

## PRESS RELEASE

### ERIG signs Memorandum of Understanding with Decarbonised Gas Alliance (UK)

London 9<sup>th</sup> of March 2017 – The Decarbonised Gas Alliance (DGA) and the European Research Institute for Gas and Energy Innovation (ERIG) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding setting up a framework for further cooperation. Both parties are determined to cooperate closely on joint projects that support the future role of gas in a decarbonised, secure and cost-effective energy system.

As a new alliance in the United Kingdom the DGA includes gas producers, transporters and suppliers, hydrogen and carbon capture experts as well as Research & Development and supply chain specialists. They all share a vision to decarbonise the UK's gas system and tackle poor air quality. Their aim is to cooperate with policy makers and opinion leaders to develop a national plan to use the gas system to help achieve the UK's emission reduction goals.

Both parties share the view that the gas infrastructure and gas technologies can support the decarbonisation challenge and the growth of renewable electricity by:

- providing a means of storing excess renewable power, transferring renewable energy into sectors that otherwise would be very hard to decarbonise in a socially acceptable way and contributing to a more robust energy system as a whole;
- decarbonising directly through biogases and hydrogen; and
- investigating carbon capture and storage as a further option to enable large-scale decarbonised gas production.

The gas system can therefore help countries to meet deep decarbonisation goals and improve air quality in a cost-efficient, secure and socially acceptable way. In Europe, and in particular in the UK, the gas networks are the major carriers of energy, reaching the majority of homes, commercial buildings and industry (energy as well as feedstock). The European gas infrastructure also provides large scale and long term energy storage possibilities and thus is the sole alternative for seasonal shifts of large amounts of energy that we know is an inevitable part of a future decarbonised energy system. The gas infrastructure in Europe is modern, efficient and employs large numbers of skilled professionals supplying the EU annually with almost 4,000 TWh worth of energy. Many

gas technologies with vast environmental and economic benefits for society are at high technology readiness levels and in some cases, already commercially available. These include Combined Heat and Power/Fuel Cells, Power-to-Gas, Steam Methane Reforming, gas mobility (LNG/CNG) and Carbon Capture and Storage.

Please check [www.erig.eu](http://www.erig.eu) for further information.

The **European Research Institute for Gas and Energy Innovation (ERIG)** is a non-profit network that serves as a focal point for European collaboration in research and innovation by planning and executing R&D in the field of sustainable and innovative gas technologies. ERIG members represent national technical and scientific gas organizations and associations. Via its members, ERIG is directly linked to existing R&D structures in EU countries such as research facilities, universities and industry. The members represent in particular the requirements of energy and gas in Northern/Western Europe. The research portfolio of ERIG members covers all aspects from the production of gas through to gas utilization in different markets.

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