WEBINAR

Dig Deep!

FRIDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2024 10H - 11H30 AM CET

info@europeanbiogas.eu www.europeanbiogas.eu

Greening Gas Grids: Navigating Biomethane Grid Connection

Supported by









Giulia Cancian, Secretary General EBA



Mieke Decorte Technical Director EBA



Anthony Lorin Senior Policy Analyst EBA



George Osei Owusu Technical & Project Officer EBA



José Alfred Lana Calvo Chair WG Gas Quality Marcogaz



José Catela Pequeno Subgroup Lead TF4.4 Biomethane Industrial Partnership

Welcome

Giulia Cancian

Secretary General European Biogas Association





Welcome

Rules of the webinar

- The webinar is recorded and will be shared on EBA Youtube Channel. The slides will be available on EBA website Event section.
- Questions can be written in the Q&A box and upvoted. Most popular questions to be answered.

For any questions, please contact us at info@europeanbiogas.eu



Agenda

10:00	Welcome
	Giulia Cancian, Secretary General, EBA
10:05	Biomethane Grid Connection today
	Mieke Decorte, Technical Director, EBA
10:15	Enabling Grid access: Introducing the Hydrogen and Decarbonised Gas Package
	Anthony Lorin, Senior Policy Analyst, EBA
10:25	Grid injection checklist: Cost-sharing, gas quality, injection fees
	George Osei Owusu, Technical and Project Officer, EBA
10:35	Quality requirement for Biomethane injection
	José Alfred Lana Calvo, Chair Working Group Gas Quality, Marcogaz
10h50	Optimization of Biomethane Grid injection
	José Catela Pequeno, Lead Subgroup Task Force 4.4, Biomethane Industrial Partnership
11h05	Q&A session and wrap up
	Giulia Cancian, Secretary General, EBA

Biomethane Grid Connection today

Mieke Decorte

Technical Director

European Biogas Association





Biomethane grid connection today

- > **1,400** plants active
- > 1,000 plants are grid connected

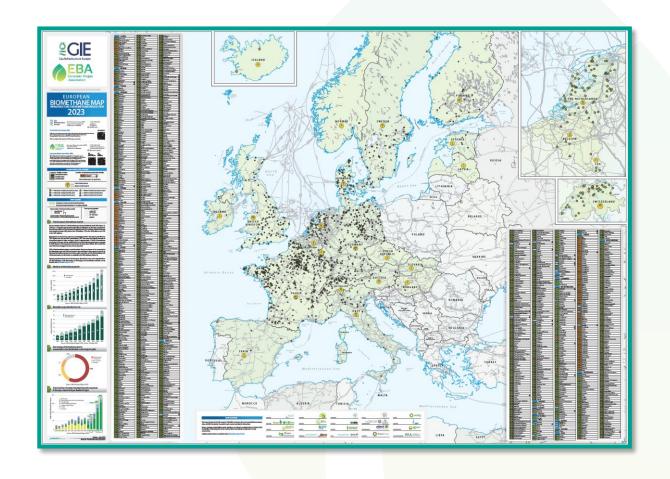
5,000 new plants to reach 35 bcm

In **24** European countries

- 2018: Belgium and Estonia
- 2019: Czech Republic
- 2020: Ireland, Latvia
- 2022: Slovakia
- 2023: Ukraine and Lithuania

48 TWh (4.5 bcm) installed production capacity at end of 2022

44 TWh (4.2 bcm) production in 2022 (+ 18% YoY)



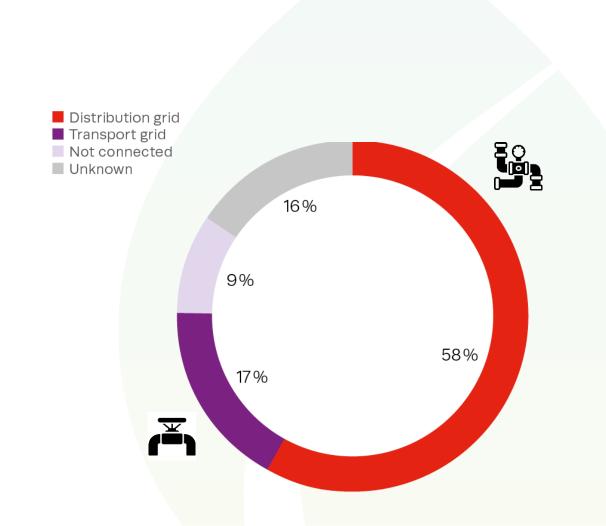
Biomethane grid connection today

European Biogas Association

58% connected to distribution grid19% connected to transmission grid

- Transmission grids, operated by the TSO's
 - High pressure pipelines, suited for larger plants
- Distribution grids, operated by the DSO's
 - Lower-pressure, suited for all plants
 - Delivery to homes, business
- Off-grid
 - Bio-CNG, Bio-LNG, self-consumption

Different conditions and agreements applicable



Two types of grids

Differences in type of connection per country influenced by:

