

Press Release

European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas (ENTSOG) publishes technical paper on the injection of biogas into the natural gas networks

Today, the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas published on its website a technical paper on the injection of biogas into the natural gas networks.

ENTSOG welcomes biogas as an additional and renewable energy source, which promotes indigenous production and supports meeting commitments towards sustainability, diversifies energy sources and contributes to security of supply. In order to further facilitate its usage, biogas is injected to natural gas systems, which requires that it is produced, upgraded and purified to the required quality according to the specifications applied for the relevant transmission system by the responsible TSO.

The document analyses the technical conditions for the injection of biogas and identifies that specific care has to be taken by the biogas producer (or upgrading responsible) in order to safely transport, use and interoperate networks containing also this gas .

EU's policy promotes the wider use of biogas, as a sustainable source of energy. Directive 2009/73/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 Concerning Common Rules for the Internal Market in Natural Gas (and repealing Directive 2003/55/EC) is clear in the obligations of Member States to allow non-discriminatory access to the natural gas pipeline grid. The directive also says, however, that grid injection is conditional upon gas quality requirements being fulfilled and that the gas should be "permanently compatible with the relevant technical rules and safety standards. The rules and standards should ensure that those gases can technically and safely be injected into, and transported through the natural gas system and should also address their chemical characteristics."

It is reminded that the European Commission has invited the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) to develop standards for biomethane for use in transport and injection in natural gas pipelines (mandate M/475). One of the bodies to be associated by CEN for this is ENTSOG.

