OPINION

of the Committee on Regional Development

for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy


Rapporteur for opinion: Vlad-Marius Botoș
SHORT JUSTIFICATION

The cohesion policies are at the core of the development of the European Union. The strive for a balanced, inclusive, sustainable, modern society throughout the union, the principle “no one is left behind” is the key to a successful and thriving political, economic and social construction. The essence of the cohesion policies must be the foundation in all the European Union programs and strategies.

The revision of the TEN-E regulation will ensure the adaptation of the energy infrastructure development strategy to the new environmental and social requirements of the European Union policy, to the Green Deal and will contribute to achieving the objectives stipulated in the Paris Agreement.

The major adaptations required by the Green Deal in the energy infrastructure strategy aimed to dramatically increase the renewable energy production and consumption and the green mobility will have a strong impact on specific regions and on the energy market, but the strong correlation with the cohesion policies and the national and regional development strategies will ensure a successful and beneficial transformation at economic, social and individual level.

The cost-benefit analysis and the assessment of the projects must take into account the changes and challenges in the areas that will be most affected by the transition to the renewable energy and by the elimination of the fossil fuel.

For the cohesive development of all the member states and all the regions of the European Union, the economic and social development must not be hindered by the potential lack of energy and by the possible bottlenecks caused by an uneven energy infrastructure.

It is of utmost importance in the planning of the main corridors and of the energy infrastructure in the European Union to ensure the access to energy for all the regions, making sure the energy security strategy takes into account the present situation, but also the development plans and programmes that would lead to a potential increase in demand.

Ensuring the synergies of the trans-European energy infrastructure with the regional and national development plans and strategies, with the electric mobility development strategy and with other development projects in the area will lead to the contribution of the TEN-E to carbon neutrality, to economic growth, competitiveness and social development enhancing the contribution of the cohesion policies.

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Regional Development calls on the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, as the committee responsible, to take into account the following amendments:
Amendment 1
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 1

Text proposed by the Commission

(1) The Commission has set out, in its Communication of 11 December 2019 entitled ‘The European Green Deal’\(^\text{21}\), a new growth strategy that aims to transform the Union into a fair and prosperous society, with a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy, where there are no net emissions of greenhouse gases in 2050 and where economic growth is decoupled from resource use. The Commission’s communication on the Climate Target Plan\(^\text{22}\) proposing to increase the greenhouse gas emissions’ reduction level to at least 55% by 2030 - an ambition that was endorsed by the European Council on 11 December 2020 - and its underlying impact assessment confirms that the energy mix of the future will be very different from the one of today and underpins the necessity to review and if necessary to revise the energy legislation. The current energy infrastructure investments are clearly insufficient to transform and build the energy infrastructure of the future. That also means infrastructure needs to be in place to support the European energy transition, including rapid electrification, scaling up of renewable electricity generation, the increased use of renewable and low-carbon gases, energy system integration and a higher uptake of innovative solutions.

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\(^{22}\) Commission Communication - Stepping up Europe’s 2030 climate ambition,
Investing in a climate-neutral future for the benefit of our people, COM(2020) 562 final of 17 September 2020

Amendment 2
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 1 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(1b) The guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure should support activities that respect the climate and environmental standards and priorities of the Union and do no significant harm to the environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) No 2020/852 to achieve climate neutrality at the latest by 2050.

Amendment 3
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(4a) The target agreed in the conclusions of the March 2002 Barcelona European Council for Member States to have a level of electricity interconnections equivalent to at least 10% of their installed production capacity has not yet been achieved. In its conclusions of 23 and 24 October 2014, the European Council endorsed an electricity interconnection target of at least 15%. The communication of the Commission of 23 November 2017 on strengthening Europe's energy networks assesses progress towards achieving the 10% interconnection target and suggests ways in which to operationalise the 15% interconnection target for 2030, provided that system benefits outweigh costs, while acknowledging that many Member States...
require significantly higher interconnection levels, in particular by taking into account the urgency indicators developed by the Interconnection expert group (ITEG).

Amendment 4
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 5

Text proposed by the Commission

(5) The evaluation of Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 has clearly shown that the framework has effectively improved the integration of Member States’ networks, stimulated energy trade and hence contributed to the competitiveness of the Union. Projects of common interest in electricity and gas have strongly contributed to security of supply. *For gas, the infrastructure is now well connected and supply resilience has improved substantially since 2013*. Regional cooperation in Regional Groups and through cross-border cost allocation is an important enabler for project implementation. However, in many cases the cross-border cost allocation did not result in reducing the financing gap of the project, as intended. While the majority of permitting procedures have been shortened, in some cases the process is still long. The financial assistance from the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) has been an important factor as grants for studies have helped projects to reduce risks in the early stages of development, while grants for works have supported projects addressing key bottlenecks that market finance could not sufficiently address.

Amendment

(5) The evaluation of Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 has clearly shown that the framework has effectively improved the integration of Member States’ networks, stimulated energy trade and hence contributed to the competitiveness of the Union. Projects of common interest in electricity and gas have strongly contributed to security of supply. Regional cooperation in Regional Groups and through cross-border cost allocation is an important enabler for project implementation. However, in many cases the cross-border cost allocation did not result in reducing the financing gap of the project, as intended. While the majority of permitting procedures have been shortened, in some cases the process is still long. The financial assistance from the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) has been an important factor as grants for studies have helped projects to reduce risks in the early stages of development, while grants for works have supported projects addressing key bottlenecks that market finance could not sufficiently address.

Amendment 5
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 6
(6) The TEN-E policy is a central instrument in the development of an internal energy market and necessary to achieve the European Green Deal objectives. To achieve climate neutrality by 2050 and higher levels of greenhouse gas emission reductions by 2030, Europe will need a more integrated energy system, relying on higher levels of electrification based on renewable sources and the decarbonisation of the gas sector. The TEN-E policy can ensure that the Union energy infrastructure development supports the required energy transition to climate neutrality in line with the energy efficiency first principle.

Amendment
(6) The TEN-E policy is a central instrument in the development of an internal energy market and necessary to achieve the European Green Deal objectives, the energy affordability and to reach the economic and social cohesion. To achieve climate neutrality by 2050 and higher levels of greenhouse gas emission reductions by 2030, Europe will need a more integrated energy system and an energy policy at the Union level which takes into account the regional and local realities and development strategies, relying on higher levels of electrification based on renewable and low carbon energy sources and the decarbonisation of the gas sector backed up by an adapted legislation in all the Member States. The TEN-E policy can ensure that the Union energy infrastructure development supports the required energy transition to climate neutrality in line with the energy efficiency first principle and leaving no region behind.

Amendment 6
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 10

Text proposed by the Commission
(10) The Union’s energy infrastructure should be resilient to the unavoidable impacts that climate change is estimated to create in Europe in spite of the mitigation efforts. Hence, strengthening the efforts on climate adaptation, resilience building, disaster prevention and preparedness is crucial.

Amendment
(10) The Union’s energy infrastructure should be resilient to the unavoidable impacts that climate change is estimated to create in Europe in spite of the mitigation efforts. Hence, contribute to climate change mitigation, strengthening the efforts on climate adaptation, resilience building, disaster prevention and preparedness is crucial.
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 11

Text proposed by the Commission

(11) Security of supply, as one main driver behind Regulation (EU) No 347/2013, has been significantly improved through projects of common interest. Moreover, the Commission’s climate target impact assessment\textsuperscript{27} expects the consumption of natural gas to be reduced significantly because its non-abated use is not compatible with carbon-neutrality. On the other hand, the consumption of biogas, renewable and low-carbon hydrogen and synthetic gaseous fuels will increase significantly towards 2050. Therefore, the natural gas infrastructure no longer needs support through the TEN-E policy. The planning of energy infrastructure should reflect this changing gas landscape.

Amendment

(11) Security of supply, as one main driver behind Regulation (EU) No 347/2013, has been significantly improved through projects of common interest. Moreover, the Commission’s climate target impact assessment\textsuperscript{27} expects the consumption of natural gas to be reduced significantly because its non-abated use is not compatible with carbon-neutrality. However, in some Members States and regions the consumption of natural gas might be a significant step forward to reduce \( \text{CO}_2 \) emissions and facilitate the transition from solid fossil fuels to carbon neutrality. The revision of Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 should not negatively affect not yet completed natural gas infrastructure projects, which were already included in the fourth or fifth Union list of projects of common interest established pursuant to that Regulation. Those projects should therefore be able to maintain their previous status and be eligible as projects of common interest to be established under this Regulation. On the other hand, the consumption of biogas, renewable and low-carbon hydrogen and synthetic gaseous fuels will increase significantly towards 2050. Therefore, the infrastructure support through the TEN-E policy should be technology neutral and based on life cycle emissions assessments to avoid future lock-in effects. The construction of new natural gas infrastructure no longer needs support unless it can be converted into hydrogen infrastructure in the years to come according to the development of the sector and the national and regional development strategies. The planning of energy infrastructure should reflect this changing gas landscape.
Amendment 8
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 12

Text proposed by the Commission

(12) The importance of smart electricity grids in achieving the Union’s energy and climate policy objectives has been acknowledged in the communication from the Commission on energy system integration\(^{28}\). The criteria for the category should include technological developments regarding innovation and digital aspects. Furthermore, the role of projects promoters should be clarified. Given the expected significant increase in power demand from the transport sector, in particular for electric vehicles along highways and in urban areas, smart grid technologies should also help to improve energy network related support for cross border high capacity recharging to support the decarbonisation of the transport sector and facilitate the installation of charging stations in regions where they are lacking.