- Vicinity of the grid
- Plant size

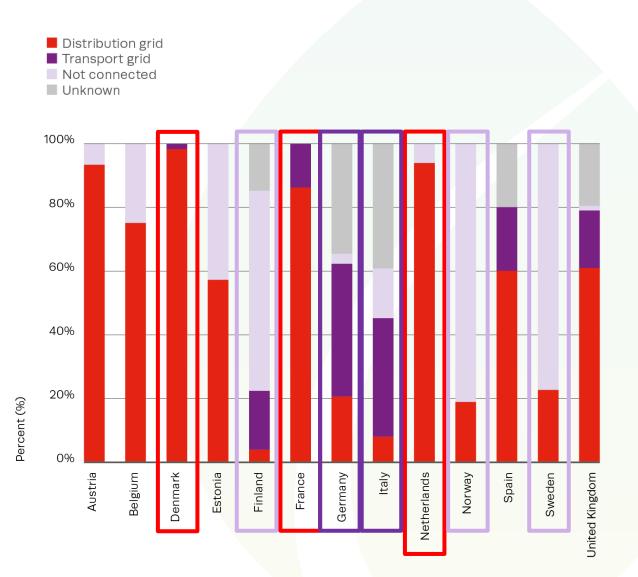


Distribution grid: Denmark, France, Netherlands



Transmission grid: Germany, Italy

Off-grid: Sweden, Norway, Finland

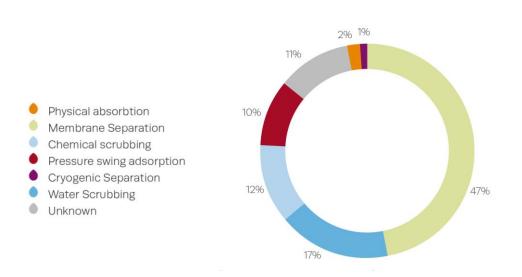


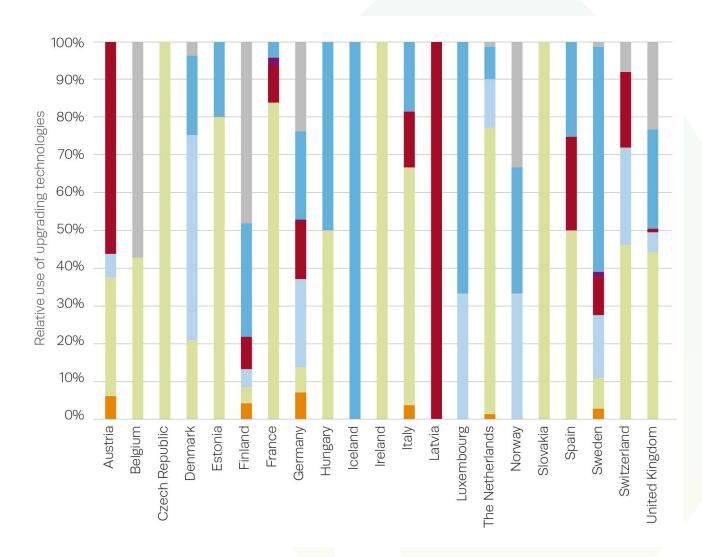
A range of upgrading technologies

Range of upgrading technologies

→ different characteristics of the biomethane.

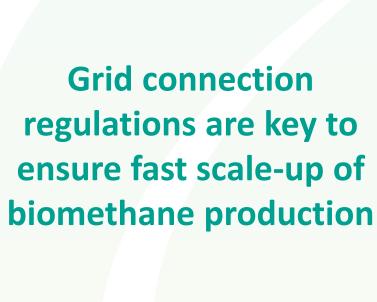
Need for gas quality measurement and metering systems





Why grid connection regulations?

- 1. Lack of rules/regulations hinders grid connection
- Ensure gas quality requirements are met (e.g. different oxygen requirements between countries)
- 3. Allowing the free trade of gas cross borders
- 4. Predictability and control of grid connection costs





THANK YOU!

Mieke Decorte **Technical Director** decorte@europeanbiogas.eu



Enabling Grid access: Introducing the Hydrogen and Decarbonised Gas Package

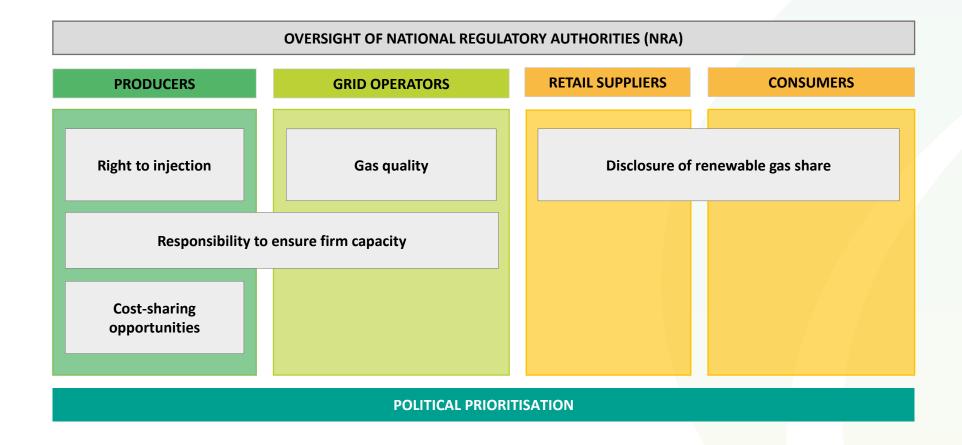
Anthony Lorin

Senior Policy Analyst
European Biogas Association





The new Gas Package brings positive changes for the biomethane value chain



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Biomethane growth will get more visibility through regular reports and the possibility for the EC to make recommendations to Member States

Target

- No mandatory target
- Role of biomethane legitimized in 2 recitals

Monitoring of progress

- Annual report on the quantity of renewable and low-carbon gas injected in the gas grid.
- ☐ Progress monitoring of the annual production of "sustainable biomethane" within the Supply Adequacy Outlook.
- By ENTSOG.

Commission empowered to make recommendations to Member States

- **IF** "Annual production of biomethane is not sufficiently progressing"
- OR IF the natural gas consumption is not "sufficiently decreasing in view of the available potential".
- Interpretation to be determined.
- Member States shall explain in their two-yearly progress report how the recommendations were considered in their national policies.

The "integration of sustainable biomethane (...) supports the Union's climate objectives and helps to diversify the energy supply"

Recognition that biomethane will still play a role in "household consumption"

"In case both the European supply outlook and the final updated national energy and climate plans show that the annual production is not sufficiently progressing or that the natural gas consumption is not sufficiently decreasing in view of the available potential, the Commission may issue recommendations to the Member States, if necessary to achieve the objectives of the Energy Union, according to Article 34 of the Regulation (EU) 2018/1999"

Obligation for network operators to address connection requests



NRA-approved criteria to assess connection requests

Assessment of connection requests should be done using technical and economic criteria approved by the Regulatory Authorities.

