

**SECOND MEETING  
OF THE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE FORUM  
COPENHAGEN, 23 – 24 JUNE 2016**

**01. Role of High-Level Groups in facilitating regional energy infrastructure & Energy Community political process**

- The Forum considers that regional cooperation groups should be driven by concrete needs. Their set-up and membership should be tailored to fit the needs. An inclusive approach, involving all stakeholders (civil society, industry, etc.) is essential to effectively support the realization of PCIs within the energy infrastructure package process.
- The Forum encourages BEMIP High-Level Group to identify priority projects within the BEMIP Action Plan 2015.
- The Forum invites the HLG for the South-West to take concrete actions for a swift implementation of the key projects included in the Madrid Declaration and to actively monitor the progress of the projects against the milestones to be set in the implementation plan.
- The Forum invites the CESEC High Level Group to work vigorously towards delivering the priority infrastructure projects and regulatory initiatives that are essential to the development of an integrated and competitive gas market in the region.
- The Forum underlines the necessity to further develop close links in infrastructure between the Energy Community, CESEC and other regional cooperation structures.
- The Forum welcomes the political declaration on energy cooperation between the North Seas countries adopted on 6 June 2016 and encourages the newly established High-Level Group to achieve initial results towards delivering a regionally optimised, sustainable energy system in the Northern Seas.

**02. Regional infrastructure challenges: cross-border cost allocation**

- The Forum welcomes the ACER Recommendation No 05/2015 on CBCA and urges NRAs and project promoters to make use of this work. The Forum welcomes innovative approaches to cost sharing such as the conditional payment guarantee mechanism and calls for further improvements in this area.
- The Forum acknowledges that CBCA decisions shall provide legal certainty to project promoters with regards to cost recovery. Decisions should be taken only when really necessary, entail early cooperation on a regional level, explore interdependence between projects through joint analysis and thus avoid unnecessary bureaucratic burden.

- The Forum notes that negotiated cost allocations, outside of the TEN-E regulation, increased commitment of the parties involved and generated incentives for promoters while ensuring legal certainty.
- The Forum notes that the cost-benefit analysis methodologies need improvement and further guidance to be fully usable for CBCA, especially in regards to interpretation of input and output data including benefits.
- The Forum invites the European Commission to further investigate the relationship between CBCA decisions and CEF funding and to put a focus on CBCA when carrying out the mid-term evaluation of the TEN-E regulation including stakeholder consultation in regards to experience and possible improvement of the CBCA mechanism within the existing legislative framework.

### **03. Development of Projects of Common Interest: an insight into current practices**

- The Forum calls on the Regional Groups to use information on project progress, including on significant rescheduling or lack of advancement, as a factor in the PCI identification process.
- The Forum invites all the Member States to effectively roll out the mechanisms and procedures which are necessary for projects to benefit from the accelerated permit granting provisions of the TEN-E Guidelines Regulation.
- The Forum invites the ENTSOs to set up expert groups on implementation of transmission projects in the electricity and gas sectors respectively. The experts shall examine options relevant to each sector to support the timely implementation of infrastructure projects. They shall identify, where relevant, and implement approaches that for example can help to get more acceptance from residents, that bring value locally and that facilitate political buy-in on all levels. The expert groups shall report in writing to the participants of the Forum on their findings and the progress achieved. In this context the Forum recalls the importance of getting all stakeholders engaged to stimulating and promoting public acceptance.

### **04. Copenhagen School of Energy Infrastructure**

- The Forum welcomes the initiative of the Copenhagen Business School and Energinet.dk to launch the Copenhagen School of Energy Infrastructure project that is to contribute to the works of the Energy Infrastructure Forum.