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(12) The importance of smart electricity grids in achieving the Union’s energy and climate policy objectives has been acknowledged in the communication from the Commission on energy system integration\(^{28}\). The criteria for the category should include technological developments regarding innovation and digital aspects. Furthermore, the role of projects promoters should be clarified. Given the expected significant increase in power demand from the transport sector, in particular for electric vehicles along highways and in urban areas, smart grid technologies should also help to improve energy network related support for cross border high capacity recharging to support the decarbonisation of the transport sector and facilitate the installation of charging stations in regions where they are lacking.

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Amendment 9
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 13

Text proposed by the Commission

(13) The Commission’s communication on energy system integration underlines the need for integrated energy infrastructure planning across energy carriers, infrastructures, and consumption sectors. Such system integration starts from the point of departure of applying the energy

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Amendment

(13) The Commission’s communication on energy system integration underlines the need for integrated energy infrastructure planning across energy carriers, infrastructures, and consumption sectors. Such system integration starts from the point of departure of applying the energy
efficiency first principle and taking a holistic approach beyond individual sectors. It also addresses the decarbonisation needs of the hard to abate sectors, such as parts of industry or certain modes of transport, where direct electrification is, currently, technically or economically challenging. Such investments include hydrogen and electrolysers, which are progressing towards commercial large-scale deployment. The Commission’s Hydrogen Strategy gives priority to hydrogen production from renewable electricity, which is the cleanest solution and is most compatible with the EU climate neutrality objective. In a transitional phase however, other forms of low-carbon hydrogen are needed to more rapidly replace existing hydrogen and kick-start an economy of scale.

Amendment 10
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 14

Text proposed by the Commission

(14) Moreover, the Commission’s Hydrogen Strategy\(^2\) concluded that for the required deployment of hydrogen a large-scale infrastructure network is an important element that only the Union and the single market can offer. There is currently very limited dedicated infrastructure in place to transport and trade hydrogen across borders. Such should consist of a significant extent of assets converted from natural gas, complemented by new assets dedicated to hydrogen. Furthermore, the Hydrogen Strategy sets a strategic goal to increase installed electrolyser capacity to 40 GW by 2030 in order to scale up the production of renewable hydrogen and facilitate the decarbonisation of fossil-fuel dependent sectors, such as industry or

Amendment

(14) Moreover, the Commission’s Hydrogen Strategy\(^2\) concluded that for the required deployment of hydrogen a large-scale infrastructure network is an important element that only the Union and the single market can offer. There is currently very limited dedicated infrastructure in place to transport and trade hydrogen across borders. Existing gas transmission networks should be adapted to allow conversion to hydrogen. Such should consist of a significant extent of assets converted from natural gas, complemented by new assets dedicated to hydrogen. Furthermore, the Hydrogen Strategy sets a strategic goal to increase installed electrolyser capacity to 40 GW by 2030 in order to scale up the production of
transport. Therefore, the TEN-E policy should include new and repurposed hydrogen transmission infrastructure and storage as well as electrolyser facilities. Hydrogen transmission and storage infrastructure should also be included in the Union-wide ten-year network development plan so as to allow a comprehensive and consistent assessment of their costs and benefits for the energy system, including their contribution to sector integration and decarbonisation, with the aim of creating a hydrogen backbone for the Union.


Amendment 11

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 15

Text proposed by the Commission

(15) Moreover, a new infrastructure category should be created for smart gas grids to support investments which integrate renewable and low carbon gases such as biogas, biomethane, and hydrogen, in the network and help manage a resulting more complex system, building on innovative digital technologies.

Amendment

(15) Moreover, a new infrastructure category should be created for smart gas grids to facilitate large-scale connection for individual consumers, to support investments which integrate renewable and low carbon gases such as biogas, biomethane, and hydrogen, in the network and help manage a resulting more complex system, building on innovative digital technologies as well as technological, mechanical or engineering solutions aiming to improve gas quality and grid management.

Amendment 12

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 16
(16) Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 requires a candidate project of common interest to prove a significant contribution to at least one criterion from a set of criteria in the process for the elaboration of the Union list, which may, but does not need to, include sustainability. That requirement, in line with the specific needs of the internal energy market at the time, enabled development of projects of common interest which addressed only security of supply risks even if they did not demonstrate benefits in terms of sustainability. However, given the evolution of the Union infrastructure needs and the decarbonisation goals, the Conclusions of the 2020 July European Council, according to which “Union expenditure should be consistent with Paris Agreement objectives and the "do no harm" principle of the European Green Deal, sustainability in terms of the integration of renewable energy sources into the grid or the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, as relevant, should be assessed in order to ensure that TEN-E policy is coherent with energy and climate policy objectives of the Union. The sustainability of CO2 transport networks is addressed by their purpose to transport carbon dioxide.

Amendment 13

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 17

Text proposed by the Commission

(17) The Union should facilitate infrastructure projects linking the Union’s energy networks with third-country

Amendment

(17) The Union should facilitate infrastructure projects linking the Union’s energy networks with third-
networks that are mutually beneficial and necessary for the energy transition and the achievement of the climate targets, and which also meet the specific criteria of the relevant infrastructure categories pursuant to this Regulation, in particular with neighbouring countries and with countries with which the Union has established specific energy cooperation. Therefore, this Regulation should include in its scope projects of mutual interest where they are sustainable and able to demonstrate significant net socio-economic benefits for at least two Member States and at least one third country. Such projects would be eligible for inclusion in the Union list upon conditions of regulatory approximation with the Union and upon demonstrating a contribution to the Union’s overall energy and climate objectives in terms of security of supply and decarbonisation. Such regulatory alignment or convergence should be presumed for the European Economic Area or Energy Community Contracting Parties. In addition, the third country with which the Union cooperates in the development of projects of mutual interest should facilitate a similar timeline for accelerated implementation and other policy support measures, as stipulated in this Regulation. Therefore, in this Regulation, projects of mutual interest should be considered in the same manner as projects of common interest with all provisions relative to projects of common interest applying also to projects of mutual interest, unless otherwise specified.

country networks that are mutually beneficial and necessary for the energy transition and the achievement of the climate targets, and which also meet the specific criteria of the relevant infrastructure categories pursuant to this Regulation, in particular with neighbouring countries and with countries with which the Union has established specific energy cooperation. Therefore, this Regulation must include in its scope the possibility of projects of mutual interest where they are sustainable and able to demonstrate significant net socio-economic benefits for at least two Member States and at least one third country. This to secure future and fair cooperation. Such projects would be eligible for inclusion in the Union list upon conditions of regulatory approximation with the Union and upon demonstrating a contribution to the Union’s overall energy and climate objectives in terms of security of supply and decarbonisation. Such regulatory alignment or convergence should be presumed for the European Economic Area or Energy Community Contracting Parties. In addition, the third country with which the Union cooperates in the development of projects of mutual interest should facilitate a similar timeline for accelerated implementation and other policy support measures, as stipulated in this Regulation. Therefore, in this Regulation, projects of mutual interest should be considered in the same manner as projects of common interest with all provisions relative to projects of common interest applying also to projects of mutual interest, unless otherwise specified.

Amendment 14

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 18
(18) Furthermore, to achieve the Union’s 2030 and 2050 climate and energy targets and climate neutrality objective, Europe needs to significantly scale up renewable electricity generation. The existing infrastructure categories for electricity transmission and storage are crucial for the integration of the significant increase in renewable electricity generation in the power grid. In addition, that requires stepping up investment in offshore renewable energy. Coordinating long-term planning and development of offshore and onshore electricity grids should also be addressed. In particular, offshore infrastructure planning should move away from the project-by-project approach towards a coordinated comprehensive approach ensuring the sustainable development of integrated offshore grids in line with the offshore renewable potential of each sea basin, environmental protection and other uses of the sea.