Principles of transparency, proportionality and non-discrimination

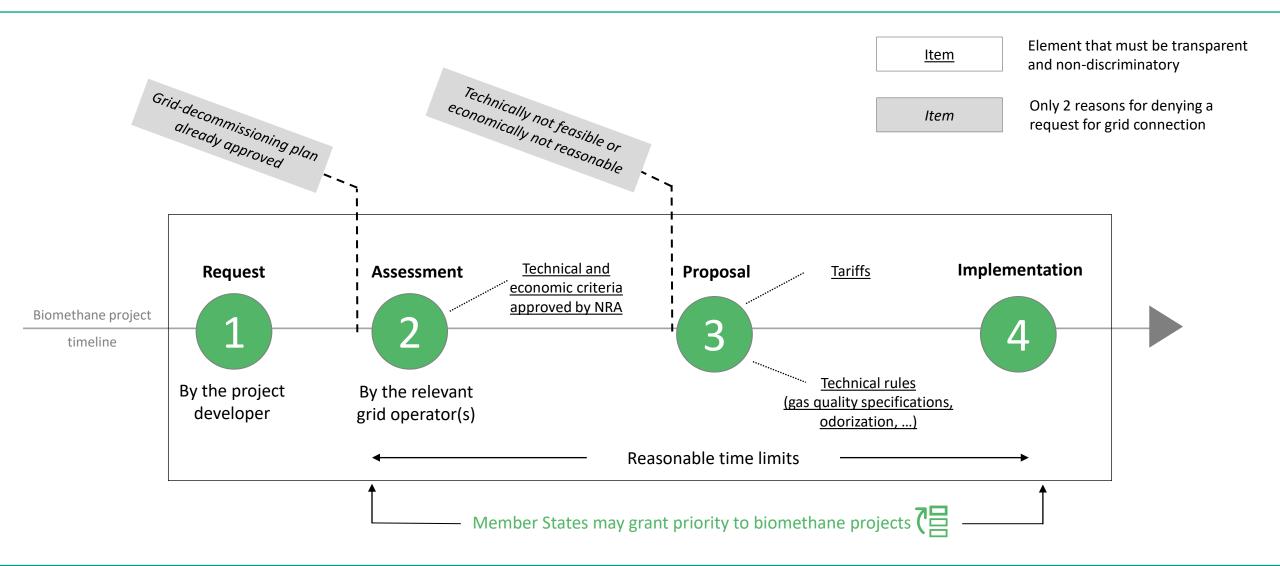
Tariffs - Technical rules (gas quality, odorization, pressure) - Other procedures

Time limits for grid operators to deliver

From the assessment of a request to the building of the connection pipe

The voice of renewable gas in Europe

The new Gas Package outlines common steps for the right to injection



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Biomethane producers can request continuous injection 24/7 year-round

European Bioga



☐ Responsibility of TSOs and DSOs to ensure continuous injection ("firm capacity"), including by means of grid reinforcements.

Cooperation among TSOs and DSOs

- ☐ Grid operators must cooperate with each other:
 - ☐ TSO DSO cooperation
 - □ DSO DSO cooperation
- ☐ The Regulation identifies non-exhaustive list of ways to ensure firm capacity:
 - "Reverse flow" from distribution to transmission networks.
 - "alternatives to reverse flow investments, such as smart grid solutions or connection to other network operators including direct connection".

Conditional capacity under limited number of cases

- Only 2 reasons are set for "conditional capacity":
 - "infrastructure safety",
 - "economic efficiency".
- Decisions of TSO/DSO to grant "conditional capacity" shall be made "on the basis of transparent and non-discriminatory procedures" and under oversight of the NRA.

The voice of renewable gas in Europe

Producers may get immediate tariff discounts while the full framework on connection costs will have to be negotiated at national level

100% tariff discount

- On the tariff applied to the volume of gas injected in the gas grid.
- The Commission shall re-examine the tariff reductions every 5 years.
- Derogation possible (decision by the NRA):

"the application of discounts (...) is not necessary due to the degree of advancement of the roll-out of renewable gas and low-carbon gas in the Member State concerned or the existence of alternative support mechanisms for scaling up the use of renewable gas or low-carbon gas."

General obligation to provide an "enabling framework"

Art. 52c, 1. Member States shall provide <u>an enabling regulatory framework</u> for biomethane production facilities in relation to connection fees and costs resulting from their connection to the transmission or distribution networks.

The framework will have to take into account:

- "the need for stable financial frameworks for existing investments",
- "the advancement of the roll-out of renewable gas and low-carbon gas in the Member State",
- "the existence of alternative support mechanisms for scaling up the use of renewable gas or low carbon gas",
- "the energy efficiency first principle applicable to network development" (Energy Efficiency Directive).



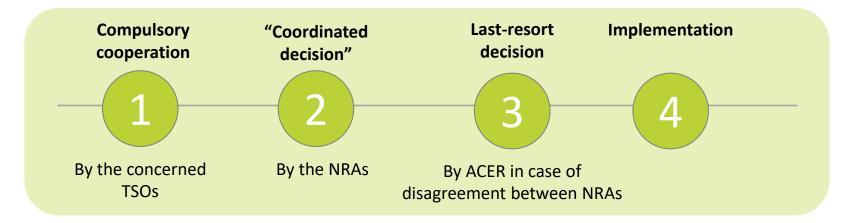
Each Member State will have to strike a balance between facilitating grid connection of new capacities and the recovery of grid operators' costs through tariffs.

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Cross-border restriction based on gas quality differences will have to be overcome by cooperation

Settlement procedure for cross-border gas quality issues

- ➤ When an issue on **gas quality difference** arise between two EU countries that leads to a **restriction to cross-border flows** that cannot be avoided by the concerned TSOs.
- A procedure is set out based on the **mandatory cooperation of TSOs**: developing a solution, a stakeholder consultation, a cost-benefits analysis and a breakdown of costs.



Gas quality specifications

- ➤ **In case of lack of appropriate standards** for the "cost effective integration of large volumes of biomethane in the existing natural gas system"...
- > The European Commission is empowered to act as a last resort by adopting common specifications for biomethane injection.
- > The official CEN process remains the first and main standardisation pathway.

Renewable gases will be visible on consumers' bills, contributing to general public awareness

Share of renewable gas supplied to customers

- The share of renewable gas purchased by the final customer will have to be disclosed by retail suppliers.
- "In case of a mixture the supplier shall provide the same information separately for different categories of gas".
- Retail suppliers shall back their claims by using Guarantees of Origin.



