

Press Release
EUROGAS Workshop on
Long Term Outlook for Gas Demand and Supply 2030

Eurogas presented today its long term outlook for gas demand and supply at the horizon of 2030.

Policy makers, economists, consultants, journalists and industry representatives discussed the fundamental role of natural gas in the future energy mix.

The workshop was introduced by Eurogas President Domenico Dispenza and addressed by Mr. Gertjan Lankhorst CEO Gas Terra and Vice President of Eurogas and Mr. Martin Altstätter, Chairman of the Forecasting Committee. Two scenarios were developed: a Base case and an Environmental one. The workshop presented the evolution of energy demand in the EU and the respective share of natural gas until 2030. The detailed analysis of the main trends in natural gas consumption by sector were outlined. The supply situation was shown in terms of the evolution of the indigenous production and the additional supplies needed until 2030.

Policy emphasis on the environmental friendliness and highly efficient technologies needed in a low carbon economy give gas a key role in any realistic EU climate policy, the goals of which cannot be achieved solely through increased use of renewables. **Whether we consider the Base Case Scenario or the Environmental one, natural gas demand in the EU is still forecast to grow, by 14% to 23% until 2030, with most of the growth expected to come from power generation.**

Despite the current slump in demand and supply pressure, the present excess supply situation will not continue in the long term. The evolution of the medium/long term gas demand will require supplies of natural gas originating both from indigenous sources and from increased imports especially from 2015 onwards. The procurement challenge cannot be considered in isolation from global developments and the financial crisis has made investments more difficult in all segments of the chain. Fortunately natural gas reserves, including considerable unconventional gas discoveries, are abundant worldwide. Europe is in a good geographical position to diversify its gas supplies.

In his speech, Mr. Dispenza underlined that *"because of its 'green properties', highly efficient application technologies and flexibility, natural gas consumption in EU member states is still expected to rise between 14% and 23% in year 2030 in comparison with 2007, that is, to a range between 500 and 535 Mtoe from 2007's 437 Mtoe depending on the two scenarios. If we want to speak in the more common unit for the gas world, that is billion cubic meters we would arrive to, respectively, 595 and 637 bcm from the 2007's 520."*

The European gas industry is committed to provide European customers with reliable and diversified gas supplies, at competitive prices, within an effective and competitive gas market, under circumstances contributing to a sustainable energy policy. Any pragmatic road for a sustainable future has to involve a larger role for gas.

The full report is available under:

http://www.eurogas.org/uploaded/Eurogas_Brochure_Outlook_LR_030510.pdf

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