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## For a Gas Package that truly supports the roll-out of H<sub>2</sub>-Ready Appliances

Hydrogen will be a key energy carrier in the future integrated energy system, based on renewable electricity and renewable and low-carbon gases.

Considerable parts of the existing gas infrastructure and the already installed end-use equipment can be repurposed for the use, transport and storage of hydrogen. In many cases, this will reduce the need and the costs of building completely new infrastructure and avoid stranded assets. Any new infrastructure will only be built if it is technically suited for the use of increasing percentages of hydrogen up to 100% hydrogen.

Building up the hydrogen economy will require **adequate information on hydrogen demand and on the readiness of end-users and of the infrastructure itself** to handle different shares of hydrogen.

### A Hydrogen-ready Definition

To create transparency and a common understanding among market participants and regulators, a definition of “hydrogen-readiness” is needed.

This definition should:

- Consider the repurposing of existing grids and installations.
- Consider the adaptation cost, allowing to prioritise the grids and installations with low adaptation costs.
- Consider the blending of hydrogen as interim solution.

We would like to propose the following definition, to be inserted as a new definition in Article 2 of the gas market directive:

*„Hydrogen-ready“ means infrastructure or end-use installations that, with reasonable adaptation costs, are technically suited to switch from the transport, storage, import or use of natural gas to high purity hydrogen, not excluding possible interim blending steps”.*

In addition to a general definition, a delegated act should define equipment-specific readiness criteria.

## Supporting measures for an informed and integrated network planning

A broad definition should open the way to **harmonised reporting** and make sure **market actors and investors have access to information on the hydrogen-readiness level of a given network or installation**. To support the roll-out and development of hydrogen and hydrogen-ready infrastructure, equipment manufacturers and grid operators commit to regularly inform on the hydrogen-readiness of their networks and equipment.

A **truly integrated network planning**, including at least natural gas and hydrogen, will also be needed.

Finally, **European Hydrogen Infrastructure Targets** will provide visibility and a strong investment signal for market players in charge of building, repurposing or making their infrastructure ready to run on hydrogen.

### *About:*



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