Disclosure about the mix of the supplier

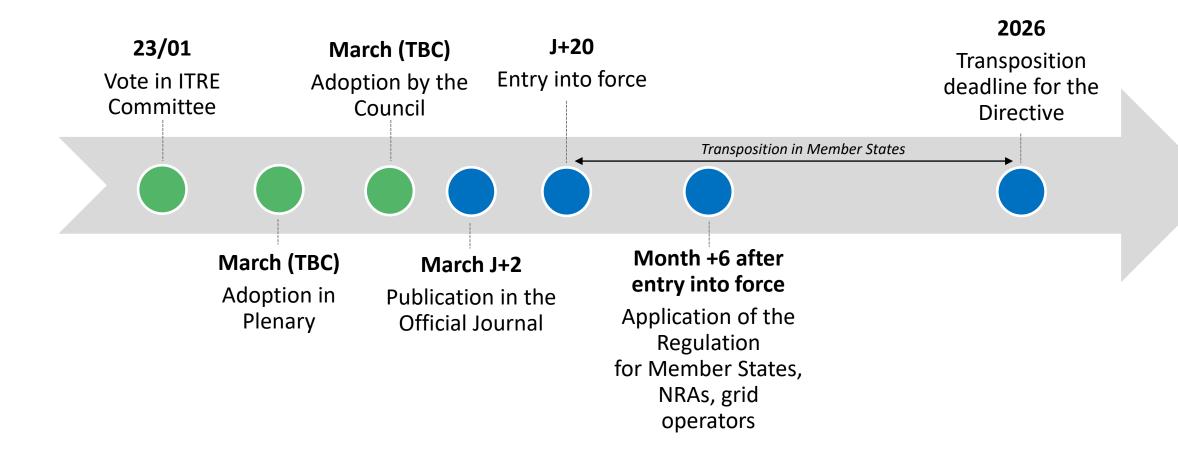
Suppliers shall inform customers along with their bills about:

A/ Share of renewable gas + Share of lowcarbon gas

- In their national supply mix
- At the level of the supplier if active in several Member States

B/ "Information on the environmental impact, in at least terms of CO2 emissions" resulting from the gases supplied by the supplier over the preceding year.

The Gas Package will be implemented by Spring 2026



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THANK YOU!

Anthony Lorin Senior Policy Analyst Iorin@europeanbiogas.eu





Grid injection checklist: Cost-sharing, gas quality and injection fees

George Osei Owusu

Technical and Project Officer

European Biogas Association





Grid Connection – Cost Sharing

Grid connection cost covers

- 1.Cost for injection station.
- 2. Cost for constructing gas pipelines to injection points.

Depends on several factors:

- Location, size and capacity of the plant,
- The extent of coverage of the existing infrastructure of the network.
- Applicable in 10 countries.
- 10 countries do not share connection cost.
- 8 countries situation is unknown.







Grid Connection – Cost Sharing

France - Grid operators (either TSO or DSO) takes 60%. Investment limit of 600 000€.

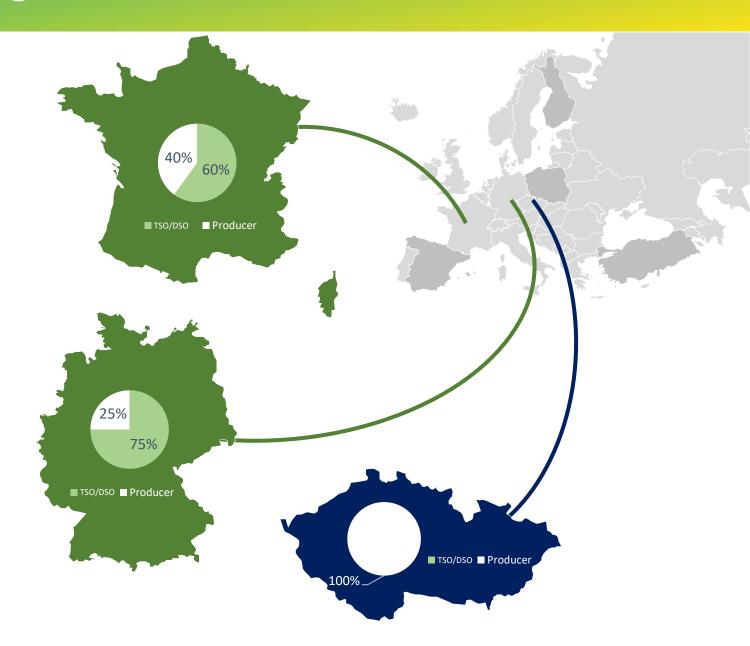
 Reinforcement Investment/Additionnal Volume of injected biomethane

Germany – Biomethane producer takes 25% of the construction cost and the grid operator takes 75%.

• Biomethane producer pays for extra distance.

Czech Republic - No cost for TSO/DSO.

■ Biomethane producer can sell to Grid operators.





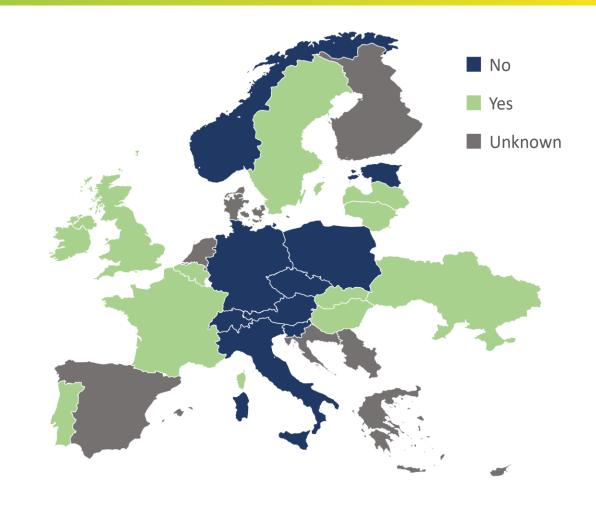
Grid Connection – Injection Fees

Injection fee charges related to:

- Installation and maintenance of metering and measurement systems.
- Grid access charges.
- Costs for ensuring gas quality.