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30 Offshore Strategy Communication

Amendment 15

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 20

Text proposed by the Commission

(20) The Union-wide ten-year network development plan process as basis for the identification of projects of common interest in the categories of electricity and gas has proven to be effective. However, while the European Network of Transmission System Operators for

Amendment

(20) The Union-wide ten-year network development plan process as basis for the identification of projects of common interest in the categories of electricity and gas has proven to be effective. However, while the European Network of Transmission System Operators for
Electricity and for Gas (ENTSOs) and transmission system operators have an important role to play in the process, more scrutiny is required, in particular as regards defining the scenarios for the future, identifying long-term infrastructure gaps and bottlenecks and assessing individual projects, to enhance trust in the process. Therefore, due to the need for independent validation, the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (‘the Agency’) and the Commission should have an increased role in the process, including in the process for drawing up the Union-wide ten-year network development plan pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2019/943 of the European Parliament and of the Council\textsuperscript{31} and Regulation (EC) No 715/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council\textsuperscript{32}. The process should be made in the most effective manner possible to avoid duplication.


Amendment 16

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 22

\textit{Text proposed by the Commission}

(22) To ensure voltage and frequency stability, particular attention should be given to the stability of the European electricity network under the changing

\textit{Amendment}

(22) To ensure voltage and frequency stability, particular attention should be given to the stability of the European, \textit{national and regional} electricity network
conditions, especially in view of the growing share of renewable electricity.

Amendment 17
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 23

Text proposed by the Commission

(23) Following close consultations with all Member States and stakeholders, the Commission has identified 13 strategic trans-European energy infrastructure priorities, the implementation of which is essential for the achievement of the Union’s 2030 and 2050 energy and climate policy targets. Those priorities cover different geographic regions or thematic areas in the field of electricity transmission and storage, offshore grids for renewable energy, hydrogen transmission and storage, electrolyzers, smart gas grids, smart electricity grids, and carbon dioxide transport.

Amendment

(23) Following close consultations with all Member States and stakeholders, the Commission has identified 13 strategic trans-European energy infrastructure priorities, the implementation of which is essential for the achievement of the Union’s 2030 and 2050 energy and climate policy targets. Those priorities cover different geographic regions or thematic areas in the field of electricity transmission and storage, offshore grids for renewable energy, hydrogen transmission and storage, electrolyzers, smart gas grids, smart electricity grids, and carbon dioxide transport and storage.

Amendment 18
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 23 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(23a) Projects of common interest should take into account the principle “no one is left behind” and the special situation of remote, rural, and mountain areas, areas undergoing depopulation, islands, and areas with significant brownfield sites which can make a vital contribution to achieving the 2050 climate neutrality objective given the fact that some of these regions are focusing on local energy production from renewable sources with the aim of becoming self-sufficient, of combating the weakening
and erosion of the economic and social fabric in these areas.

Amendment 19
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 25

Text proposed by the Commission
(25) Regional groups should be established for the purpose of proposing and reviewing projects of common interest, leading to the establishment of regional lists of projects of common interest. In order to ensure broad consensus, those regional groups should ensure close cooperation between Member States, national regulatory authorities, project promoters and relevant stakeholders. In the context of that cooperation, national regulatory authorities should, where necessary, advise the regional groups, inter alia on the feasibility of the regulatory aspects of proposed projects and on the feasibility of the proposed timetable for regulatory approval.

Amendment
(25) Regional groups should be established for the purpose of proposing and reviewing projects of common interest, leading to the establishment of regional lists of projects of common interest. In order to ensure broad consensus, those regional groups should ensure close cooperation between Member States, national regulatory authorities, project promoters and relevant stakeholders. In the context of that cooperation, national regulatory authorities should, where necessary, advise the regional groups, inter alia on the feasibility of the regulatory aspects of proposed projects and on the feasibility of the proposed timetable for regulatory approval. The regional groups should strive for utmost transparency and accountability.

Amendment 20
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 25 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission
(25a) In order to increase efficiency and pan-European integration the cooperation between the regional groups should be strengthened and further encouraged. The Commission plays an important role to facilitate this cooperation also in view of addressing possible impacts of projects on other regional groups.

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(25a) In order to increase efficiency and pan-European integration the cooperation between the regional groups should be strengthened and further encouraged. The Commission plays an important role to facilitate this cooperation also in view of addressing possible impacts of projects on other regional groups.
Amendment 21

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 26

Text proposed by the Commission

(26) A new Union list of project of common interest (‘Union list’) should be established every two years. Projects of common interest that are completed or that no longer fulfil the relevant criteria and requirements as set out in this Regulation should not appear on the next Union list. For that reason, existing projects of common interest that are to be included in the next Union list should be subject to the same selection process for the establishment of regional lists and for the establishment of the Union list applied to proposed projects. However the resulting administrative burden should be reduced as much as possible, for example by using to the extent possible information submitted previously, and by taking account of the annual reports of the project promoters. To that end, existing projects of common interest that have made significant progress should benefit from a streamlined inclusion process in the Union-wide ten-year network development plan.

Amendment

(26) A new Union list of project of common interest (‘Union list’) should be established every two years. Projects of common interest that are completed or that no longer fulfil the relevant criteria and requirements as set out in this Regulation should not appear on the next Union list. However PCI projects which have reached sufficient maturity (under construction or in permitting), are part of the national development strategic plans and are demonstrating steady and concrete progress, as per their implementation plan, should be automatically reconfirmed in the future PCI lists until their commissioning without imposing reapplication by project promoters. The resulting administrative burden should be reduced as much as possible, for example by using to the extent possible information submitted previously, and taking account of the annual reports of the project promoters. To that end, existing projects of common interest that have made significant progress should benefit from a streamlined inclusion process in the Union-wide ten-year network development plan.

Amendment 22

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 33

Text proposed by the Commission

(33) In order to simplify and expedite the permitting process for offshore grids for renewable energy, the Member States around a particular sea basin should create unique points of contact, referred to as an ‘offshore one-stop shop’, in view of how

Amendment

(33) In order to simplify and expedite the permitting process for offshore grids for renewable energy, the Member States around a particular sea basin should create unique points of contact, referred to as an ‘offshore one-stop shop’, in view of how
regional specificities and geography, for the facilitation and coordinating the process of granting of permits to such projects. Moreover, the establishment of a one-stop shop per sea basin for offshore grids for renewable energy should reduce complexity, increase efficiency and speed up the permitting process of offshore transmission assets often crossing many jurisdictions.

Amendment 23
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 36

Text proposed by the Commission

(36) It is important to streamline and improve the process of permit granting, while respecting to the extent possible with due regard to the principle of subsidiarity, national competences and procedures for the construction of new infrastructure. Given the urgency of developing energy infrastructures, the simplification of the process of permit granting should set out a clear time limit for the decision of the respective authorities regarding the construction of the project. That time limit should stimulate a more efficient definition and handling of procedures, and should under no circumstances compromise the high standards for the protection of the environment in line with environmental legislation and public participation. This Regulation should establish maximum time limits, however Member States can strive to achieve shorter time limits where feasible and, in particular, as regards projects like smart grids, which may not require a complex permitting processes as that for transmission infrastructure. The competent authorities should be responsible for ensuring compliance with

Amendment

(36) It is important to streamline and improve the process of permit granting, while respecting to the extent possible with due regard to the principle of subsidiarity, regional energy resources, national competences and procedures for the construction of new infrastructure. Given the urgency of developing energy infrastructures, the simplification of the process of permit granting should set out a clear time limit for the decision of the respective authorities regarding the construction of the project. That time limit should stimulate a more efficient definition and handling of procedures, and should under no circumstances compromise the high standards for the protection of the environment in line with environmental legislation and public participation. This Regulation should establish maximum time limits, however Member States can strive to achieve shorter time limits where feasible and, in particular, as regards projects like smart grids, which may not require a complex permitting processes as that for transmission infrastructure. The competent authorities should be responsible for ensuring compliance with
the time limits.

Amendment 24

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 37

Text proposed by the Commission

(37) Member States can include in comprehensive decisions, where appropriate, decisions taken in the context of negotiations with individual landowners to grant access to, ownership of, or a right to occupy property, spatial planning which determines the general land use of a defined region, including other developments such as highways, railways, buildings and nature protection areas, which is not undertaken for the specific purpose of the planned project and granting of operational permits. In the context of the permit granting process, a project of common interest can include related infrastructure to the extent that it is essential for the construction or functioning of the project. This Regulation, in particular the provisions on permit granting, public participation and the implementation of projects of common interest, should apply without prejudice to international and Union law, including provisions to protect the environment and human health, and provisions adopted under the Common Fisheries and Maritime Policy, in particular Directive 2014/89/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council.

