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## **European gas infrastructure companies and renewable gas producers: ‘save billions of euros by setting ambitious target for renewable gas’**

**At an event organised by the Gas for Climate consortium in Brussels, European Commissioner for Climate & Energy, Miguel Arias Cañete highlighted last night that gas and existing gas infrastructure will play an important role in the future EU energy system**

**Action Plan Gas for Climate presents measures for large scale up of renewable gas in the EU**

**The Action Plan follows a study by Ecofys, a Navigant company, which shows the potential to significantly scale up renewable gas in Europe and that using this gas reduces the societal cost to fully decarbonise the EU energy system**

Brussels, 27 September 2018 - Gas for Climate, the consortium of seven leading European gas transport companies (Enagás, Fluxys, Gasunie, GRTgaz, Open Grid Europe, Snam and Teréga) and two renewable gas industry associations (EBA and CIB), presented last night in Brussels to EU Commissioner for Climate & Energy Miguel Arias Cañete an action plan to boost the production of renewable gas. Commissioner Cañete stated that Europe has to lead the fight against climate change and decarbonization is a good business case. The Commissioner highlighted that Europe needs decarbonized gas including progressive quantities of renewable gas alongside renewable electricity.

### **‘To do list’**

The [Action Plan](#) put forward a ‘to do list’ for businesses and policy makers with recommendations for policy actions. The consortium recommends amongst others an ambitious EU target for renewable gas in final consumption by 2030. Furthermore, the Action Plan urges the introduction of EU harmonised rules for auctioning renewable energy subsidies and for calculating tariff-based support. Support schemes should foster a reduction of renewable gas production costs and should reward the value which dispatchable renewable energy brings to the overall energy system. The action plan also calls for measures to facilitate cross-border trade of renewable gas.



## Action plan follows Ecofys study on renewable gas

The Action Plan follows a study by Ecofys, a Navigant company, published last February which showed that it is possible to produce more than 120 billion cubic meters of biomethane and green hydrogen in Europe (partly based on the innovative “Biogasdoneright model”) and green hydrogen in Europe. The study also showed that using this gas in existing gas infrastructure leads to nearly 140 billion euro of annual societal cost savings in a zero-emissions energy system compared to a system without any gas.

### Follow-up

The Gas for Climate Action Plan will be further refined and updated in 2019 following additional insights and analysis into the future role of gas in a decarbonized system. Ongoing Gas for Climate analysis on hydrogen, carbon capture and storage as well as future energy demand in industry and transport will result in an extension of the earlier study of the consortium, which is to be published by early 2019. Today the consortium already published an additional analysis on mobilising woody biomass residues for production of biomethane showing that it is possible to increase biomethane production from woody residues.

#### **Thierry Trouvé, CEO of GRTgaz said on behalf of the entire Gas for Climate consortium:**

*“This Action Plan serves to demonstrate our clear and unequivocal commitment to the energy transition and the decarbonisation of the European gas grid. It provides recommendations on how to increase the use and production of renewable gases and how to facilitate their trade and transport and it presents our plans to 2030 with real projects that are driving the energy transition today in preparation of the carbon neutral energy system of tomorrow.”*

#### **Kees van der Leun, Director, Ecofys a Navigant Company:**

*“Our study shows that it is possible to scale up renewable gas production within the EU to 122 billion cubic meters by 2050, utilizing both hydrogen and biomethane. This saves €138 billion annually compared to a scenario without any gas.”*

For more information, please contact the Gas for Climate member organisations:

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