DG ENER meeting with Gas Naturally

13 April 2021

Participants:

Gas Naturally:

DG ENER:

This meeting took place on request of GasNaturally. Their representatives made the following points:

- Natural gas has a major role to play as transition fuel and this needs to be recognised also in EU Taxonomy. The delegated act needs to maintain technological neutrality in the transition process, there is a major potential for CCUS (a number of ongoing and planned projects across the EU). More realistic thresholds in the Taxonomy Regulation are needed: while the emission threshold for capacity mechanism in the 2018 Electricity Regulation is 550gCO2e/kWh, the draft DA operates with 100gCO2e/kWh with effect from 2022.

- GasNaturally has concerns related to non-inclusion of CO2 storage, gas infrastructure and H2-related transport in the Commission’s TEN-E proposal. These investments are important for the transition to hydrogen economy and, in some part so the EU, also for transition away from coal.

- LNG has a role to play in rural areas.

- GasNaturally supports the work on methane emissions and would be happy to help the Commission to engage exporters.

- A major study on the future of hydrogen in Europe: Hydrogen4EU study (for which ENER and CLIMA participate at the advisory board) will be published on 26 April and GasNaturally would be happy to present it to ENER.

- A dedicated report on decarbonisation process will be announced at the Madrid Forum on 21/4 and will look at the role of gas infrastructure and new gases.

ENER representatives took note of the comments made, they recalled that the DA on Taxonomy is being finalised by the Commission these days and that the Commission cannot comment on any leaked documents. They also provided an overview of the Fit for 55 Package and in particular the legislative proposals for 4Q/2021.