

Meeting notes

Participants	<p><u>Visitors' delegation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• [REDACTED] Group Hydrogen [REDACTED]• [REDACTED] H2 Business Developer• [REDACTED], Head of European Affairs• [REDACTED] Manager EU Affairs <p><u>COM:</u> DG CLIMA</p> <p>DG ENER</p> <p>CAB EVP Timmermans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deputy Head of Cabinet Sarah Nelen• Member of Cabinet Aleksandra Tomczak• Member of Cabinet Riccardo Maggi• National Expert in Professional Training [REDACTED]
Issues raised & follow-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engie had asked for the meeting ahead of the publication of the RED delegated act on renewable hydrogen. Engie's goal was to present the company's activities in the field of renewable H2 such as the repercussions of the delegated act on one of its flagship projects, the HyNetherlands project, for renewable H2.• Engie opened the meeting by laying down its ambitions in the H2 market. The company stated to be active along the whole value-chain of H2 including storage, network and refuelling stations (100 by 2030) with a goal to have large-scale H2 production in Europe, but also in Australia and Chile.• Engie reported to have applied for an IPCEI status and for funding under the EU's innovation fund for some of its H2 projects. The HyNetherlands project in NL was among these projects and was prenotified for IPCEI in August 2021. The goal of the project was to build one of the first industrial value-chains to produce e-methanol combining renewable energy and biogenic CO2 with a 100 MW electrolyser capacity, 14kt of green H2 production p.a. which should then be transported via the gasunie backbone, 56kt of e-methanol production p.a. and 25t of H2 storage capacity in salt caverns making the storage 50times cheaper than convenient pressurized H2 storage.• Engie laid down that flagship projects like these could be severely impacted by the criteria in the RED delegated act. Engie claimed that a 100% compliance with the current draft would imply that the costs of the HyNetherlands project would increase by 2 to 4 times and lower the production outcome to one third as compared to the business-as-usual scenario. Engie therefore requested projects like these to be exempted from the scope of the delegated act until 2030 or to be given at least some flexibility.• Engie explained that HyNetherlands was one-of-a-kind due to

	<p>unique conditions only prevalent in that specific region with storage options in salt caverns and abundant renewable energy which would make it easier for that project to reach 100% compliance with the RED delegated act. For other projects, it would thus be even more difficult and expensive to be RED compliant. Engie added that overall, its analysis would show that a high load factor of the electrolyzers was not possible with the current set-up of the delegated act when taking into account real life circumstances of the projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With regards to the provisions in the AFIR proposal, Engie stated that such ambitions were needed given that some MS would rather want to decrease the overall ambitions of the regulation. In Engie's view, targets for H2 in transport would be important for the AFIR context. • Wrapping up, Engie stressed the need for increased EU funding for renewable H2, easier permitting, acceleration of IPCEI selection process, binding EU-level targets for green H2 in industry and transport combined with renewable electricity targets for the renewable H2 production. • CAB thanked Engie for the insights and reminded that the delegated act was not yet finalised and COM cannot comment on drafts CAB highlighted that the H2 market uptake would see various steps. Flexibility was key in the beginning. Towards the end, additionality criteria were not as important. CAB reminded Engie of the upcoming RePower EU publication which would also look into H2 and acceleration of the renewables roll-out needed for green H2 production.
Note taker	
Copies	