

Press Release

Security of supply and the gas grids' readiness for hydrogen discussed at ENTSOG's Annual Conference 2022

(Brussels, 16 December 2022, PR0283-22) **Earlier this week, the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas (ENTSOG) hosted their annual conference *'In The Pipeline: Secure Winter, Sustainable Future'* in hybrid format, with online participants and attendees at the ENTSOG office joining the discussions.**

ENTSOG President Bart Jan Hoevers opened the conference and welcomed keynote speeches from the rapporteurs for the Hydrogen and Decarbonised Gas Market Package – MEP Jerzy Buzek and MEP Jens Geier. They shared their views on the progress of the forthcoming legislative files and the constructive role that gas grids, in particular the European Hydrogen Backbone, can play in facilitating the transition for the European hydrogen economy.

Klaus-Dieter Borchardt (Baker McKenzie) moderated the 1st panel *'In The Pipeline: Secure Winter'*, comprised of speakers from European Commission, Energy Community, ENTSO-E, GIE and ENTSOG. Discussions focused on the necessary actions that have been taken already this year, and those in the longer term to ensure solidarity and cooperation, a robust regulatory framework for security of supply, adequate energy system integration and to meet the REPower EU targets reducing dependence on Russian gas.

European Heating Industry Secretary General, Federica Sabbati, moderated the 2nd panel *'In The Pipeline: Sustainable Future'* and heard perspectives from European Commission's Stefano Grassi on the possible challenges and opportunities for establishing hydrogen infrastructure within the proposed regulatory framework. Representatives from Bosch, WindEurope, Equinor, and Port of Antwerp-Bruges provided updates on the innovative energy transition projects currently being undertaken, and their planned strategies for the future roll-out of hydrogen infrastructure.

The newly published joint Hydrogen Infrastructure Map by ENTSOG, GIE, Eurogas, CEDEC, GD4S and GEODE, in cooperation with European Hydrogen Backbone Initiative, was also presented. The map is a living tool that visualises hydrogen infrastructure projects for gas distribution, transmission, import and storage and informs stakeholders on the infrastructure potentially available to them, by when and the partners involved. It clearly marks repurposed/retrofitted and newly built assets. It was developed based on the mandate given by European Commission at the Madrid Forum in May 2022.

Piotr Kuś, ENTSOG General Director commented: *'This is ENTSOG's 6th Annual Conference, and the outcome of this event has again shown that significant achievements are possible through intense and close engagement with our stakeholders. By working together, we can address the immediate challenges on security of supply, while in parallel progress with making our grids ready for renewable gases, including hydrogen. ENTSOG and our Members are consequently working to make this happen.*

A video opening the conference, entitled *'ENTSOG Delivers'* is available on the ENTSOG website, [here](#).

Further information on the joint Hydrogen Infrastructure map is available [here](#) and the recording of the conference presentation of the map is available [here](#).

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

Should you require any further information, please contact Ms. Carmel Carey at 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.