



Thursday 22 February 2018

To the President of the European Commission

Jean-Claude Juncker

Rue de la Loi 200

1049 Brussels

Identical letters have been sent to:

Maroš Šefčovič, Vice-President
Miguel AriasCañete, Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy
Violeta Bulc, Commissioner for Transport
Phil Hogan, Commissioner for Agriculture & Rural Development
Carlos Moedas, Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation

The Energy Transition in Europe: the future role of gas and gas infrastructure

Dear President Juncker,

Combating climate change is one of the key priorities on the agenda of the European Commission. An energy transition that enables Europe to effectively meet the Paris Agreement is therefore essential. We write to you as Gas for Climate consortium to present our latest study on the future of gas in Europe and kindly request to meet you to discuss the study and how it fits in your future policy agenda.

The European gas sector is firmly committed to the Paris Agreement on climate change. Therefore, seven leading gas transport companies from across the EU (Enagás, Fluxys, Gasunie, GRTgaz, Open Grid Europe, Snam and TIGF) and two renewable gas industry associations (European Biogas Association and Consorzio Italiano Biogas) have joined forces in the Gas for Climate initiative. We as CEOs of Gas for Climate members are committed to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions in the EU by 2050 to meet the Paris Agreement target. Renewable gas used in existing gas infrastructure can play an important role in this.

We want to facilitate a large scale-up of EU produced renewable hydrogen and biomethane that is transported, stored and distributed through existing gas infrastructure to be used in our energy system in a smart combination with renewable electricity. This will help Europe to meet the Paris Agreement target at the lowest possible costs while enhancing Europe's energy security.

We requested Ecofys, a Navigant company, to prepare a study into the future role of gas in a net zero emissions energy system by 2050. This study, published today, shows that it is possible to significantly scale up renewable gas production in Europe to more than 120 billion cubic metre (bcm) per year, being renewable hydrogen and biomethane.



The study, which can be accessed via www.gasforclimate2050.eu, also indicates the societal benefits of using this renewable gas smartly combined with renewable electricity. Using 120 bcm renewable gas, transported, stored and distributed through existing gas infrastructure, to heat buildings, produce dispatchable electricity as a complement to wind and solar, and to fuel heavy transport, could save about 140 billion euros annually by 2050, compared to an energy system without gas.

The Gas for Climate consortium is convinced that Europe should seize this opportunity to implement the Paris Agreement target at the lowest possible cost. It would effectively build on the investments in Europe's existing gas infrastructure and demonstrate Europe's leadership in renewable energy.

We would like to engage with you to identify a common agenda for action.

Yours Sincerely,


 Snam

 Enagás


 Open Grid Europe

 Fluxys

 Gasunie

 Consorzio Italiano Biogas

 TIGF

 European Biogas Association

 GRTgaz



gasunie



TIGF

FLUXYS 



Open Grid Europe
The Gas Wheel

