



Press release

Carbon neutral gas supply in 2050: ONTRAS joins Green Gas Initiative

Dublin, 23 April 2015 – Today at the 13th GIE Annual Conference, gas infrastructure companies Energinet.dk (Denmark), Fluxys Belgium (Belgium), Gasunie (Netherlands), Gaznat (Switzerland), GRTgaz (France) and Swedegas (Sweden) welcomed ONTRAS Gastransport (Germany) as member of their Green Gas Initiative to achieve a carbon neutral gas supply in 2050.

Ralph Bahke, CEO of ONTRAS Gastransport stated: “By joining the cooperation we feel confirmed and strengthened in our ambition to develop our gas infrastructure towards a carbon neutral energy supply. We are proud and pleased that we can now push forward this task together with other European TSOs.”

Cost-effective solution for achieving EU carbon objectives

The Green Gas Initiative companies are convinced that gas and gas infrastructure are key to achieve EU carbon objectives at a reasonable cost for society and consumers. Combining biomethane and other regenerative energies with gas in the existing infrastructure is much more cost effective in carbon abatement than many high tech solutions. Gas infrastructure also enables the transport and storage of energy on a scale unmatched by other energy systems. Moreover, gas is a low emission alternative for oil products in transport.

Concrete pathways to 2050

The Green Gas Initiative companies channel their joint efforts and expertise into working groups to arrive at concrete pathways to 2050 for a selection of topics:

- **Biomethane:** upgrade biogas to biomethane to make it compatible with natural gas infrastructure specifications.
- **Green gas certificates:** establish a common green gas certificate market.

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- **Compressed natural gas (CNG) and liquefied natural gas (LNG) as alternative fuels for road and maritime transport:** develop the market and the infrastructure for CNG and LNG to make their breakthrough as low carbon alternatives to oil products in transport.
- **Power-to-gas:** explore the potential of power-to-gas technology. Power-to-gas technology converts electricity into gas, making it storable for later use and enables gas infrastructure to provide the electricity system with the flexibility it is currently lacking.

The outcomes of the working groups are being cross-checked with a view to unlocking synergies and greater efficiency, e.g. preferably using biomethane and other regenerative gases for carbon reduction in the transportation sector or using power-to-gas to minimise the cost of energy transition.

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About Energinet.dk

Energinet.dk is the transmission-system operator for both electricity and gas in Denmark and owns the Danish natural-gas transmission system and the associated gas-storage facilities as well as the Danish electricity-transmission system. Moreover, Energinet.dk has shares in electrical interconnections to Norway, Sweden and Germany. The network links the Danish and Swedish gas markets to the wider European market and connects to the gas fields in the North Sea.

Energinet.dk is committed to ensuring a high level of security of supply and to helping safeguard an efficient transition to a sustainable energy system, in which renewable gases play an important role. To this end, Energinet.dk helps ensure a healthy investment climate in the energy sector.

Energinet.dk is a non-profit enterprise serving the interests of society.
(www.energinet.dk)

About Fluxys Belgium

Fluxys Belgium is the independent operator of the natural gas transmission and storage infrastructure in Belgium. Through its subsidiary Fluxys LNG the company also operates the Zeebrugge liquefied natural gas terminal. As part of the Fluxys group, it is the company's mission to contribute to security of supply and market liquidity in North-Western Europe by promoting cross-border flows and transfers between gas trading places.

Driven by its first mover approach Fluxys Belgium has developed its infrastructure into a central crossroads for international gas flows in North-Western Europe. The Zeebrugge area plays a key role in this pivotal function: the infrastructure in the area has a throughput capacity of some 50 billion cubic metres of natural gas per year, approximately 10% of the border capacity needed for Europe's natural gas supply.
(www.fluxys.com/belgium)



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About Gasunie

Gasunie (N.V. Nederlandse Gasunie) is a European gas infrastructure company. Gasunie's network ranks among the largest high pressure gas pipeline grids in Europe, consisting of approximately 15,500 kilometers of pipeline in the Netherlands and northern Germany, dozens of installations and approximately 1,300 gas receiving stations. Gasunie offers transport services via its subsidiaries Gasunie Transport Services B.V. (GTS) in the Netherlands and Gasunie Deutschland in Germany. With its cross-border gas infrastructure and its services Gasunie facilitates TTF, which has developed into a leading and strongly growing European gas trading hub. The company also offers other services in the gas infrastructure field, including gas storage and LNG.

About Gaznat

Gaznat is a midstream company which supplies and transports high pressure natural gas in western Switzerland. Gaznat is owned by companies and administrative bodies active in the French speaking region. Thanks to a diversified portfolio, Gaznat is able to supply its customers at a competitive price and to reduce shortcut risks. Gaznat's customers include distribution utilities and some large industrial groups.

Gaznat operates a high pressure network of approximately 600 kilometres of pipeline and around 50 delivery stations. Gaznat guarantees third party access to its gas network as defined by law and other rules in Switzerland. The high pressure network is connected to the Transitgas pipeline and to GRTgaz pipelines on the French border. Gaznat also owns storage capacity in Etrez, France. (www.gaznat.ch)



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About GRTgaz

GRTgaz is one of Europe's leading natural gas transmission companies and a world expert in gas grids and transmission systems.

In France, GRTgaz owns and operates 32,150 km of underground pipelines and 27 compressor stations to transmit natural gas between suppliers and consumers (distributors or industrial firms directly connected to the transmission system). GRTgaz performs a public service role in guaranteeing security of supply to consumers and sells transmission services to system users.

A significant player in the energy transition process, GRTgaz is investing in innovative solutions to adapt its system and to reconcile competitiveness, security of supply and environmental protection. (www.grtgaz.com)

About ONTRAS Gastransport

ONTRAS Gastransport is a national gas transmission system operator in the European gas grid, based in Leipzig. We operate Germany's second largest gas transmission system, with approximately 7,000 km of length and about 450 interconnection points and market its capacities. ONTRAS combines as a reliable partner the interests of shippers, dealers, regional network operators and producers of renewable gases.

With 19 biogas feed-in plants annually delivering up to 155 Mio. m³ of biomethane to the gas grid and two hydrogen injection plants (as of march 2015) ONTRAS essentially contributes towards a CO₂-neutral energy supply in Germany. (www.ontras.com)



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About Swedegas

Swedegas is a Swedish infrastructure company that invests in smart energy systems. Swedegas is leading the way in the responsible development of the gas market in Sweden. We create sustainable solutions for industry, energy supply and community development.

Swedegas owns and operates the national gas grid, which extends from Dragör in Denmark to Stenungsund in Sweden, and each year, Swedegas transmits energy equivalent to 15 TWh to distributors and directly connected customers. The gas grid supplies natural gas to 33 municipal areas and several combined heat and power plants and companies. Swedegas is currently investing in the development of an infrastructure for biogas and liquefied natural gas (LNG). (www.swedegas.se)