Injection fee applicability:

- Applicable in 11 countries.
- 9 countries do not have injection fees.
- 8 countries situation unknown.







Grid Connection – Injection Fee

France

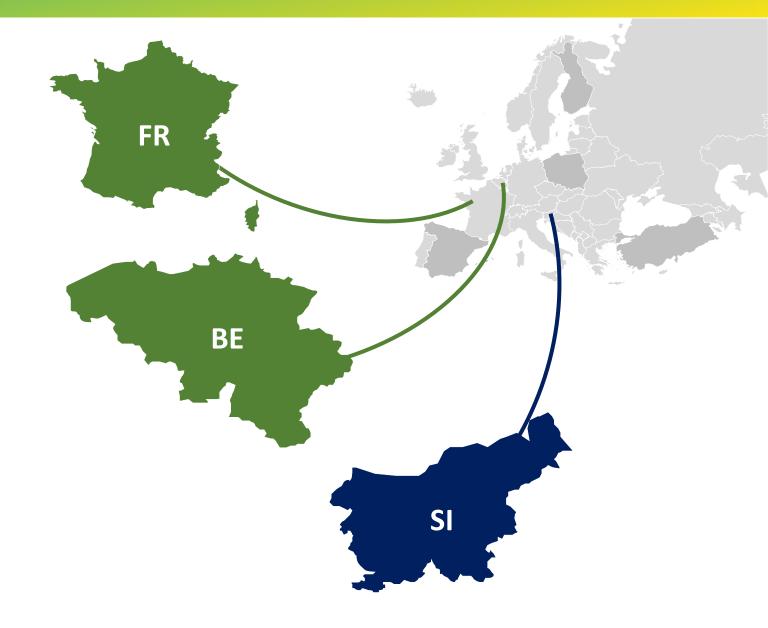
- Skid rental (exploitation & maintenance)
- · Gas quality metering and odorisation.

DSO: approx. 15k€ /trimester i.e. 45k€/year TSO: approx. 450k€ for injection skid installation

Belgium - Wallonia average injection fee 1 €/MWh injected with a cap of 50,000€ per year

• Flanders tariff is determined by the VREG (Flemish gas market regulator) and amounts to ±€0.64/MWh.

Slovenia - No legal regulations regarding the costs of entering the distribution system.





Grid Connection – Gas Quality and Metering System

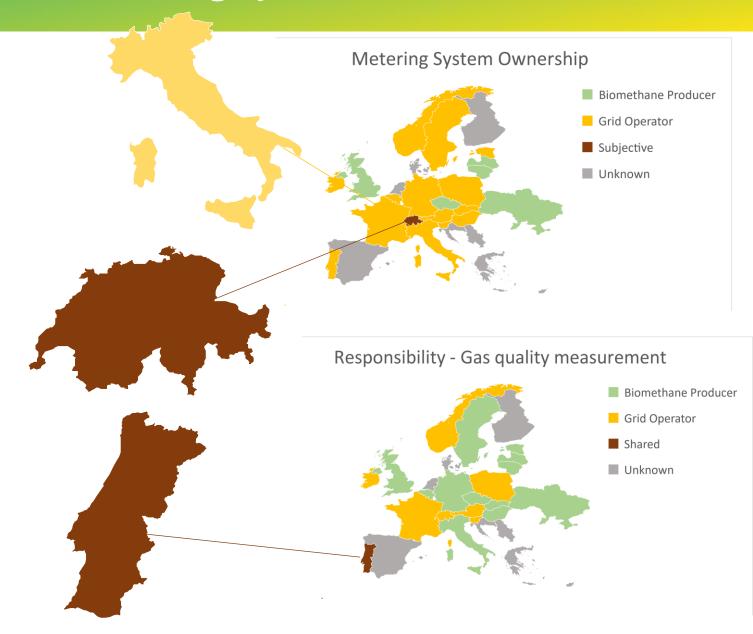
Italy – Gas quality measurement – Biomethane producer

Metering System – Grid Operator, transferable on request.

Switzerland - Gas quality measurement - Grid Operator.

Ownership of metering system depends on agreement.

Portugal - Shared responsibility for monitoring the quality of the biomethane injected.





GreenMeUp Project

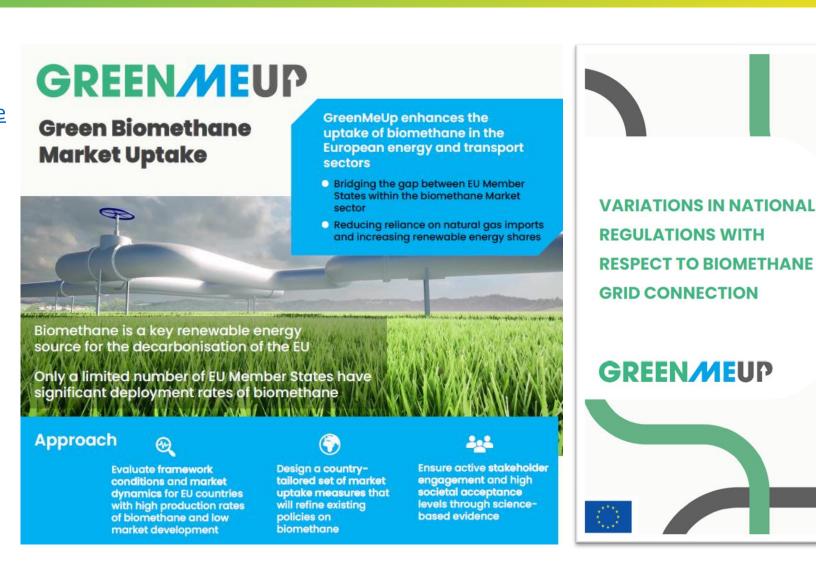
More information on project:

<u>GreenMeUP – Enhancing the uptake</u> <u>of biomethane in Europe</u> (<u>greenmeup-project.eu</u>)

Read the full report here:

https://www.europeanbiogas.eu/wpcontent/uploads/2024/02/GreenMeUp-Variations-in-Natl.-Grid-Connection.pdf

Results – GreenMeUP (greenmeup-project.eu)





