

# Cabinet of Commissioner Kadri SIMSON - Minutes of Meeting

## MEETING CONCLUSIONS

<b>Title</b>	<b>ROUNDTABLE ON HYDROGEN TRANSPORTATION WITH COMMISSIONER KADRI SIMSON</b>
<b>Date</b>	26 May 2020
<b>Participants</b>	<p>Ext : [redacted] Hydrogen Europe</p> <p>[redacted] Snam (Italian Gas transmission system operator)</p> <p>[redacted] Gasunie (Gas TSO in the Netherlands and the northern part of Germany)</p> <p>[redacted] Nowega (small German TSO – in favour of pure hydrogen pipelines)</p> <p>[redacted] Gascade (German TSO)</p> <p>[redacted] Thüga (Distribution System Operator in DE)</p> <p>[redacted] AirLiquide (No1 globally on pipelines for hydrogen as gas)</p> <p>[redacted] Hydrogen department Linde (Leader on liquid hydrogen transport by pipelines)</p> <p>[redacted] Associate Consultant Trinomics (Think tank with recent work on gas decarbonisation and hydrogen)</p> <p>[redacted] Artelys (Think tank with recent work on gas decarbonisation and hydrogen)</p> <p>[redacted] Consultant (consulting for end-use sectors)</p> <p>[redacted] Consultant (consulting for end-use sectors)</p> <p>[redacted] European Climate Foundation (NGO) [could not connect]</p> <p>COM: Commissioner Simson</p> <p>Stefano Grassi, Kitti Nyitrai, [redacted]</p>
	<b>Ares initial request : <a href="#">(2020)3773406</a></b>
	Disclosure authorization : <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES - <input type="checkbox"/> NO - <input type="checkbox"/> Partial (pls highlight unauthorized parts)
<b>Issues raised &amp; follow-up</b>	<p><u>Summary</u></p> <p>Commissioner Simson convened a roundtable discussion with the above stakeholders on hydrogen transportation.</p> <p>The main takeaways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was a shared view that hydrogen will gain importance as an energy carrier in the future and that it is possible and desirable to facilitate its decarbonisation through renewable hydrogen solutions. Shared emphasis on importance of facilitating cost reduction for producing green hydrogen by electrolyzers powered by renewable electricity. This is essential for scale-up.</li> <li>• All emphasised the role of infrastructure in enabling the creation of a hydrogen market.</li> <li>• Many argued for a stepwise approach: first focus on local infrastructure needed to supply green hydrogen to demand clusters centred around industry consumers; then connect those clusters by a H2 backbone at both national and European level. Scaling up demand is an essential first step before building H2 infrastructure.</li> <li>• The possibility of using existing gas pipelines to create a H2 backbone in order to be cost-effective and avoid stranded assets was highlighted and many underlined the importance of storage to manage supply fluctuations, noting that salt caverns are a proven solution.</li> </ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Some referred to the need to also consider imports of green H2, as domestic production may not be sufficient.</li><li>• Many underlined the need for support for EU network planning through TYNDP and TEN-E. Positive feedback on the IPCEI instrument (Important Projects of Common European Interest).</li><li>• Blending: some were in favour, arguing it is crucial in scaling up green H2 and stressing potential solutions, such as “virtual” blending and decentral production and use of green H2. Others were sceptical, arguing that blending could be a short-term solution in some countries but the business case was not there, as it mixes a high value product with a low value product or because blending could create issues for end-use appliances or because the climate impact is limited.</li><li>• In terms of regulation, many underlined the importance of third party access to networks while cautioning that regulation should not be too heavy so as not to slow down development. Some spoke against unbundling.</li><li>• All stakeholders support green hydrogen but many noted that blue is necessary for scale up and maybe even long term.</li></ul> |
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