

Press Release

9 July 2020

GEODE STATEMENT: EUROPEAN COMMISSION STRATEGY FOR ENERGY SYSTEM INTEGRATION AND THE HYDROGEN STRATEGY

GEODE welcomes the European Commission Strategy for Energy System Integration and the Hydrogen Strategy published on 8 July.

We are pleased that the two strategies deliver a vision of our future energy system – more integrated, synergetic and cost-efficient – where smart use of the existing energy infrastructure is made, and which reaps the benefits of different energy carriers and technologies.

Our members, local energy Distribution System Operators, have decarbonisation and integrated energy solutions at the heart of their daily activities. GEODE is confident that as distribution operators of multiple infrastructures – electricity, gas and heating & cooling – they remain a key partner in delivering on this vision.

As local market facilitators, GEODE's members:

- Integrate the increasing share of renewable energies into the electricity and gas distribution grids (transporting hydrogen and other clean gases)
- Make networks more robust and reliable in order to support further electrification of energy, heating & transport sectors
- Facilitate demand response and energy efficiency by developing smart power systems and enabling flexibility services linked to decentralised energy production

The Commission's Communications echo some of our recommendations on sector integration and hydrogen, outlined in the GEODE papers [The Role of Sector Integration in Decarbonising Europe](#) and [Towards the New Age of Gas Networks: Proposal on the Regulation of a European Hydrogen Infrastructure](#).

As the objectives of the two strategies will be anchored in concrete legislative proposals, it is important that they foster the existing diverse local, regional and national concepts of sector integration, leaving enough space for local initiatives and innovations to thrive.

GEODE and its members look forward to working with the European institutions on translating these strategies into workable, efficient and customer-centred solutions that contribute to the European Union's Green Deal agenda and its net-zero carbon ambition.

About GEODE

GEODE is the voice of local energy distributors across Europe, representing the interests of 1400 private and public energy companies for both electricity and gas from 15 European countries, serving more than

100 million customers. These small and medium-sized companies are bringing intelligence to the grids and making thereby a major contribution to achieve Europe's climate and energy policy goals. GEODE promotes fair and competitive conditions for network operators giving them a strong voice to secure core values - namely providing a customer-focused service, with a high quality of supply and energy efficiency to homes, businesses and local communities. With more than 25 years of experience, GEODE is recognised as a trusted partner by the European institutions.

GEODE - The Voice of local Energy Distributors across Europe

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