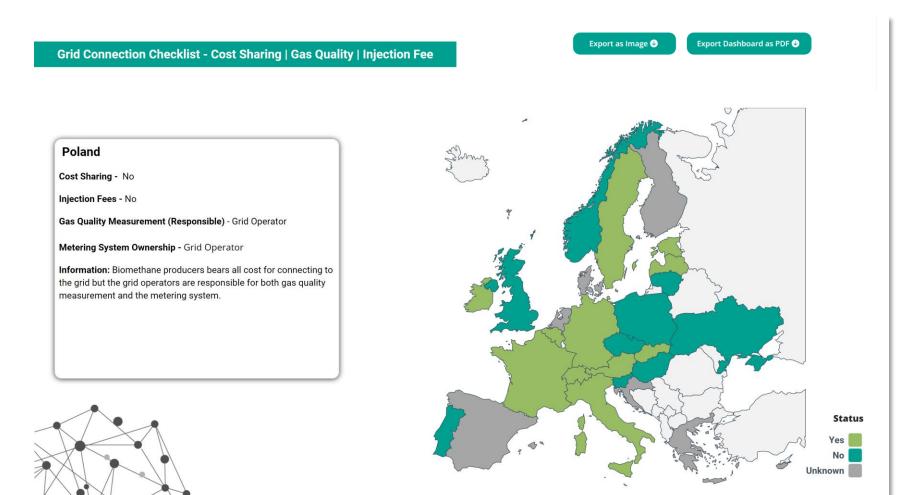
EBA Policy Dashboard – Access to full information and Mans

Grid Connection Dashboard Access the Dashboard here: EBA (europeanbiogas.eu)

Available for EBA Members.

Other Dashboards available:

- Guarantee of Origins
- Biomethane Targets
- Support Schemes



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GREEN/MEUP





THANK YOU!

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Quality requirements for Biomethane injection

José Alfred Lana Calvo

Chair Working Group Gas Quality, Marcogaz European Biogas Association





marcogaz

Technical Association of the European Gas Industry

Quality requirement for biomethane injection

José A. Lana, Chairman of the WG Gas Quality

EBA webinar, Greening Gas Grids: Navigating Biomethane Grid Connection - 23/02/2024

Natural gas quality in Europe

- 1 Natural gas quality is a right of each country in Europe
 - Each country defines its qualities requirements
 - ↑ There are slight differences between countries
 - ♠ This has work well in the past and only minor issues have appeared in the trading of natural gas between countries.
- Anyway, European Commission wanted the highest harmonization possible amongst European countries
 - ↑ Mandate M/400 launched in 2007
 - ↑ Publication of EN16726:2015: Gas Infrastructure. Quality of Gas. Group H
 - ↑ The standard was published without Wobbe index or calorific value ranges for natural gas
 - Oxygen requirement was quite strict to protect sensitive gas users
 - ↑ The application of a standard is voluntary, except a regulation impose it
 - ♠ EN16726 is currently under revision



Biomethane quality in Europe

- M Biomethane quality is a right of each country in Europe
 - ♠ Each country defines its qualities requirements, in line with natural gas ones
- Anyway, European Commission wanted the highest harmonization possible amongst European countries
 - ↑ Mandate M/475 launched in 2010
 - ↑ Publication of EN16723-1:2016: Natural gas and biomethane for use in transport and biomethane for injection in the natural gas network Part 1: <u>Specifications</u> for biomethane for injection in the natural gas network
 - \uphi There were agreement that common parameters with natural gas (S, O_2 , CO_2 , ...) shall be the same than in EN16726:2015
 - ♦ Only parameters specific for biomethane (Si, CO, NH₃, ...) were defined
 - ♠ EN16273-1 has been confirmed by CEN up to 2026
 - ↑ There is a working group in CEN/TC408 collecting information for a future revision



Biomethane specification for injection in Europe

- 6 Each country defines its own quality requirements, in line with natural gas ones
 - Depending on the country is a National regulation or a company specification or ...
- MARCOGAZ compiled specifications for biomethane injection in Europe
 - **1** Document dated 2019 with the requirement in 12 EU countries
 - **1** Available in MARCOGAZ website
 - ↑ It will be updated in 2Q-2024 with information in 14 EU countries
- ♠ Requirements are different from country to country
 - ♠ Only in Sweden, specification is referred to EN16723-1:2016
 - ♦ Wobbe index is defined in 10 countries
 - ♦ Some countries differentiate between H or L natural gas
 - ♠ Gross Calorific Value is defined in 8 countries
 - ♦ Some countries differentiate between H or L natural gas
 - Relative density is defined in 8 countries
 - ↑ All countries define values for sulphur components, CO₂ and O₂
 - **\(\)** Different from country to country
 - ♦ Other minor components/traces (CO, NH₃, CI/F, BTEX, ...) are defined depending the country



WG GO-197-BiomethaneSpecificationsEnglaignmention do

34.8 - 45.1

32.4 = 35.9 (L) 36.5 = 43.7

GCV⁵ (MJ/m3, 15/15)

D MARCOGAZ

38.5 - 47.26 32.4 - 46.16

47.9 - 56.56 48.6 - 55.86

47.3 - 52.3

28.7 - 44.7



32.5 - 36.7 (L) 36.9 - 43.7 (H)

Impact of specification/standards for biomethane injection

Main quality requirements impact

- Mobbe index should not be a problem
 - ♠ Less upgrading needed when L natural gas
- ♠ Gross Calorific Value should not be a problem
 - **Addition** of propane is/was made in some countries to increase GCV for facilitating billing process
- ♠ Relative density should not be a problem
- ♠ Oxygen: normally different level for transmission and distribution grids

Oxygen requirement is recognized as the main barrier for biomethane injection into natural gas grid

- ♠ This mainly affects to high pressure transmission pipeline
 - ↑ The ones connected to sensitive users, as underground gas storages
 - ↑ The ones connecting countries with different oxygen requirement
 - The maximum level is different from country to country
- ♠ Medium/low pressure distribution pipeline accepts higher amount of oxygen
 - ↑ Normally, only if a flow reverse station to transmission pipeline exists, oxygen could be a problem
- ↑ Values are normally between 0.001/0.01% to 1% (one country allows up to 3%) if no sensitive users



