSOG) was founded on 1 December 2009 in line with Regulation (EC) 715/2009 to promote the completion of the internal market for gas by facilitating cooperation between national gas transmission system operators (TSOs) across Europe and in line with European Union energy goals. More information can be found on the ENTSOG website – [www.entsog.eu](http://www.entsog.eu). Current Members, Associated Partners and Observers can be found at [www.entsog.eu/members](http://www.entsog.eu/members)