Amendment

(37) Member States should include in comprehensive decisions, where appropriate, decisions based on ex-ante studies and taken in the context of negotiations with individual landowners to grant access to, ownership of, or a right to occupy property, spatial planning which determines the general land use of a defined region, including other developments such as highways, railways, buildings and nature protection areas, which is not undertaken for the specific purpose of the planned project and granting of operational permits. Inclusion of a land in the spatial planning of these projects should not interfere with the eligibility for other projects in the implementation stage in other EU programmes, due to the change of the category of land use; the inclusion in the energy infrastructure project should lead to a reassessment of the objectives of the pre-existing projects in the implementation stage, but not to ineligibility. In the context of the permit granting process, a project of common interest can include related infrastructure to the extent that it is essential for the construction or functioning of the project. This Regulation, in particular the provisions on permit granting, public participation and the implementation of projects of common interest, should apply without prejudice to international and Union law, including provisions to protect the environment and human health, and provisions adopted under the Common Fisheries and Maritime Policy, in particular Directive 2014/89/EU of the European
Amendment 25
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 38

Text proposed by the Commission

(38) The costs for the development, construction, operation and maintenance of projects of common interest should in general be fully borne by the users of the infrastructure. Projects of common interest should be eligible for cross-border cost allocation where an assessment of market demand or of the expected effects on the tariffs indicate that costs cannot be expected to be recovered by the tariffs paid by the infrastructure users.

Amendment

(38) The costs for the development, construction, operation and maintenance of projects of common interest should in general be borne by the interested investors and not just end-users of the infrastructure. When allocating costs, it should be taken into account, that end-users will not be disproportionately burdened, especially if the later could lead to energy poverty. Projects of common interest should be eligible for cross-border cost allocation where an assessment of market demand or of the expected effects on the tariffs indicate that costs cannot be expected to be recovered by the tariffs paid by the infrastructure users.

Amendment 26
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 39

Text proposed by the Commission

(39) The discussion on the appropriate allocation of costs should be based on the analysis of the costs and benefits of an infrastructure project carried out on the basis of a harmonised methodology for energy-system-wide analysis, using the same scenario used at the time when the
The project was included in the Union list of projects of common interest, in the framework of the Union-wide ten-year network development plans prepared by the European Networks of Transmission System Operators pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2019/943 and (EC) No 715/2009, and reviewed by the Agency. That analysis can take into consideration indicators and corresponding reference values for the comparison of unit investment costs.

Amendment 27

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 41

Text proposed by the Commission

(41) The internal energy market legislation requires that tariffs for access to networks provide appropriate incentives for investment. However, several types of projects of common interest are likely to bring externalities that can possibly not be fully captured in and recovered through the regular tariff system. In applying the internal energy market legislation, national regulatory authorities should ensure a stable and predictable regulatory and financial framework with incentives for projects of common interest, including long-term incentives, that are commensurate with the level of specific risk of the project. That should apply in particular to cross-border projects, innovative transmission technologies for electricity allowing for large scale integration of renewable energy, of distributed energy resources or of demand response in interconnected networks, and energy technology and digitalisation projects which are likely to incur higher risks than similar projects located within one Member State, or, promise higher benefits for the Union. Moreover, projects with high operational expenditure should also have access to appropriate incentives.

Amendment

(41) The internal energy market legislation requires that tariffs for access to networks provide appropriate incentives for investment. However, several types of projects of common interest are likely to bring externalities that can possibly not be fully captured in and recovered through the regular tariff system. In applying the internal energy market legislation, national regulatory authorities should ensure a stable and predictable regulatory and financial framework with incentives for projects of common interest, including long-term incentives, that are commensurate with the level of specific risk of the project. That should apply in particular to cross-border projects, innovative transmission technologies for electricity allowing for large scale integration of renewable and low-carbon energy, of distributed energy resources or of demand response in interconnected networks, and energy technology and digitalisation projects which are likely to incur higher risks than similar projects located within one Member State, or, promise higher benefits for the Union. Moreover, projects with high operational expenditure should also have access to
appropriate incentives for investment. In particular, offshore grids for renewable energy which serve the dual functionality of electricity interconnectors and connecting renewable offshore generation projects, are likely to incur higher risks than comparable onshore infrastructure projects, due to their intrinsic connection to generation assets which brings regulatory risks, financing risks such as the need for anticipatory investments, market risks and risks pertaining to the use of new innovative technologies.

Amendment 28

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 43

Text proposed by the Commission

(43) Member States that currently do not attribute the highest national significance possible to energy infrastructure projects as regards the process of permit granting, should be encouraged to consider introducing such a high national significance, in particular by evaluating whether that would lead to a quicker permit granting process.

Amendment

deleted

Amendment 29

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 47

Text proposed by the Commission

(47) Grants for works related to projects of mutual interest should be available only for the investments located on the territory of the Union and only in case where at least two Member States contribute financially in a significant manner to the investment costs of the project in view of its benefits.

Amendment

(47) Grants for works related to projects of mutual interest should be available in case where at least one Member State contributes financially in a significant manner to the investment costs of the project in view of its benefits.
Amendment 30

Proposal for a regulation
Article 1 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. This Regulation lays down guidelines for the timely development and interoperability of the priority corridors and areas of trans-European energy infrastructure set out in Annex I (‘energy infrastructure priority corridors and areas’) that contribute to the Union’s 2030 climate and energy targets and the climate neutrality objective by 2050.

Amendment

1. This Regulation lays down guidelines for the timely development and interoperability of the priority corridors and areas of trans-European energy infrastructure set out in Annex I (‘energy infrastructure priority corridors and areas’) that contribute to the integration of the Union’s energy markets, security of energy supply, affordability of energy carriers and that are also in line with the Union’s 2030 climate and energy targets and the climate neutrality objective by 2050, taking into account the cohesion policy, making sure that no region is left behind and taking account of the Union, regional and national development strategies and the fast development of the electric mobility.

Amendment 31

Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

In addition to the definitions in Directives 2009/73/EC, (EU) 2018/2001\(^{46}\) and (EU) 2019/944 of the European Parliament and of the Council and in Regulations (EC) No 715/2009, (EU) 2019/942, and (EU) 2019/943, the following definitions shall apply for the purposes of this Regulation:

Amendment


Amendment 32
Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 1 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(1b) “security of supply or energy security” means the continuous and uninterrupted availability of energy by increasing efficiency and interoperability of transmission and distribution networks, promoting system flexibility, avoiding congestions, ensuring resilient supply chains, cybersecurity and the protection and climate adaptation of all, and in particular, ‘critical’ infrastructure while reducing strategic energy dependencies.

Amendment 33
Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 4

Text proposed by the Commission

(4) ‘project of common interest’ means a project necessary to implement the energy infrastructure priority corridors and areas set out in Annex I and which is part of the Union list of projects of common interest referred to in Article 3;

Amendment

(4) ‘project of common interest’ means a project necessary to implement the energy infrastructure priority corridors and areas set out in Annex I considering the development strategies of the Member States and of the regions where the project will be implemented, leading to sustainable economic growth, competitiveness and social development and which is part of the Union list of projects of common interest referred to in Article 3 and/or projects set out in Annex II developed in less connected, peripheral, outermost or isolated regions, such as island Member States or non interconnected or sufficiently connected islands located in the territory of the EU;
Amendment 34

Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(4a) ‘natural gas project of common interest at an advanced implementation stage or at a mature level’ means an existing natural gas ‘project of common interest’ which by the end of 2023 is in permitting stage or under construction or for which a Connecting Europe Facility grant agreement for works or studies has been concluded by this date;

Amendment 35

Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 5

Text proposed by the Commission

(5) ‘project of mutual interest’ means a project promoted by the Union in cooperation with third countries;

Amendment

(5) ‘project of mutual interest’ means a project promoted by the Union in cooperation with third countries, respecting the rule of law and taking account of the development strategies of the Member States and of the regions where the project will be implemented, leading to economic growth, competitiveness and social development;

Amendment 36

Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 8

Text proposed by the Commission

(8) ‘smart electricity grid’ means an electricity network where the grid operator can digitally monitor the actions of the users connected to it, and information and

Amendment

(8) ‘smart electricity grid’ means an electricity network where the grid operator can digitally monitor the actions of the users connected to it, and information and
communication technologies (ICT) for communicating with related grid operators, generators, consumers and/or prosumers, with a view to transmitting electricity in a sustainable, cost-efficient and secure way; promoting renewable energy sources and enabling the energy system integration;

Amendment 37
Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 9

Text proposed by the Commission

(9) ‘smart gas grid’ means a gas network that makes use of innovative digital solutions to integrate in a cost efficient manner a plurality of low-carbon and renewable gas sources in accordance with consumers’ needs and gas quality requirements in order to reduce the carbon footprint of the related gas consumption, enable an increased share of renewable and low-carbon gases, and create links with other energy carriers and sectors;

Amendment

(9) ‘smart gas grid’ means a gas network that makes use of innovative digital, technological, engineering or mechanical solutions in the view of integrating in a cost efficient manner a plurality of low-carbon and renewable gas sources and their blends with methane in accordance with consumers’ needs, gas quality and system’s safety requirements enabling the reduction of the carbon footprint of the related gas consumption, and an increased share of renewable and low-carbon gases, as well as creating links with other energy carriers and sectors;

Amendment 38
Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 9 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(9a) ‘repurposing’ means the technical upgrade or modification of existing natural gas infrastructure for dedicated transmission of pure hydrogen;

Amendment

(9a) ‘repurposing’ means the technical upgrade or modification of existing natural gas infrastructure for dedicated transmission of pure hydrogen;
Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 9 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(9b) ‘retrofitting’ means the technical upgrade or modification of existing natural gas infrastructure to enable or increase blending of hydrogen or biomethane with methane;

Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 9 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(9c) ‘blending’ means the admixture of hydrogen or biomethane with methane at a pre-defined level.