Oxygen requirement in EN16726, applied to EN16723-1

- **♦** EN16726:2015
 - **1** Quite restrictive
 - **♦** 0.001% by default
 - ♠ Up to 1% if not sensitive users connected
 - **1** No definition of what is a sensitive user

Parameter	Unit	Limits based on standard reference condition 15 °C/15°C		Limits based on normal reference condition 25°C /0°C (for information)		Reference standards for test methods ^d	
		Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	(informative)	
Oxygen	mol/mol	not applicable	0,001 % or 1 % (see below)	not applicable	0,001 % or 1 % (see below)	EN ISO 6974-3, EN ISO 6974-6, EN ISO 6975	
	At network entry points and interconnection points the mole fraction of oxygen shall be no more than 0,001 %, expressed as a moving 24 hour average. However, where the gas can be demonstrated not to flow to installations sensitive to higher levels of oxygen is gunderground storage systems, a higher						

- ♠ Draft EN16726, version under comments
 - ♠ Change in the approach, less restrictive
 - ↑ 1% by default
 - ♠ 0.001% if sensitive users connected
 - ♠ Final figures should be still agreed by CEN/TC 234/WG11
 - ♠ Publication expected in 2025

Parameter	Unit	Limits based on standard reference condition 15 °C/15 °C		Limits based on normal reference condition 25 °C/0 °C (for information)		Reference standards for test methodsf			
		Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	(informative)			
	mol/mol	not applicable	1 % or 0,001 % for sensitive users (see below)	not applicable	1 % or 0,001 % for sensitive users (see below)	EN ISO 6974-3, EN ISO 6974-6, EN ISO 6975			
Oxygen	In the gas infrastructure the mole fraction of oxygen shall be no more than 1 %. However, if it can be demonstrated that a gas with oxygen content can flow to installations sensitive to oxygen, e.g. underground gas storage, a maximum limit down to 0,001 %, expressed as a moving 24 hour average, at those exit point shall be applied, unless there is no technical need (for most applications a level of e.g. 0,01 % or higher is sufficient). The evaluation of the applicable level shall be done by an assessment process.								
	If the technical need for a low oxygen limit is not confirmed within the required assessment process, then higher oxygen concentrations can be agreed on. The evaluation of the applicable level shall be done by a case-by-case analysis for the grid that is influenced by the oxygen content based on concrete input e.g. from requester for gas injection, gas infrastructure operators and relevant end-users. NOTE 2 0,01 % is equal to 100 ppm and 0,001 % is equal to 10 ppm.								
	NOTE 2 0,0	01 % is equal to 1	100 ppm and 0	,001 % is equal	to 10 ppm.				



marcogaz

Technical Association of the European Gas Industry

Thank you!











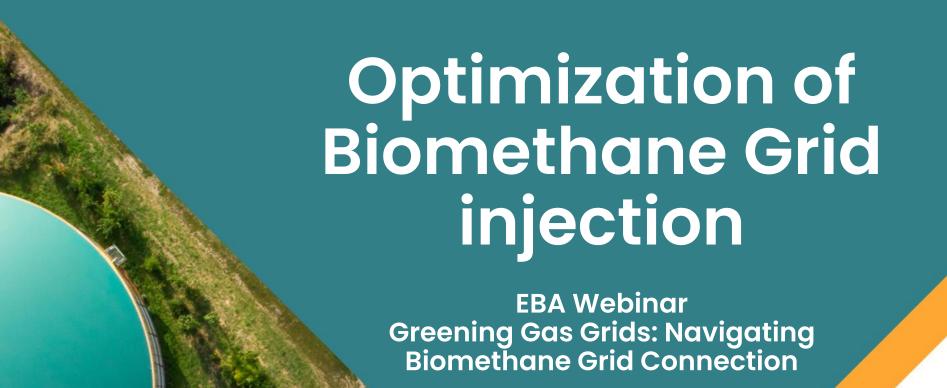
Optimization of Biomethane Grid injection

José Catela Pequeno

Lead Subgroup Task Force 4.4
Biomethane Grid Connection Optimization
Biomethane Industrial Partnership







José Catela Pequeno

BIP Task Force 4.4

February 23rd, 2024



Biomethane Industrial Partnership



Doubling the EU ambition for biomethane to product 35 bcm per year by 2030, in particular from agricultural waste and residues.

RePowerEU





High energy prices

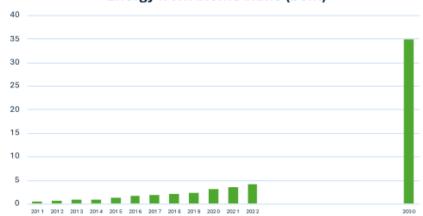


Addressing the climate crisis



Significantly raise the utilization of biomethane with an ambition target of 35 bcm by 2030

Energy from biomethane (bcm)



The BIP is an industrial partnership in which policy makers, industry and other stakeholders team up with the goal to support the 35 bcm target

