

## Hydrogen and Decarbonised Gas Package – Necessary amendments suggested by the power plant industry



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The European power plant industry, represented by EUTurbines and EUGINE, supports the full and quick decarbonisation of Europe’s gas infrastructure and the uptake of the hydrogen economy as intended by the gas package.









The text presented by the European Commission focuses on the supply and network aspects, but unfortunately neglects the needs of major end-user segments.

In 2021, the European gas power plant industry presented its “H2-Ready” concept, aimed at making the technology ready for hydrogen and other low-carbon gases. However, those technical efforts need to be followed by the provision of renewable and low carbon gases, including biogas, biomethane and hydrogen. The decarbonisation of the power sector will only be successful when gas power plants are included too.

**Hydrogen and Decarbonised Gas Package**

**8 Improvement Suggestions  
from the Power Plant Industry**

 <p><b>Include an explicit gas decarbonisation target</b></p>	 <p><b>Recognise the role of H2 in ensuring long-term electricity system flexibility</b></p>	 <p><b>Guarantee access rights to H2 infrastructure for all relevant end-users</b></p>	 <p><b>Recognise the key role of distribution grids</b></p>
 <p><b>Recognise H2 blending as an interim step for a fast decarbonisation</b></p>	 <p><b>Improve integrated network planning</b></p>	 <p><b>Provide Regular information about the H2-Readiness of networks and large end-users</b></p>	 <p><b>Enable consumers to choose electricity produced from renewable and low-carbon gases</b></p>

Supporting the power plant sector in meeting the EU expectations regarding a climate-neutral and reliable electricity and heat supply requires the following improvements in the gas package:

- **Inclusion of an explicit, ambitious gas decarbonisation target**  
An EU-wide binding GHG emission reduction target for gas would send a clear signal and support the fast and bold decarbonisation of gas markets and provide predictability to investors.
- **Recognition of the role of hydrogen in ensuring long-term electricity system flexibility**  
Large-scale hydrogen storage and re-electrification in power plants are the only available climate-neutral solution providing long-term flexibility for the electricity system. This must be recognised as an essential application for hydrogen.
- **Access rights to hydrogen infrastructure for all relevant end-users**  
Power plant operators are already making their plants hydrogen ready, but the plants' access to hydrogen is not ensured. The third-party access right, as proposed, neglects the needs of end-users that are under pressure to decarbonise.
- **Recognition of the key role of distribution grids**  
In a more decentral energy system, gas distribution grids have an important role to play. The access to climate-neutral gases needs to be ensured for the many decentral power and cogeneration plants.
- **Recognition of hydrogen blending as an interim step for a fast decarbonisation**  
Hydrogen blending as an interim step supports the achievement of the EU climate targets in networks where fully decarbonised gas or hydrogen is not yet available.
- **Improved Integrated Network Planning**  
The connection points between networks, where energy is exchanged between different energy carriers, must be integrated. Especially the needs of existing power plants, connecting gas, hydrogen, electricity and heat grids, should be included.
- **Regular information about the Hydrogen-Readiness of networks and large end-users**  
The possibility to inject hydrogen or repurpose a grid to hydrogen operation depends on the capacity of its users to operate with hydrogen. At the same time, the hydrogen-readiness of the network will determine investments in end-use equipment. Regular information provision binds together network operators and users working towards decarbonisation.
- **Enable consumers to choose electricity produced from renewable and low-carbon gases**  
Consumers shall be enabled to knowingly choose electricity generated from gas power plants using renewable and low-carbon gases. "Renewable energy" should also be identified with power from gas plants using renewable gases.

Detailed amendment proposals can be found in the annex.

To learn more about our efforts regarding the hydrogen-readiness of power plants please see:

- The [EUGINE H2-Ready concept](#)
- The [EUTurbines H2-Ready concept](#)

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*About EUGINE and EUTurbines:*

**EUGINE** is the voice of Europe's engine power plant industry. Our members are the leading European manufacturers of engine power plants and their key components. Engine power plants are a flexible, efficient, reliable and sustainable technology, helping to ensure security of electricity supply and providing (renewable) electricity and heat. For more information please see [www.eugine.eu](http://www.eugine.eu)

**EUTurbines** is the only association of European gas and steam turbine manufacturers. Its members are Ansaldo Energia, Baker Hughes, Doosan Skoda Power, GE Power, MAN Energy Solutions, Mitsubishi Power Europe, Siemens Energy and Solar Turbines. EUTurbines advocates an economic and legislative environment for European turbine manufacturers to develop and grow R&I and manufacturing in Europe and promotes the role of turbine-based power generation in a sustainable, decarbonised European and global energy mix. For more information please see [www.euturbines.eu](http://www.euturbines.eu)