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2. Each Group shall adopt its own rules of procedure, having regard to the provisions set out in Annex III.

2. Each Group shall adopt its own rules of procedure, having regard to the provisions set out in Annex III, which shall also include rules regarding the prevention of any conflict of interest and the application of the principle of transparency.

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2a. Groups shall cooperate with each other, where appropriate, and the
Commission shall ensure and facilitate cooperation in particular when projects have an impact on other Groups.

Amendment 43
Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 3 – subparagraph 1

**Text proposed by the Commission**

3. The decision-making body of each Group shall adopt a regional list of proposed projects of common interest drawn up in accordance with the process set out in Section 2 of Annex III, the contribution of each project to implementing the energy infrastructure priority corridors and areas and their fulfilment of the criteria set out in Article 4.

**Amendment**

3. The decision-making body of each Group shall adopt a regional list of proposed projects of common interest drawn up in accordance with the process set out in Section 2 of Annex III, with an estimated timetable, the contribution of each project to implementing the energy infrastructure priority corridors and areas and their fulfilment of the criteria set out in Article 4.

Amendment 44
Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 3 – subparagraph 2 – point a

**Text proposed by the Commission**

(a) each individual proposal for a project of common interest shall require the approval of the states, to whose territory the project relates; where a state does not to give its approval, it shall present its substantiated reasons for doing so to the Group concerned;

**Amendment**

(a) each individual proposal for a project of common interest shall require the approval of the states, to whose territory the project relates; where a state does not to give its approval, it shall present its substantiated reasons for doing so to the Group concerned; if the project is of major importance for the development of at least two other Member States and for reducing the social and economic gap, the project proposed shall be deemed approved if the project promoter and the investors finance the project on the territory of the Member State that did not give the approval; the Member State concerned shall apply the rules and regulations for permit granting for
Amendment 45

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 3 – subparagraph 2 – point b a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(ba) it shall make public its methodology, including the criteria and weighting used to rank projects for its draft and final regional lists.

Amendment 46

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 3 – subparagraph 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

When proposing a new project or a list of projects, the project promoter shall consider the synergies with the regional and national development plans and strategies, especially with the electric mobility development strategy and with other development projects in the area, taking into account the contribution of the project to the strive towards carbon neutrality;

Amendment 47

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 4 – subparagraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

The Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 20 of this Regulation in order to establish the Union list of projects of common interest (‘Union list’), subject to the second paragraph of Article 172 of the
the second paragraph of Article 172 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. The Union list shall not exclude gas infrastructure where this solution clearly proves to bring a significant contribution to the decarbonisation of the energy system in the region and to the social and economic development of the area considering the cohesion targets of the Union. Furthermore, the Union list shall consider the development needs of different member states and the economic and social impact the new energy infrastructure could bring in the area based on the request from the Member States, the stakeholders and on social and economic assessments, considering also the synergies with other strategies like the one for the electric mobility.

Amendment 48
Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 5 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission
(b) ensure cross-regional consistency, taking into account the opinion of the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulator (‘the Agency’) as referred to in point (12) of Section 2 of Annex III;

Amendment
(b) ensure cross-regional coordination and consistency, the synergies with the cohesion policy and with the development strategies, taking into account the opinion of the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulator (‘the Agency’) as referred to in point (12) of Section 2 of Annex III;

Amendment 49
Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission
(b) the potential overall benefits of the project, assessed according to the respective specific criteria in paragraph 3, outweigh its costs, including in the longer

Amendment
(b) the potential overall benefits of the project, economic, social and environmental benefits and benefits for the establishment of an integrated energy single market, assessed according to the
term; respective specific criteria in paragraph 3, outweigh its costs, including in the longer term;

Amendment 50

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point c – point ii

Text proposed by the Commission

(ii) is located on the territory of one Member State and has a significant cross-border impact as set out in point (1) of Annex IV.

Amendment

(ii) is located on the territory of one Member State and has a significant cross-border impact or potential to create such an impact, as set out in point (1) of Annex IV.

Amendment 51

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point c – point ii a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

ii a) is located on islands non interconnected or non-sufficiently connected to the trans-European energy networks.

Amendment 52

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a) the project contributes significantly to the decarbonisation objectives of the Union and those of the third country and to sustainability, including through the integration of renewable energy into the grid and the transmission of renewable generation to major consumption centres and storage sites, and;

(a) the project contributes significantly to the decarbonisation objectives of the Union and those of the third country, and to the sustainable economic and social development of the areas of implementation, including through the integration of renewable and low-carbon energy into the grid and the transmission of renewable and low-carbon generation in both directions to major consumption
centres and storage sites, and;

**Amendment 53**

Proposal for a regulation  
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – point b

*Text proposed by the Commission*  
(b) the potential overall benefits of the project, assessed in accordance with the respective specific criteria in paragraph 3, outweigh its costs, including in the longer term;

*Amendment*  
(b) the potential overall benefits of the project, *considering economic, social and environmental aspects*, assessed in accordance with the respective specific criteria in paragraph 3, outweigh its costs, including in the longer term;

**Amendment 54**

Proposal for a regulation  
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – point d

*Text proposed by the Commission*  
(d) *for the part located on Union territory*, the project is in line with Directives 2009/73/EC and (EU) 2019/944 where it falls within the infrastructure categories described in points (1) and (3) of Annex II;

*Amendment*  
(d) the project is in line with Directives 2009/73/EC and (EU) 2019/944 where it falls within the infrastructure categories described in points (1) and (3) of Annex II;

**Amendment 55**

Proposal for a regulation  
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – point e – point ii

*Text proposed by the Commission*  
ii) security of energy supplies based on cooperation and solidarity;

*Amendment*  
ii) *security of energy supplies based on a diversification of energy sources*, cooperation and solidarity;

**Amendment 56**

Proposal for a regulation  
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – point e – point iii a (new)
iii a) a well-functioning society from the economic and social point of view with respect for the rule of law and democratic values;

Amendment 57

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – point e – point iii b (new)

iii b) synergies with other development policies and programs in the area;

Amendment 58

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – point f a (new)

(a) the project ensures interoperability between natural gas and hydrogen transportation thanks to the development of natural gas transmission pipelines ready for the transportation of hydrogen and the setting of a date for the complete move from the transport of natural gas to the transport of hydrogen which should be aligned with National Climate and Energy Plans and support the objectives of the EU hydrogen strategy;

Amendment 59

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point a – introductory part

(a) for electricity transmission and storage projects falling under the energy
infrastructure categories set out in points (1)(a), (b), (c) and (e) of Annex II, the project is to contribute significantly to sustainability through the integration of renewable energy into the grid and the transmission of renewable generation to major consumption centres and storage sites, and at least one of the following specific criteria:

Amendment 60

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point a – point ii

Text proposed by the Commission

(ii) security of supply, including through interoperability, system flexibility, cybersecurity, appropriate connections and secure and reliable system operation.

Amendment

(ii) security of supply, including through interoperability, system flexibility, cybersecurity, appropriate connections and secure and reliable system operation, as well as the designation of alternative power supply systems for emergency situations.

Amendment 61

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point a – point ii a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

ii a) the implementation of the regional development strategies, the economic and social growth of the areas, taking also account of the national and local energy policy and strategies and of the expected significant increase in power demand from the transport sector, in particular for electric vehicles along highways, national roads and in urban areas.

Amendment

Amendment 62

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point b – introductory part

**Text proposed by the Commission**

(b) for smart electricity grid projects falling under the energy infrastructure category set out in point (1)(d) of Annex II, the project is to contribute significantly to sustainability through the integration of renewable energy into the grid, and at least two of the following specific criteria:

**Amendment**

(b) for smart electricity grid projects falling under the energy infrastructure category set out in point (1)(d) of Annex II, the project is to contribute significantly to sustainability through the integration of renewable energy into the grid, and at least one of the following specific criteria:

Amendment 63

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point b – point iii a (new)

**Text proposed by the Commission**

iii a) the implementation of the regional development strategies, the economic and social growth of the areas, taking also account of the national and local energy policy and strategies.

