



PRESS RELEASE

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Launch of the Biomethane Industrial Partnership (BIP) at the European level

As part of its REPowerEU plan, the European Commission announced last March a target of 35 billion cubic meters (bcm) of biomethane production in the EU by 2030. The European Commission and leading companies in the biogas sector are launching the Biomethane Industrial Partnership to support this objective. GRTgaz has worked to create this European partnership in order to contribute to the development of the sector.

The European Commission and industry leaders, committed to the green energy transition, have launched today the Biomethane Industrial Partnership (BIP). This new public-private partnership was announced in the [REPowerEU](#) Plan. It aims to support the achievement of the target to increase annual production and use of biomethane to 35 billion cubic metres by 2030. This will reduce Europe's dependency on natural gas from Russia in a cost-effective way. At the same time, it will substantially contribute to an integrated net-zero energy system, diversifying farmers' incomes and ensuring a circular approach.

The Biomethane Industrial Partnership is open to all interested stakeholders that wish to work towards achieving its objective. All EU Member States are invited to join the Biomethane Industrial Partnership, together with companies, industry associations, academia and civil society organisations.

Executive Vice-President Timmermans and Commissioner Simson joined Harmen Dekker, CEO of the European Biogas Association, and Ole Hvelplund, CEO of Nature Energy to mark the start of the Biomethane Industrial Partnership by symbolically opening a renewable gas pipeline during the EU Sustainable Energy Week in Brussels.

Executive Vice-President Timmermans said: *"Europe has huge potential for the production of biomethane. With biomethane, we can replace fossil gas from Russia with homegrown, sustainable and renewable gas. Biomethane also creates new economic opportunities in rural areas. The Biomethane Industrial Partnership that we launch today will be instrumental to increase the production and use of biomethane across the EU."*

Commissioner Simson said: *"Europe has great potential for producing biomethane, a green alternative for natural gas. In the current energy supply crisis, we cannot allow this potential to go to waste. The new Biomethane Industrial Partnership is open to all stakeholders to overcome barriers for growth, share best practices and foster collaboration to rapidly increase biomethane in production and use."*



EBA CEO Dekker said: “The biomethane sector is ready to meet the 35 bcm target which requires 70 to 80 billion euros of investment. The Biomethane Industrial Partnership will be instrumental in Europe to drive joint efforts to overcome barriers for investment, production and use.”

CEO of Nature Energy Ole Hvelplund said: “The companies in the value chain are looking forward to working together to ensure a steep and simultaneous increase in biomethane production, grid connection and off-take.”

A technical kick-off of the Biomethane Industrial Partnership will take place on 25 October 2022. Please find more information and an application form to join the Biomethane Industrial Partnership on www.bip-europe.eu.

ABOUT THE BIOMETHANE INDUSTRIAL PARTNERSHIP: As part of its REPowerEU Plan, the European Commission proposes a rapid acceleration of renewable energy including increasing the EU annual production of biomethane to 35 bcm by 2030. Last May, the European Commission presented the biomethane action plan, including the setup of the Biomethane Industrial Partnership (BIP). Since then, the biomethane value chain has been working in cooperation with the European Commission on the implementation of the Biomethane Industrial Partnership to make sure Europe can reach the announced EU target for biomethane production.

For inquiries please contact: secretariat@bip-europe.eu

EC: galin.gentchev@ec.europa.eu

EBA: dekker@europeanbiogas.eu

ABOUT GRTgaz

GRTgaz is Europe's second-largest gas transporter, with 32,500 km of pipelines and 640 TWh of gas transported. The company has 3,000 employees and generated nearly €2.3 billion in turnover in 2020. GRTgaz has a stated [core purpose](#): “Together, we enable an energy future that is safe, affordable and climate neutral”. GRTgaz is an innovative company undergoing a major transformation to adapt its network to ecological and digital challenges. The company is committed to establishing a fully carbon-neutral gas mix in France by 2050. It supports the hydrogen and renewable gas sectors (biomethane and gas from solid and liquid waste). GRTgaz carries out public service missions to guarantee safe transmission for its 945 customers (shippers, distributors, industrial clients, biomethane producers and plants). Alongside its subsidiaries [Elengy](#), Europe's leader in LNG terminals, and [GRTgaz Deutschland](#), the operator of the MEGAL transmission network in Germany, GRTgaz plays a key role on the European gas infrastructure scene. The company exports its know-how internationally, especially those services developed by its research centre, [RICE](#).



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Press contact: Chafia Baci – chafia.baci@grtgaz.com – +33 (0)6 40 48 54 40

ABOUT BIOMETHANE: Biomethane is the purified form of raw biogas and can be used as a natural gas substitute. It is one of the main renewable gases of the future and available today to decarbonise our energy system.