

9th Energy Infrastructure Forum

12 - 13 June 2023, Copenhagen

Conclusions

1. Against the background of the early stage of hydrogen development, the Forum invites the Commission via the European Hydrogen Bank to pursue work to develop more in-depth knowledge on trans-European hydrogen supply and demand data to enhance assessment of needs, planning and investment certainty for hydrogen infrastructure projects, including repurposing, as part of an integrated energy system.
2. In relation to infrastructure projects that might not be commercially viable otherwise, the Forum invites the Commission together with Member States and relevant stakeholders to further develop the European Clean Hydrogen Alliance's Funding Compass to provide a more detailed overview of financial support policies at EU and national level for hydrogen infrastructure projects, and report to the next Forum.
3. The Forum invites the Commission to facilitate the further development of European hydrogen corridors needed for decarbonisation including in particular for hard-to-abate sectors, building on the outcomes of the upcoming first list of Projects of Common Interest and Projects of Mutual Interest.
4. The Forum invites the Commission to prepare a workshop to further discuss risk sharing and anticipatory investment schemes and to support the development of guidance for a specific cost-benefit and cost-sharing for the deployment of the sea-basin integrated offshore network development plans as required under the TEN-E Regulation. Building on the on-going Commission study on cost-benefit and cost-sharing, the workshop will bring together relevant stakeholders to identify needs, examine their complexities and propose concrete principles for the upcoming guidance.
5. The Forum asks ENTSO-E, ENTSO-G and ACER to assess to what extent the current approach to infrastructure planning takes account of the needs for onshore grid reinforcements to integrate the expected expansion of offshore renewables as set out in the Offshore Network Development Plans. ENTSO-E, ENTSO-G and ACER should report back at the next Energy Infrastructure Forum.

6. The Forum requests the EU DSO Entity, with input from DSO, renewable, heating and cooling as well as e-mobility associations and other relevant stakeholders, to prepare by the next Forum meeting a report with case studies and best practices of electricity distribution network development plans.
7. The Forum requests ENTSO-E and EU DSO Entity to prepare by the next Forum meeting a report on best practices for TSO-DSO cooperation in electricity network planning, considering sector integration.
8. The Forum requests ACER and CEER to analyse key barriers and develop recommendations for national incentive schemes to promote innovation, anticipatory investment and efficient electricity networks for the system integration of renewables.
9. The Forum welcomes the developments by ACER, CEER, ENTSO-E and EU DSO Entity on relevant smart electricity grid key performance indicators for transmission and distribution networks and requests them to develop technical discussion papers by the next Forum meeting.