**Amendment**

Amendment 64

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point b – point iii b (new)

**Text proposed by the Commission**

(iii b) facilitating smart sector integration in a wider way in favouring synergies and coordination between energy, transport and telecommunication sectors.

**Amendment**

Amendment 65

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point c – point iii a (new)

**Text proposed by the Commission**

iii a) the implementation of the regional development strategies, the economic and social growth of the areas, taking also account of the national and local energy policy and strategies.
development strategies, the economic and social growth of the areas, taking also account of the national and local energy policy and strategies.

Amendment 66
Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point d – introductory part

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Text proposed by the Commission</th>
<th>Amendment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(d) for hydrogen projects falling under the energy infrastructure categories set out in point (3) of Annex II the project is to contribute significantly to sustainability, including by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, by enhancing the deployment of renewable hydrogen and supporting variable renewable power generation by offering flexibility and/or storage solutions. Furthermore, the project is to contribute significantly to at least one of the following specific criteria:</td>
<td>(d) for hydrogen projects falling under the energy infrastructure categories set out in point (3) of Annex II the project is to contribute significantly to sustainability, including by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, by enhancing the deployment of renewable and low-carbon hydrogen and other safe and sustainable technologies, supporting variable renewable and low-carbon power generation by offering flexibility and/or storage solutions. Furthermore, the project is to contribute significantly to at least one of the following specific criteria:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Amendment 67
Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point d – point i

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Text proposed by the Commission</th>
<th>Amendment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(i) <strong>market</strong> integration, including by connecting existing or emerging hydrogen networks of Member States, or otherwise contributing to the emergence of an Union-wide network for the transport and storage of hydrogen, and ensuring interoperability of connected systems;</td>
<td>(i) the integration of existing or emerging markets, including by connecting existing or emerging hydrogen networks of Member States, or otherwise contributing to the emergence of an Union-wide network for the transport and storage of hydrogen, and ensuring interoperability of connected systems;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Amendment 68

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point d – point iii a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

iii a) the implementation of the regional development strategies, the economic and social growth of the areas, taking also account of the national and local energy policy and strategies.

Amendment 69

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point e – point i

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(i) sustainability, including by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing the deployment of renewable hydrogen.

(i) sustainability, including by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing the deployment of renewable or low-carbon hydrogen.

Amendment 70

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point e – point iii

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(iii) facilitating smart energy sector integration through linking different energy carriers and sectors.

(iii) facilitating smart energy sector integration through linking different energy carriers and sectors or enabling flexibility services such as demand response and storage.

Amendment 71

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point e – point iii a (new)
iii a) the implementation of the regional development strategies, the economic and social growth of the areas, taking also account of the national and local energy policy and strategies.

Amendment 72

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point f – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

(f) for smart gas grid projects falling under the energy infrastructure category set out in point (2) of Annex II, the project is to contribute significantly to sustainability by enabling and facilitating the integration of renewable and low-carbon gases, such as biomethane, or renewable hydrogen, into the gas distribution and transmission networks in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Furthermore, the project is to contribute significantly to at least one of the following specific criteria:

Amendment

(f) for smart gas grid projects falling under the energy infrastructure category set out in point (2) of Annex II, the project is to contribute significantly to sustainability in the view of enabling and facilitating the integration of renewable and low-carbon gases, such as biomethane, renewable or low-carbon hydrogen, or synthetic gas and their blends with methane into the gas distribution and transmission networks, as well as storage systems, enabling the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Furthermore, the project is to contribute significantly to at least one of the following specific criteria:

Amendment 73

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point f – point i

Text proposed by the Commission

(i) network security and quality of supply by improving the efficiency and interoperability of gas transmission and distribution in day-to-day network operation by, among others, addressing challenges resulting from the injection of gases of different qualities through the deployment of innovative technologies and

Amendment

(i) network security and quality of supply by retrofitting, repurposing, increasing the capacity or improving the efficiency and interoperability of gas transmission and distribution or storage systems in day-to-day network operation by, among others, addressing challenges resulting from the injection of gases of
cybersecurity; different qualities through the deployment of solutions in at least one of the following areas: innovative technologies, technological, mechanical, engineering improvements or cybersecurity;

Amendment 74
Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point f – point iii

Text proposed by the Commission
Amendment

(iii) facilitating smart energy sector integration through the creation of links to other energy carriers and sectors and enabling demand response.

(iii) facilitating smart energy sector integration through the creation of reverse flows or links to other energy carriers and sectors and enabling demand response, storage and facilitating flexibility services.

Amendment 75
Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point f – point iii a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission
Amendment

(iii a) the implementation of the regional development strategies, the economic and social growth of the areas, taking also account of the national and local energy policy and strategies.

Amendment 76
Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point f – point iii b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission
Amendment

(iii b) enabling transport of renewable or low-carbon gases from production units to the transmission or distribution network;

Amendment 77
Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 – point f a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(fa) for natural gas projects of common interest at advanced implementation stage or at a mature level falling under the energy infrastructure category set out in point 5 a of Annex II, the project is to contribute significantly to at least one of the following specific criteria:

(i) market integration, inter alia through lifting the isolation of at least one Member State and reducing energy infrastructure bottlenecks; interoperability and system flexibility;
(ii) security of supply, inter alia through appropriate connections and diversification of supply sources, supplying counterparts and supply routes;
(iii) competition, inter alia through diversification of supply sources, supplying counterparts and supply routes;
(iv) sustainability, inter alia through reducing emissions, supporting intermittent renewable generation and enhancing deployment of renewable or low carbon gas;

Amendment 78

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

3a. Natural gas infrastructure shall be considered as projects of common interest and have access to Connecting Europe Facility under the category “smart gas grids” under the following criteria:

(a) natural gas transmission pipeline projects which enables the transition from coal to natural gas, taking into account
that the pipelines fulfil all necessary sustainability measures and technical requirements to transport 100% hydrogen and allow interconnection within coal regions of at least two Member States, based on the reference to the National Climate and Energy Plans including the scope of the TYNDPs;

(b) natural gas transmission pipeline projects provided that the pipelines can transport hydrogen based on the reference to the National Climate and Energy Plans including the scope of the TYNDPs.

Amendment 79

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 5 – subparagraph 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

In assessing projects, each Group shall give due consideration to:

Amendment

In assessing projects, to ensure a consistent assessment method among the different Groups each Group shall give due consideration to:

Amendment 80

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 5 – subparagraph 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) the urgency of each proposed project in order to meet the Union energy policy targets of decarbonisation, market integration, competition, sustainability and security of supply;

Amendment

(a) the urgency of each proposed project in order to meet the Union energy policy targets of decarbonisation, market integration, competition, sustainability and security of supply, and the principle of energy efficiency first;

Amendment 81

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 5 – subparagraph 2 – point a
Text proposed by the Commission

(a) the urgency of each proposed project in order to meet the Union energy policy targets of decarbonisation, market integration, competition, sustainability and security of supply;

Amendment

(a) the urgency of each proposed project in order to meet the Union energy policy targets of decarbonisation, market integration and integration on the internal market, competition, sustainability and security of supply and the contribution to the cohesion policy;

Amendment 82

Proposal for a regulation
Article 5 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

1. Project promoters shall draw up an implementation plan for projects of common interest, including a timetable for each of the following:

Amendment

1. Project promoters shall draw up a publicly available implementation plan for projects of common interest, including a timetable for each of the following:

Amendment 83

Proposal for a regulation
Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) feasibility and design studies including, as regards, climate adaptation and compliance with environmental legislation and with the principle of “do no significant harm”;

Amendment

(a) feasibility and design studies including, as regards, climate adaptation and compliance with environmental legislation and with the principles of energy efficiency first and of “do no significant harm” to environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) No 2020/852 and with the cohesion policy, leaving no one behind;

Amendment 84

Proposal for a regulation
Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point b
(b) approval by the national regulatory authority or by any other authority concerned;

(b) a sufficiently long period for approval by the national regulatory authority or by any other authority concerned;

Amendment 85

Proposal for a regulation
Article 5 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission
Amendment

2. TSOs, distribution system operators and other operators shall co-operate with each other in order to facilitate the development of projects of common interest in their area.

2. TSOs, distribution system operators and other operators shall co-operate with each other in order to facilitate the development of projects of common interest in their area and, in the context of the Cohesion Policy, to address the economic, social, environmental development and regional disparities and the expected significant increase in power demand from the transport sector, in particular for electric vehicles along highways and in urban areas.

Amendment 86

Proposal for a regulation
Article 5 – paragraph 4 – subparagraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission
Amendment

4. By 31 December of each year following the year of inclusion of a project of common interest on the Union list pursuant to Article 3, project promoters shall submit an annual report, for each project falling under the categories set out in points (1) to (4) of Annex II, to the competent authority referred to in Article 8.

