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GASNATURALLY PRESS RELEASE ON THE REPOWEREU PLAN

GasNaturally supports the Communication on the REPowerEU Plan and its objective to boost gas supply diversification, energy savings as well as an accelerated deployment of biomethane and hydrogen with ambitious targets.

Following the adoption, President of GasNaturally Dawn Summers stated: “We welcome this ambitious proposal from the European Commission. The regulatory measures to increase the EU’s energy resilience should include ramping up domestic production of renewable, low-carbon, and natural gases, promoting a sustainable gas storage market, and diversifying gas imports to ensure better preparedness against unreliable sources and volatile markets.”

To ensure cost-efficient and secure energy supplies to EU consumers, it will be critical to retain a legislative framework that upholds the dynamic domestic energy market with free and transparent price formation, enables the significant investments needed, and intelligent demand-side solutions.

Going forward, to uphold the integrity of the EU energy market, GasNaturally encourages the co-legislators to consider the following aspects, when coming up with measures addressing security of supply, gas storage obligations, interventions into price formation, and common gas purchases:

- Long-term contracts between producers, suppliers, transportation and storage operators, and consumers along the value chain are the backbone of secure gas supplies, including during times of peak demand;
- Price variations are an inherent element of market-based price formation. They represent the basis for long-term investments, to ensure that supplies are directed where the demand is and can also send demand reducing signals;
- Any regulatory interventions on gas prices at the wholesale level should be carefully considered and any potential interventions in this direction should avoid as much as possible distortions at the wholesale level between gas suppliers;
- Well-designed measures regarding gas storages should take insurance, system, and market realities into account; and
- Tapping into the enormous potential of both renewable and low-carbon hydrogen can contribute to supplying European consumers with energy.

Summers concluded: “The EU gas value chain is prepared to proactively work with policymakers to meet the net-zero goal by 2050 and offer citizens and businesses sustainable solutions to strengthen the EU’s strategic autonomy.”

GasNaturally is a partnership of eight associations from across the whole gas value chain. Our members are involved in gas exploration and production, transmission, distribution, wholesale and retail operations, as well as gas in transport.

