



# GAZ-SYSTEM S.A.

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Gaz-System S.A. is an operator of gas transmission pipelines. The company is a strategic company for the Polish economy. It is responsible for the transmission of natural gas, manages the most important gas pipelines in Poland and the Baltic Pipe undersea gas pipeline, and is the owner of the President Lech Kaczyński LNG Terminal in Świnoujście.

As part of the 2015-2025 investment programme, the company is developing more than 2,000 km of new gas pipelines in the western, southern and eastern parts of Poland. Interconnections with Lithuania and Slovakia have been completed, as well as the design of onshore gas pipelines that will connect the planned FSRU floating terminal in the Gulf of Gdansk to the national transmission system. An extension of the LNG Terminal in Świnoujście is also underway, which will increase the regasification capacity of this facility by more than half.

Gaz System, taking into account its potential and following good practices from the Netherlands, intends to become involved in the energy transition process aimed at decarbonising the economy. The company has launched a study to develop a Hydrogen Map of Poland. It will identify the locations of hydrogen demand and supply and the potential route of hydrogen pipelines across the country. The company is working on the concept of a Nordic-Baltic Hydrogen Corridor together with Finland, the Baltic States and Germany, and a pre-feasibility study is currently being developed.

The above data will allow a timetable to be set for further activities and, ultimately, a tentative date for the first hydrogen infrastructure. This work is being carried out in parallel with analyses of the potential for hydrogen production from RES.

### **Nordic-Baltic Hydrogen Corridor**

EU Member States are currently in a phase of dynamic change related to the energy transition and decarbonisation of the European economy. Hydrogen is expected to be one of the key fuels in the EU's energy transition.

On 14 December 2022, European gas transmission system operators from six EU countries - Gasgrid Finland (Finland), Elering (Estonia), Conexus Baltic Grid (Latvia), Amber Grid (Lithuania), GAZ-SYSTEM (Poland) and ONTRAS (Germany) - signed a cooperation agreement to develop cross-border hydrogen infrastructure from Finland through Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland to Germany to meet the REPowerUE 2030 targets.

The operators have initiated a project called the Nordic-Baltic Hydrogen Corridor, which will strengthen the region's energy security, reduce dependence on imported fossil fuel energy and play an important role in decarbonising societies and energy-intensive

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industries located along the corridor. The project also has significant potential to contribute to the EU's goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by replacing current fossil fuel-based production and use of fossil fuels in industry, the transport sector, the electricity sector and heating. The Nordic-Baltic Hydrogen Corridor also fits into the strategy of diversifying energy supply and influencing the acceleration of renewable energy development, specifically achieving the EU goal of domestic production of 10 million tonnes of hydrogen from renewable sources by 2030. The corridor makes it possible to transport environmentally friendly hydrogen produced in the Baltic Sea area to industrial customers located along the entire corridor, including primarily in Central Europe.

The project also fits in with the EU Hydrogen Strategy and the REPowerEU Plan. Furthermore, the Nordic-Baltic Hydrogen Corridor will support selected regional and EU climate targets, such as the Green Deal and the Fit for 55 package.

In addition, the project has been recognised as an investment contributing to the emergence of an integrated European hydrogen infrastructure under the TEN-E Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2022/869).

28 November 2023. The European Commission has published a list of investments that have been granted the status of Projects of Common Interest (PCIs) in the energy sector in the first PCI list for hydrogen transmission and storage, as well as regasification of hydrogen or hydrogen derivatives.

The Nordic-Baltic Hydrogen Corridor project has been included in the PCI list under the 'Baltic Energy Market Interconnection Plan in hydrogen' (BEMIP Hydrogen) and has been given priority investment project status in the European Union.

Given the complexity of the project, the project partners are taking proactive steps towards project implementation.

In December 2022, the project partners signed a cooperation agreement for the joint implementation of the project. Following a tender process carried out during 2023, in 2024 GAZ-SYSTEM, together with the partners, signed an agreement with AFRY Management Consulting to carry out a pre-feasibility study for the corridor. The purpose of the pre-feasibility study is to investigate the feasibility of a Nordic-Baltic Hydrogen Corridor and to define the project parameters (such as the route, scope and capacity of the corridor), to prepare a financial analysis, to develop a roadmap for project

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implementation and to define the main risk factors. The study will be prepared by mid-2024.

On the basis of the recommendations of the pre-feasibility study, a decision will be taken on further actions leading to the implementation of the project.

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