

From: Philippe Sauquet
Sent: 06 February 2020 15:44
To: DE LA TORRE Clara (CLIMA)
Cc:
Subject: Eurogas Meeting Follow Up

Dear Clara,

It was a pleasure to meet you last week, thank you for spending time with us to discuss the role of gas in the EU energy transition. It was interesting to hear your views on the role of gas in the energy transition and its important role in reducing carbon emissions. We also agreed with and noted your interest in the need for gas itself to undergo a decarbonisation process to support a carbon neutral EU in 2050. As we mentioned we support this goal, provided there is a suitable framework for gas decarbonisation. In this regard we would like to reiterate our call for EU wide binding targets for renewable and decarbonised gas, supported with a harmonised system for trading guarantees of origin across the EU. This system should also support and recognise the importance of hydrogen produced from natural gas, utilising CCS technology. This is missing in the current regulatory framework and should be brought forward in the forthcoming gas legislation review.

We also noted your interest in our activities to reduce methane emissions in the EU and to this end I can confirm that we have joined the Methane Guiding Principles and that Eurogas has also introduced a call for a programme of measurements to be carried out by our DSO members. We take the issue seriously and will support all activities that can reduce any methane emissions that occur in the natural gas value chain.

As we mentioned, the EU leads in the development and manufacturing of gas technologies – turbines, LNG engines, electrolyzers, anaerobic digestors and CCS equipment. The industrial strategy of the EU should look to build these sectors as a strong manufacturing element of the energy transition and provide jobs and technology leadership here in the EU. In this regard we also reiterate our view that any hydrogen initiative in the EU should be a 'clean' hydrogen initiative, rather than one that focuses only on hydrogen produced from renewable electricity.

We look forward to continuing to exchange views with you over the coming years and look forward to working with you to deliver the potential of gas as a climate mitigation tool and as a provider of jobs and growth for Europeans in the coming decade.

Best wishes

Philippe Sauquet

President Eurogas