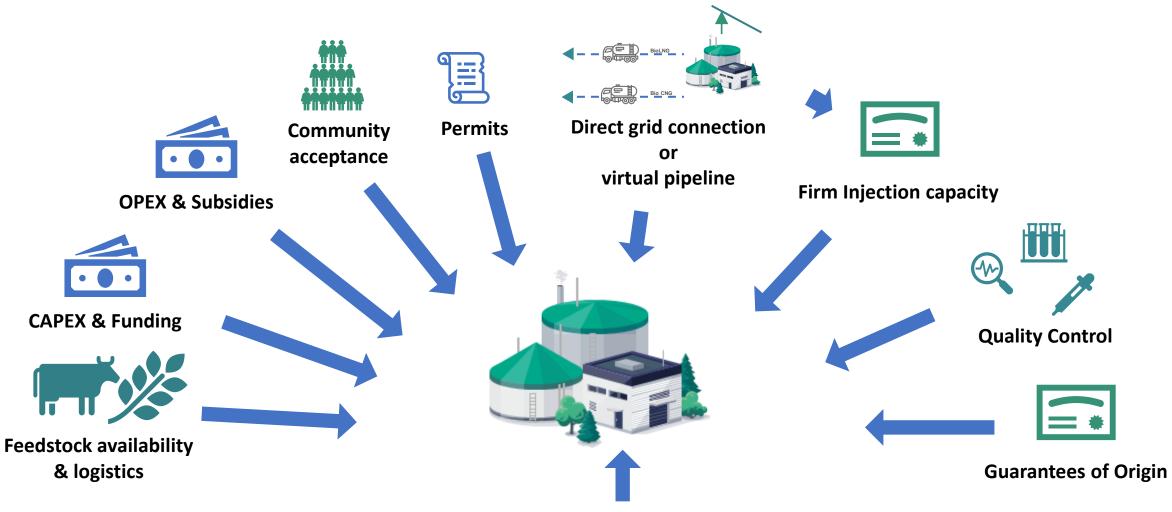




Task Force 4.4 –

Optimizing the costs associated with biomethane grid injection and the necessary grid reinforcement, encompassing reverse flow technology and grid extensions

Components of a biomethane project



Factors influencing BioCH4 grid injection



Network availability & reception limits

Right to connect & Regulatory Framework

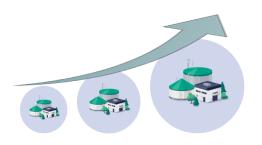
Planning to boost biomethane injection

Firm injection capacity attribution

Connection solutions

Biomethane quality control

Network availability & reception capacity



Plant size tend to increase due to environmental, efficiency and technological requirements











Plants tend to be located farther away from the network



Increasingly expensive connections

Insufficient reception capacity

Unfeasible connection

Right to connect and Regulatory Framework



Obligation to evaluate connection requests is legally/regulatorily established in most EU countries

Connection is guaranteed only in a few countries and is associated with long term network planning



Cost of connection usually borne by biomethane project promoter

Cost-sharing mechanisms are common in countries with fast increase in the number of plants connected

Funding of measures to boost grid reception capacity and feasibility thresholds

Planning to Boost grid capacity



Costly and long lead time investments





Optimum solution require joint DSO/TSO planning



BioCH4 venture location, capacity & start-up timing



Grid topology & Balancing zones



Capacity deficits



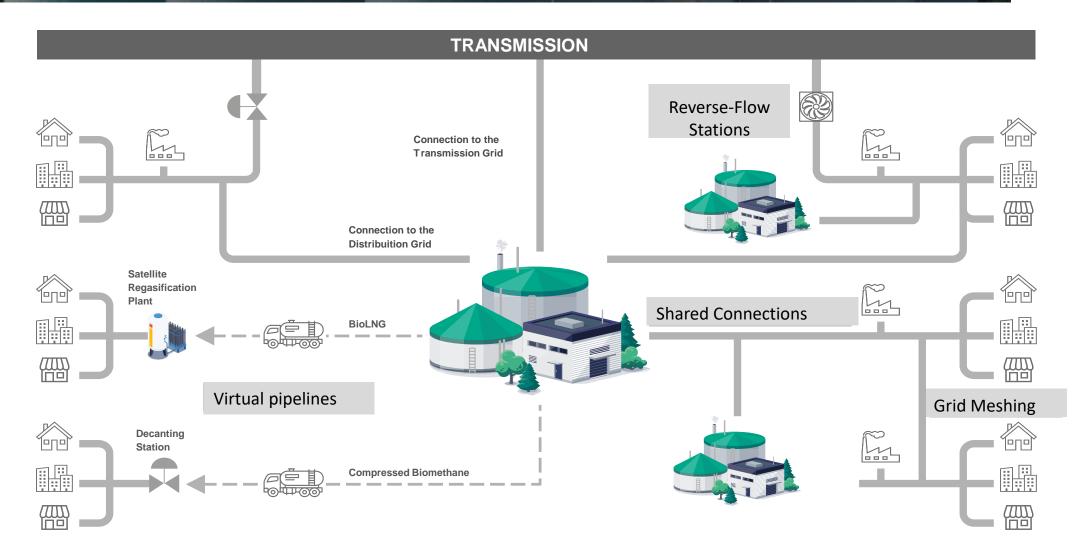
Mitigating solutions (CAPEX & timing)



National/Regional investment plan

- Type of solution
- Responsible operator
- **Timeline**
- Funding solution

Boosting Grid Capacity - Solutions



Bimethane Quality Control











Different requirements for TSO and DSO Country requirements similar

Traditionally based in Gas Cromatography + H2O + H2S

New technics emerging at lower CAPEX and OPEX

OIML approval on the way

An opportunity to reduce the cost of the Gas Entry Units



We want to hear from you!

Insert you question in the Q&A & upvote your favorite question(s)!

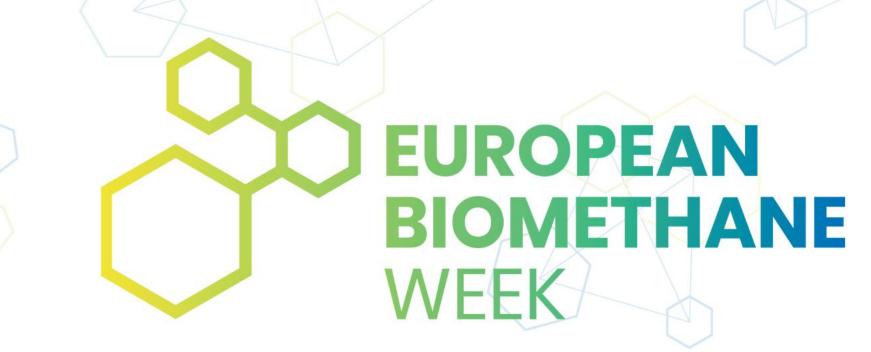


THURSDAY 28 MARCH 2024 10H - 11H30 AM CET

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Understanding Digestate
Nutrient Cycle, Soil Quality, Energy Resilience



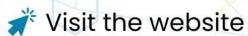


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BIOGASES: THE PRAGMATIC PATHWAY TO CLIMATE-NEUTRALITY

21-25 October 2024: Brussels and across Europe















Thank you for your attention!

Re-thinking our Economy. Making the Energy Transition happen.









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