



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

**Social dialogue**

**GAS SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEE**

**Working group  
20 September 2021**

**09.00-13.00**

**MINUTES**

**Participants:**

Employer representatives

**Eurogas**

Laura Bosetti, Eurogas

Bronagh O'Hagan, Eurogas

James Watson, Eurogas

Andreas Guth, Eurogas

Gabriele Nicotra, Eurogas

Anaïs Faucher, Eurogas

Daniela Daraban, Acue

Thierry Chapuis, Acue

Gabrielle Costigan, Aik Energy Group

Malina Gloaba, Aik Energy Group

Natalia Nita, Aik Energy Group

Axel Kornemann, E. ON

Luigi Armando Ferrario, Eni

Marcella Scillieri, Eni

Timm Kehler, Erdgas

Jacinto Pico, Naturgy

Paloma Izquierdo Fernández, Repsol

Candela Rejón, Repsol

Laura Rejón Perez, Repson

Kavita Ahluwalia, Uniper

## Employee representatives

### **IndustriAll**

Patrick Mathieu, FO Energie et Mines, France

Alexander Auer, GPA DJP, Austria

Geir Vollsaetter, Industri Energi

Sophie Grenade, IndustriAll European Trade Union

Judith Kirton-Darling, IndustriAll European Trade Union

Marie-Odile Martiat, IndustriAll European Trade Union

Patrizia Pitronaci, IndustriAll European Trade Union

Piotr Luisiewics, NSZZ Solidarnosc KSPCH, Poland

Mos Krzysztof, NSZZ Solidarnosc KSPCH, Poland

Ana Filipe, SIMA, Portugal

Josè Maria Gonzalez De Juan, UGT FICA, Spain

Andrea Bottaro, UILTEC, Italy

Antonella Maggio, UILTEC, Italy

Miklos Ledacs Kiss, VDSZ (CE), Hungary

Gyula Varga, VDSZ (CE). Hungary

Sebastien Michel, CF DT FCE chimie-energie, France

Anne Laszlo, CFE CGC Energies, France

Letterio Oceano, CGIL FILCTEM, Italy

Antonio Pepe, CGIL FILCTEM, Italy

## **EPSU**

Roxana Drug, EPSU

Jakob Embacher, EPSU

Thomas Kattnig, Younion, Austria

Radek Jurečka, OS UNIOS, Czech Republic

Šárka Vojíková, FTU ENERGY (SOS ENERGIE), Czech Republic

Philippe Lepage, FNME-CGT, France

Gary Carter, GMB, United Kingdom

1. **Welcome by the Chair - Ahluwalia Kavita:** Adoption of the agenda
2. **Presentation of the Fit to 55 package, focusing on the impact on the Gas Sector - James Watson**

**James Watson (Eurogas)** provided an overall introduction on EU's FF55 package, highlighting the EU ambitious targets of 55% of carbon emissions net reduction by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2050. He presented short assessments and Eurogas' views of the Commission's proposal EED, ETD, EU ETS FuelEU and AFIR. He also mentioned the upcoming Hydrogen and Gas decarbonisation Package that the Commission will present at the end of 2021.

**Sophie Grenade:** presented a few comments on the FF55 package, highlighting the importance of a just and fair transition, of a legal framework should be established to address future challenge and of EU Industrial Strategy that considers the different needs of each industrial sector with the broader objective of the EGD. She concluded by raising concerns about the future pathway for the transition of the gas sector which is still unclear from her perspective.

**Jakob Embacher (EPSU)** highlighted the fact the energy transition should aim at providing support to workers. Regarding carbon trading on heating and transport, he agreed with James Watson and noted the risks that these sectors may face. He highlighted EPSU's commitment to the net zero target.

**Philippe Lepage (FNME-CGT)** pointed out the need to give guidance to policymakers regarding the actual impact that the energy transition has on production and consumption. He also pointed out the necessity to have a clear overview of the energy transition agenda.

**Gary Carter (GMB)** talked about gas price in the UK and the gas dependence.

**Ledacs Kiss Miklos** underlined the role of gas in the energy transition considering the instability coming from the renewable energy sources.

**Ahluwalia Kavita and James Watson** agreed on the common effort and holistic approach that must be taken in terms of policy making process to deal with a realistic and fair transition.

3. **Presentation by DCbrain (Eurogas member), the role of digitalisation and AI for decarbonising gas networks.**

**Meulenbelt Geert (DCbrain)** made a presentation about the role of data and artificial intelligence for the decarbonisation of the gas networks. Both data and AI can provide an important contribution in the decarbonisation process, specifically to address the complexity coming from: biomethane and hydrogen blending, dynamics and local inflows, energy traceability requirements and sector integration. In conclusion, Mr. Meulenbelt specified that DCbrain works on data centric methodology, network design and on asset protection. They provide this service to simulate the resilience of the infrastructure for the blending of hydrogen.

4. **Eurogas: update on the project**

**Bronagh O'Hagan (Eurogas)** updated the group on the Social Dialogue study and the challenges and opportunities for employment in the gas sector in the context of the European energy transition.

**Final remarks:**

**James Watson (Eurogas)** stressed the value of the Social Dialogue Working Group and how important is to be committed with the employment sector for the upskilling and reskilling of workers in light of the ongoing transition.