4. By 28 February of the second year following the year of inclusion of a project of common interest on the Union list pursuant to Article 3, project promoters shall submit an annual report, for each project falling under the categories set out in points (1) to (4) of Annex II, to the competent authority referred to in Article 8.

Amendment 87
Proposal for a regulation  
Article 5 – paragraph 4 – subparagraph 2 – introductory part

*Text proposed by the Commission*  
That report shall include details of:  

*Amendment*  
That report shall be public and include details of:

**Amendment 88**

Proposal for a regulation  
Article 5 – paragraph 5

*Text proposed by the Commission*  
5. By 31 January, each year, the competent authorities referred to in Article 8 shall submit to the Agency and to the respective Group the report referred to in paragraph 4 of this Article supplemented with information on the progress and, where relevant, on delays in the implementation of projects of common interest located on their respective territory with regard to the permit granting processes, and on the reasons for such delays. The contribution of the competent authorities to the report shall be clearly marked as such and drafted without modifying the text introduced by the project promoters.

*Amendment*  
5. By 31 March of each year, the competent authorities referred to in Article 8 shall submit to the Agency and to the respective Group the report referred to in paragraph 4 of this Article supplemented with information on the progress and, where relevant, on delays in the implementation of projects of common interest located on their respective territory with regard to the permit granting processes, and on the reasons for such delays. The contribution of the competent authorities to the report shall be clearly marked as such and drafted without modifying the text introduced by the project promoters. To ensure transparency, each report shall be published on the Agency’s internet site within 30 days from the submission date.

**Amendment 89**

Proposal for a regulation  
Article 5 – paragraph 6

*Text proposed by the Commission*  
6. By 30 April of each year when a new Union list should be adopted, the Agency shall submit, to the Groups a

*Amendment*  
6. By 30 June of each year when a new Union list should be adopted, the Agency shall submit, to the Groups a
consolidated report for the projects of common interest subject to the competency of national regulatory authorities, evaluating the progress achieved and make, where appropriate, recommendations on how to overcome the delays and difficulties encountered. That consolidated report shall also evaluate, in accordance with Article 5 of Regulation (EU) 2019/942, the consistent implementation of the Union-wide network development plans with regard to the energy infrastructure priority corridors and areas.

To ensure transparency, each report shall be published on the Agency’s internet site within 30 days from the submission date.

Amendment 90
Proposal for a regulation
Article 5 – paragraph 6 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

6a. At the Agency’s request, project promoters should provide to the Agency the implementation plan or equivalent for the purpose of carrying out the Agency’s tasks set out.

Amendment 91
Proposal for a regulation
Article 8 – paragraph 6

Text proposed by the Commission

6. By [31 July 2022] and for each specific Regional Group per priority offshore grid corridor, as defined in Annex I, national competent authorities in Member States belonging to the respective Group, shall jointly create unique points of contact, ‘offshore one-stop shops’, for project promoters, which shall be responsible for facilitating and coordinating the permit granting process

6. By [31 July 2022] and for each specific Regional Group per priority offshore grid corridor, as defined in Annex I, national competent authorities in Member States belonging to the respective Group, shall jointly create unique points of contact, ‘offshore one-stop shops’, for project promoters, which shall be responsible for facilitating and coordinating the permit granting process
for offshore grids for renewable energy projects of common interest, taking into account also the need for coordination between the permitting process for the energy infrastructure and the one for the generation assets. The offshore one-stop shops shall act as a repository of existing sea basin studies and plans, aiming at facilitating the permitting process of individual projects of common interest and coordinate the issuance of the comprehensive decisions for such projects by the relevant national competent authorities. Each Regional Group per priority offshore grid corridor, with the assistance of the national competent authorities in the Members States belonging to the Group, shall set-up the offshore one-stop shops depending on regional specificities and geography and determine their location, resource allocation and specific rules for their functioning.

Amendment 92

Proposal for a regulation
Article 10 – paragraph 1 – point a – subparagraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission
The competent authorities shall ensure that permit granting is accelerated in line with this Chapter for each category of projects of common interest. To that end, the competent authorities shall adapt their requirements for the start of the permit granting process and for the acceptance of the submitted application file, to make them fit for projects which, that due to their nature, or smaller scale, may require less authorisations and approvals for reaching the ready-to-build phase, and, therefore, might not require the benefit of the pre-application procedure. Such smaller scale projects may include gas and electricity

Amendment
The competent authorities shall ensure that the combined duration of the two procedures referred to in paragraph 1 does not exceed a period of three years and six months, including, where necessary, setting the time limits in the relevant legislation, including the environmental impact assessments. To that end, the competent authorities shall adapt their requirements for the start of the permit granting process and for the acceptance of the submitted application file, to make them fit for projects which, that due to their nature, or smaller scale, may require less authorisations and
smart grids and electrolysers.

approvals for reaching the ready-to-build phase, and, therefore, might not require the benefit of the pre-application procedure. Such smaller scale projects may include gas and electricity smart grids and electrolysers.

Amendment 93

Proposal for a regulation
Article 10 – paragraph 8 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

8a. Provisions set out in this Article should be without a prejudice to any national legislation which provides more favorable treatment, particularly in terms of the time limits and the requirements for a given type of investment than those set out in this Article. Competent authorities shall ensure that the most favorable treatment applies to the projects of common interest.

Amendment 94

Proposal for a regulation
Article 11 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

By [16 November 2022], the European Network of Transmission System Operators (ENTSO) for Electricity and the ENTSO for Gas shall publish and submit to Member States, the Commission and the Agency their respective methodologies, including the network and market modelling, for a harmonised energy system-wide cost-benefit analysis at Union level for projects of common interest falling under the categories set out in points (1)(a), (b), (c) and (e) and point (3) of Annex II. The cost-benefit analysis shall take account of the objectives of the
Amendment 95
Proposal for a regulation
Article 11 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Those methodologies shall be applied for the preparation of each subsequent Union-wide ten-year network development plans developed by the **ENTSO for Electricity or the ENTSO for Gas pursuant to Article 8 of Regulation (EC) No 715/2009 and Article 30 of Regulation (EU) 2019/943.** Those methodologies shall be drawn up in line with the principles laid down in Annex V and be consistent with the rules and indicators set out in Annex IV.

Amendment

Those methodologies shall be applied for the preparation of each subsequent Union-wide ten-year network development plans developed by the **Agency.** Those methodologies shall be drawn up in line with the principles laid down in Annex V and be consistent with the rules and indicators set out in Annex IV.

Amendment 96
Proposal for a regulation
Article 11 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

When drafting the methodologies, the **ENTSO for Electricity and the ETSO for Gas** shall take account of the regional development plans, Union, national and regional policies, the cohesion policy and the solutions for reducing the development disparities between Member States and between regions, and shall take into account the aim of promoting all renewable technologies and the expected significant increase in power demand from the transport sector, in particular for electric vehicles along highways, national roads and in urban areas.

Amendment

When drafting the methodologies, the **ENTSO for Electricity and the ETSO for Gas** shall take account of the regional development plans, Union, national and regional policies, the cohesion policy and the solutions for reducing the development disparities between Member States and between regions, and shall take into account the aim of promoting all renewable technologies and the expected significant increase in power demand from the transport sector, in particular for electric vehicles along highways, national roads and in urban areas.
Article 11 – paragraph 6

Text proposed by the Commission

6. Where the changes to the methodologies are considered to be of incremental nature, not affecting the definition of benefits, costs and other relevant cost-benefit parameters, as defined in the latest Energy system wide cost-benefit analysis methodology approved by the Commission, the ENTSO for Electricity and the ENTSO for Gas shall adapt their respective methodologies taking due account of the Agency’s opinion, as set out in paragraph 2, and submit them for the Agency’s approval.

Amendment

6. Where the changes to the methodologies are considered to be of incremental nature, not affecting the definition of benefits, costs and other relevant cost-benefit parameters, as defined in the latest Energy system wide cost-benefit analysis methodology approved by the Commission, the ENTSO for Electricity and the ENTSO for Gas shall adapt their respective methodologies taking due account of the Agency’s opinion, as set out in paragraph 2, and submit them for the Commission’s approval together with a document providing explanatory basis to justify the proposed changes.

Amendment 98

Proposal for a regulation

Article 11 – paragraph 8

Text proposed by the Commission

8. Within two weeks of the approval by the Agency or the Commission in accordance with paragraphs 5 and 6, the ENTSO for Electricity and the ENTSO for Gas shall publish their respective methodologies on their websites. They shall publish the corresponding input data and other relevant network, load flow and market data in a sufficiently accurate form in accordance with national law and relevant confidentiality agreements.

Amendment

8. Within two weeks of the approval by the Commission in accordance with paragraphs 5 and 6, the ENTSO for Electricity and the ENTSO for Gas shall publish their respective methodologies on their websites. They shall publish the corresponding input data and other relevant network, load flow and market data in a sufficiently accurate form in accordance with national law and relevant confidentiality agreements.

