

## *Press Release*

# **Participants discuss the newly published Hydrogen and Decarbonised Gas Markets Package at ENTSOG Annual Conference 2021**

(Brussels, 16 December 2021, PR0263-21) **Yesterday, the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas (ENTSOG) hosted their annual conference ‘Infrastructure for a Hydrogen and Decarbonised Gas Market’.** EC Energy Commissioner Kadri Simson and Gijs Kreeft from the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy provided keynote speeches to open the conference and shared their views on the constructive role that gas grids can play in facilitating the transition for the European hydrogen economy.

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 – debated on EC’s newly published Hydrogen and Decarbonised Gas Markets Package, discussing the important role of European gas transmission grids. Baker McKenzie’s Klaus-Dieter Borchardt and James Watson from Eurogas moderated the panel discussions, and each panel session opened with presentations from EC Head of Cabinets – Stefano Grassi and Diederik Samsom. Mr. Grassi presented the regulatory framework in detail, and how it will cater for a staged-development in two phases, with a transition phase by 2030, towards a hydrogen market in 2050.

Conference participants heard how the EC legislative proposals were developed to facilitate access of renewable and low-carbon gases, in particular hydrogen and biomethane, to the existing gas network by enabling development of a dedicated hydrogen infrastructure and market. The proposals aim to decarbonise the gas sector, ensure energy security and to maintain market liquidity and competitiveness. The EC explained that the proposals promote consumer protection and engagement in renewable and low carbon gas markets. Panelists provided their perspectives on these proposals, and their potential impacts. Additionally, panel speakers discussed the importance of energy system integration to break sector silos and promote robust planning for all energy vectors and cost-efficiency.

Piotr Kuś, incoming ENTSOG General Director commented: *'The conference discussions have shown the significance of the challenge that lies ahead. ENTSOG will build on the success of its past and present achievements of enhancing European energy security of supply, market competitiveness and further develop its sustainability role.'*

The slidepack presented by Mr. Grassi, outlining EC's key points on the Hydrogen and Decarbonised Gas Markets Package, is available in the 'downloads' section on the ENTSOG conference event [webpage](#).

A video presented at the conference, which includes information on the outcomes of the Advisory Panel for Future Gas Grids, is also available on the ENTSOG website, [here](#).

A full recording of the conference is available on ENTSOG's Vimeo page, [here](#).

Should you require any further information, please contact Communications Manager, Carmel Carey at [ENTSOG.Communications@entsog.eu](mailto:ENTSOG.Communications@entsog.eu).

#### Editorial notes

- > **The European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas (ENTSOG)** was founded in line with Regulation (EC) 715/2009 and has played a key role in facilitating integration of the European gas markets, ensuring technical interoperability and providing security of supply by gas infrastructure planning. Looking forward, ENTSOG is contributing to the net-zero decarbonisation by 2050, in particular, by the integration of renewable and low carbon gases via future-proof gas transmission pipelines, in line with the EU energy and climate goals. More information on ENTSOG can be found on our website – or contact [info@entsog.eu](mailto:info@entsog.eu).