Cabinet SIMSON - Minutes of Meeting

MEETING CONCLUSIONS

Title	Meeting with Gasunie
Date	19/01/23
Participants	Ext : COM: Stefano Grassi, , Tatiana Marquez
Disclosure authorization :	▼YES - □ NO - □ Partial (pls highlight unauthorized parts)
	The meeting focused mainly on H2, CCUS and methane emissions.
	Gasunie doubled its import capacity in the Netherlands from 12 bcm to 24 bcm and participates in the Brunsbüttel LNG in DE. But they have been diversifying towards H2 and CCUs. On H2 Gasunie is designated as the operator to set the H2 backbone in the Netherlands and the offshore H2 grid to connect H2 installations offshore to the land. They are for instance developing a cavern for H2 storage in the Netherlands. Gasunie sees NE as a H2 hub to receive H2 (ammonia?) from Third countries by sea and domestic H2 from North Sea and transport it to Germany. But their feeling is that EU is lagging a bit behind on H2 production, probably also influenced by the IRA. That is why they join H2 Global to have access to international imports. They are concerned though that complex additionality rules applicable to third country imports might make this H2 be deviated to other non-European markets. They are also missing more H2 diplomacy with potential exporters.
	On CCUS, Gasunie is involved in the Portos project with the Port of Rotterdam. They hope to take the FID this year. They expect the empty gas fields in the NE to store CO2.
	On methane, they support that industry is pushed to reduce methane emissions. Gasunie carry out investments to reduce methane emissions as long as the investment is less expensive than the emissions calculated as 250€/tonne equivalent. What they would like to have in the legislation is some proportionality to focus on those improvements that can have a real benefit for society, but warned about the costs of reducing small leakages whose costs would need to be passed on to gas consumers. An idea would be to develop a sort of calculation method to set when the leakage has to be repaired.
	The Commission took note of Gasunie's views and informed about its plans on policy development on H2 and CCUS during 2023.