



gasunie

RWE



Press release

## Pipeline for green hydrogen from North Sea

GASCADE, Gasunie, RWE and Shell sign declaration of intent regarding collaboration on AquaDuctus project

- AquaDuctus pipeline to transport up to one million tonnes of green hydrogen annually
- Feasibility study to be carried out

**Kassel/Hanover/Essex/Hamburg, April 26<sup>th</sup> 2021.** Project partners GASCADE, Gasunie, RWE and Shell signed a declaration of intent to further intensify their collaboration on the AquaDuctus project.

The AquaDuctus pipeline will transport green hydrogen from the North Sea directly to the continent. It is part of the AquaVentus initiative, which plans to install 10 gigawatts of electrolysis capacity for green hydrogen production from offshore wind power between Heligoland and the Dogger sand bank. In the dovetailed sub-projects, demand, generation and transport of hydrogen are to be synchronised in order to enable a swift market ramp-up.

The AquaDuctus pipeline is the vision for the first German offshore hydrogen pipeline. Once the construction of the generation plants is fully completed, AquaDuctus would transport up to one million tonnes of green hydrogen annually from 2035 onwards, thus making a substantial contribution towards the decarbonisation of energy supply in Germany and Europe. AquaDuctus is therefore a key milestone in the implementation of the German and European hydrogen strategies.

Compared to the transport of electricity generated offshore, the pipeline offers clear economic advantages. The pipeline will replace five High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) transmission systems, which would otherwise have to be built. It is by far the most cost-effective option for transporting large volumes of energy over distances of more than 400 kilometres.

The first step in the AquaDuctus project is to carry out a detailed feasibility study. AquaDuctus has also participated in the IPCEI (Important Project of Common European Interest) process of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy.

Read more about AquaDuctus and the other sub-projects on the AquaVentus' website [www.aquaventus.org](http://www.aquaventus.org)

**GASCADE Gastransport GmbH** operates a gas pipeline network covering the whole of Germany. The network company offers its customers cutting-edge, competitive transport services over its own long-distance high-pressure pipeline network of more than 2,900 kilometers in length in the heart of Europe.

**Press Spokesperson**

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**Gasunie** is a European energy infrastructure company. Gasunie's network is one of the largest high-pressure pipeline networks in Europe and consists of over 15,000 kilometers of pipelines in the Netherlands and Germany. Gasunie is helping to accelerate the transition to a CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral energy supply. The company believes that innovations in the gas sector can make an important contribution to this, for example in the form of renewable gases such as hydrogen and green gas. When it comes to hydrogen, scale and an integrated approach to the entire hydrogen chain are important. Gasunie is therefore investing in innovative partnerships and a hydrogen backbone for transport and storage. Both existing and new gas infrastructure are important in this context.

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**RWE Renewables** is one of the world's leading renewable energy companies. With around 3,500 employees, the company has onshore and offshore wind farms, photovoltaic plants and battery storage facilities with a combined capacity of approximately 9 gigawatts. RWE Renewables is driving the expansion of renewable energy in more than 15 countries on four continents. From 2020 until 2022, RWE Renewables targets to invest €5 billion net in renewable energy and to grow its renewables portfolio to 13 gigawatts of net capacity. Beyond this, the company plans to further grow in wind and solar power. The focus is on the Americas, the core markets in Europe and the Asia-Pacific region.

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**Royal Dutch Shell plc** is incorporated in England and Wales, has its headquarters in The Hague and is listed on the London, Amsterdam, and New York stock exchanges. Shell companies have operations in more than 70 countries and territories with businesses including oil and gas exploration and production; production and marketing of liquefied natural gas and gas to liquids; manufacturing, marketing and shipping of oil products and chemicals and renewable energy projects.

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