



CEDEC press release

Hydrogen and decarbonised gas market package & Methane Regulation

Brussels, 15 December 2021

CEDEC welcomes the Hydrogen and decarbonised gas market package and the Methane Regulation that the European Commission published today, as two crucial and necessary building blocks to deliver on the European climate neutrality objective.

CEDEC members share the EU's climate ambition and believe that a clear regulatory framework acknowledging the role of renewable and low-carbon gases and supporting their integration in the energy market is the breakthrough that energy consumers and investors have been waiting for.

We are convinced that sustainable molecules will need to play their role alongside renewable electricity where electrification is not a technologically and economically feasible solution. This will also ensure that the energy transition – especially for heating homes - remains affordable to everyone and that the most vulnerable customers do not pay the highest price.

The production of renewable and low-carbon gases will be located for an important part at local level, connected to the distribution grids. To make the energy transition cost-effective, it is therefore key to build on existing gas distribution infrastructures that ensure reliable transport of renewable and low-carbon gases to the customers. It is reassuring to see the role of gas distribution operators reinforced through a framework that stimulates cooperation with the other links of the energy value chain.

While tackling methane emissions in the gas distribution grid is today already an evident priority for gas network operators, the creation of a European methodology on reporting and repairing, along with a recognition of the costs, will boost the reduction of methane emissions in the energy sector.

We are looking forward to work together with policymakers and stakeholders around Europe to translate these ambitious proposals into inclusive realities.