

REA's offer on hydrogen

REA's position on hydrogen

Firstly, the REA consider that green and bio-hydrogen, in combination with other low-carbon solutions, will play a major role to deliver a long-term net-zero energy system.

The REA also supports the adoption of blue hydrogen as a transition technology towards a net zero carbon energy system. However, we believe blue hydrogen can only achieve this where there is effective carbon capture and storage or utilisation in an application where the carbon is permanently sequestered. It is crucial in our view that all the carbon is tracked, monitored, and fully accounted for regardless of the production pathway.

We support the use of hydrogen in industry, power, heat, transport, especially where these sectors are particularly difficult to decarbonise by other means. Hydrogen will also have a strategic role in delivering energy storage and grid balancing services.

We do not support grey hydrogen in any cases, and we will gauge views from our members in due course on whether we should advocate for a phase out date for grey hydrogen in the future.

REA's plan to promote hydrogen

The REA is planning to play a more active role in shaping discussions around the near-term and long-term future of low-carbon hydrogen in the UK. REA were instrumental in the delivery of support for renewables in the UK, helping design and implement the Feed-in Tariff, RHI, CfD and RTFO schemes. We will bring our experience to bear to support the hydrogen sector in the following ways:

- Changing the name and focus of our long-established *Biogas* Forum to the *Green Gas* Forum. This will clarify that all green gases are within scope, including hydrogen. Green gases include but are not limited to:
 - o Biogas and biomethane from anaerobic digestion
 - o Biogas and biomethane from thermal gasification and pyrolysis
 - o Green, bio-and blue hydrogen
 - o Carbon dioxide (where used in or produced by renewable energy)
 - o Biopropane / bio-LPG
- Setting up a working group within the Green Gas Forum especially dedicated to hydrogen and its uses, aimed at moving the hydrogen agenda forward within Government. The group will help gauge our member's feedback on the key barriers and challenges of hydrogen adoption as well as inform our key policy recommendations to unlock the potential for hydrogen across heat, power and transport. It will also help coordinate and inform REA's lobbying activities across a number of other Forums, including Renewable Transport Fuels, Energy Storage, Energy from Waste, Markets and Innovation.
- Finalising our position statement on hydrogen including our key asks for Government and other institutions to support hydrogen deployment at scale.



- Engaging with Government on the forthcoming Hydrogen Strategy and related policy development.
- Introducing a hydrogen session within the REA's annual Green Gas Day. The event is one of the REA's most successful conferences, attracting over 100+ attendees annually.
- Using the REA's expertise that helped unlock the regulatory challenges of injecting biomethane into the existing gas network, the REA will work on overcoming the barriers of injecting hydrogen within the gas networks.

For further information on this and to join our future Hydrogen working group, please get in touch with <u>us</u>.

REA, 18/03/2021