



## *Press Release*

# **Towards a net zero methane emissions in the gas sector – workshop conclusions on 15 October**

22 October 2018

On the 15th October, GIE in collaboration with Florence School of Regulation organised a policy workshop **“Towards a net zero methane emissions in the gas sector – challenges and opportunities”** with the aim to discuss the EU’s long-term strategy towards GHG emissions, the industry’s voluntary actions and best practices, regulatory experiences and potential approaches to more stringent regulation.

In his welcome speech, GIE Board member, Francisco de la Flor said, *“Gas industry committed to further reduce the methane emissions from their natural gas infrastructure, to implement the best available techniques to achieve this goal and to improve transparency on emissions data. It is an undisputable fact that the cooperation between the industry and authorities will be the key in this process”*.

Stefan Moser from the European Commission agreed that *“a more transparent approach for the gas sector, where data quality and measurements have to be improved, is needed”* and that *“further company-level commitments and global partnerships have to be developed”*. Several initiatives along the gas value chain have been launched during the last years in order to raise awareness of the gas industry. One example is the signing of the *“Guiding Principles”* issued by the Climate & Clean Air Coalition on reducing CH<sub>4</sub> emissions across the natural gas value chain, OGCI projects and the regular CH<sub>4</sub> emissions industry meetings.

On the other side, the Commission acknowledged that they also need to work on the review of measurement techniques and methodologies along the whole gas supply chain. Analysis of infrastructure management, regulatory and liability regimes and satellite data collection, notably with a view to identify *“super emitters”* and make policy recommendations to measure and address fugitive methane emissions in gas sector (in the EU and globally) are still part of the work that needs to be done.

The workshop of 40 people concluded that close cooperation is needed between authorities and industry to not only implement Best Practices to reduce methane emissions and reduce uncertainty in the measurement, validation and reporting of methane emissions but to also establish quantitative methane reduction targets, taking into account the previous efforts carried out by the industry.



### Note to Editors

**Gas Infrastructure Europe (GIE)** is an association representing the interests of European natural gas infrastructure operators active in natural gas transmission, storage and LNG regasification. GIE is a trusted partner of European institutions, regulatory bodies and industry stakeholders. It is based in Brussels, the heart of European policymaking.

GIE currently represents 69 member companies from 25 countries. Its internal structure has three columns corresponding to the three types of infrastructure activities represented: GTE (Gas Transmission Europe), GSE (Gas Storage Europe) and GLE (Gas LNG Europe), all of which fall under the umbrella of GIE. This structure allows member companies to speak with one voice on infrastructure topics as well as to build positions on column-specific issues.

To find out more about GIE's structure and activities, please visit our website at [www.gie.eu](http://www.gie.eu).

### Press Contact

Should you require any further information please contact:

**GIE Secretariat**

T : +32 2 209 05 00

E: [gie@gie.eu](mailto:gie@gie.eu)