Amendment 99

Proposal for a regulation

Article 11 – paragraph 9

Text proposed by the Commission

9. The methodologies shall be updated

Amendment

9. The methodologies shall be updated
and improved regularly following the procedure described in paragraphs 1 to 6. The Agency, on its own initiative or upon a duly reasoned request by national regulatory authorities or stakeholders, and after formally consulting the organisations representing all relevant stakeholders and the Commission, may request such updates and improvements with due justification and timescales. The Agency shall publish the requests by national regulatory authorities or stakeholders and all relevant non-commercially sensitive documents leading to a request from the Agency for an update or improvement.

Amendment 100
Proposal for a regulation
Article 11 – paragraph 10

Text proposed by the Commission

10. Every three years, the Agency shall establish and make publicly available a set of indicators and corresponding reference values for the comparison of unit investment costs for comparable projects of the infrastructure categories included in points (1) and (3) of Annex II. Those reference values may be used by the ENTSO for Electricity and the ENTSO for Gas for the cost-benefit analyses carried out for subsequent Union-wide ten-year network development plans. The first of such indicators shall be published by [1 November 2022].

Amendment

10. Every three years, the Agency shall establish and make publicly available a set of indicators and corresponding reference values for the comparison of unit investment costs for comparable projects of the infrastructure categories included in points (1) and (3) of Annex II. The first of such indicators shall be published by [1 November 2022].

Amendment 101
Proposal for a regulation
Article 11 – paragraph 12

Text proposed by the Commission

12. The consistent and interlinked

Amendment

12. The consistent and interlinked
model referred to in paragraph 11 shall cover at least the respective sectors’ interlinkages at all stages of infrastructure planning, specifically scenarios, infrastructure gaps identification in particular with respect to cross-border capacities, and projects assessment.

Amendment 102

Proposal for a regulation
Article 12 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. By [31 July 2022], the Agency, after having conducted an extensive consultation process involving the Commission and at least the organisations representing all relevant stakeholders, including the ENTSO for Electricity, the ENTSO for Gas, Union DSO entity, and relevant hydrogen sector stakeholders, shall publish the framework guidelines for the joint scenarios to be developed by ENTSO for Electricity and ENTSO for Gas. Those guidelines shall be regularly updated as found necessary.

Amendment

1. By [31 July 2022], the Agency, after having conducted an extensive consultation process involving the Commission, the Member States, and at least the organisations representing all relevant stakeholders, including the ENTSO for Electricity, the ENTSO for Gas, Union DSO entity, and relevant hydrogen sector stakeholders, shall publish the framework guidelines for the joint scenarios to be developed by ENTSO for Electricity and ENTSO for Gas. Those guidelines shall be regularly updated as found necessary.

Amendment 103

Proposal for a regulation
Article 12 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

The guidelines shall include the energy efficiency first principle and ensure that the

Amendment

The guidelines shall include the energy efficiency first principle and ensure that the
underlying ENTSO for Electricity and ENTSO for Gas scenarios are **fully** in line with the latest medium and long-term European Union decarbonisation targets and the latest available Commission scenarios.

underlying ENTSO for Electricity and ENTSO for Gas **together with the Agency**’s scenarios are in line with the latest medium and long-term European Union decarbonisation targets, the latest available Commission scenarios, the regional development plans, the regional and national policies, the cohesion policy and the solutions for reducing the development disparities between member states and regions, taking into account the energy security strategy of the European Union as a whole and the expected significant increase in power demand from the transport sector, in particular for electric vehicles along highways, national roads and in urban areas, ensuring the synergy with the **TEN-T**.

**Amendment 104**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 13 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

When assessing the infrastructure gaps the ENTSO for Electricity and the ENTSO for Gas shall implement the energy efficiency first principle and consider with priority all relevant non-infrastructure related solutions to address the identified gaps.

*Amendment*

When assessing the infrastructure gaps the ENTSO for Electricity and the ENTSO for Gas shall implement the energy efficiency first principle and consider with priority all relevant non-infrastructure related solutions to address the identified gaps. **Where there are considerable gaps in the infrastructure the ENTSO E and ENTSO G shall consider the appropriate technical solution taking into account the specificity of the area, the differences between the degree of the pollution of the present energy solutions used in the region and the new proposed technology, national development strategies and the cohesion policy. Where using natural gas infrastructure is of utmost important for the region and the only efficient solution with a considerable contribution to the decarbonisation and the possibility to reconvert it to low carbon gases the***
projects shall be considered eligible.

Amendment 105
Proposal for a regulation
Article 13 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission
Prior to submitting their respective reports, the ENTSO for Electricity and the ENTSO for Gas shall conduct an extensive consultation process involving all relevant stakeholders, including the Union DSO entity, all relevant hydrogen stakeholders and all the Member States representatives part of the priority corridors defined in Annex I.

Amendment
Prior to submitting their respective reports, the ENTSO for Electricity and the ENTSO for Gas shall conduct an extensive consultation process involving all relevant demand and supply side stakeholders, including the Union DSO entity, representatives from the hydrogen sector, renewable electricity industry, flexibility providers and civil society and all the Member States representatives part of the priority corridors defined in Annex I.

Amendment 106
Proposal for a regulation
Article 13 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission
3. Within three months following receipt of the infrastructure gaps report together with the input received in the consultation process and a report on how it was taken into account, the Agency shall submit its opinion to the ENTSO for Electricity or ENTSO for Gas and the Commission.

Amendment
3. Within three months following receipt of the infrastructure gaps report together with the input received in the consultation process and a report on how it was taken into account, the Agency shall submit its opinion to the ENTSO for Electricity or ENTSO for Gas and the Commission and make it publicly available.

Amendment 107
Proposal for a regulation
Article 13 – paragraph 5

Text proposed by the Commission
5. The ENTSO for Electricity and the

Amendment
5. The ENTSO for Electricity and the
ENTSO for Gas shall adapt their infrastructure gaps reports taking due account of the Agency’s opinion and in line with the Commission’s opinion before the publication of the final infrastructure gaps reports.

Amendment 108

Proposal for a regulation
Article 14 – paragraph 1

_text proposed by the Commission_

1. By [31 July 2022], Member States, with the support of the Commission, within their specific priority offshore grid corridors, set out in point (2) of Annex I, taking into account the specificities and development in each region, shall jointly define and agree to cooperate on the amount of offshore renewable generation to be deployed within each sea basin by 2050, with intermediate steps in 2030 and 2040, in view of their national energy and climate plans, the offshore renewable potential of each sea basin, environmental protection, climate adaptation and other uses of the sea, as well as the Union’s decarbonisation targets. That agreement shall be made in writing as regards each sea basin linked to the territory of the Union.

_amendment_

1. By [31 July 2022], Member States, with the support of the Commission, within their specific priority offshore grid corridors, set out in point (2) of Annex I, taking into account the specificities and development in each region, shall jointly define and agree to cooperate on the goals for offshore renewable generation to be deployed within each sea basin by 2050, with intermediate steps in 2030 and 2040, in view of their national energy and climate plans, the offshore renewable potential of each sea basin, environmental protection, climate adaptation and other uses of the sea, as well as the Union’s decarbonisation targets. The offshore renewable potential of each sea basin shall be identified through reports, prepared by the Commission, upon consultation with Member States and other relevant stakeholders, six months before the deadline for a joint offshore grid plan for a specific corridor. That agreement shall be made in writing as regards each sea basin linked to the territory of the Union.

Amendment 109

Proposal for a regulation
Article 14 – paragraph 2
2. By [31 July 2023] the ENTSO for
Electricity, with the involvement of the
relevant authorities and of the Commission and in
line with the agreement referred to in
paragraph 1, shall develop and publish
integrated offshore network development
plans starting from the 2050 objectives,
with intermediate steps for 2030 and 2040,
for each sea-basin, in line with the priority
offshore grid corridors referred to in Annex
I, taking into account environmental
protection and other uses of the sea. Those
integrated offshore network development
plans shall thereafter be updated every
three years.

Amendment 110

Proposal for a regulation

Article 16 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The efficiently incurred investment
costs, which excludes maintenance costs,
related to a project of common interest
falling under the categories set out in
points (1)(a), (b), (c) and (e) of Annex II
and projects of common interest falling
under the category set out in point (3) of
Annex II, where they fall under the
competency of national regulatory
authorities, shall be borne by the relevant
TSO or the project promoters of the
transmission infrastructure of the Member
States which the project provides a net
positive impact, and, to the extent not
covered by congestion rents or other
charges, be paid for by network users

Amendment

1. The efficiently incurred investment
costs, which excludes maintenance costs,
related to a project of common interest
falling under the categories set out in
points (1)(a), (b) and (c) of Annex II and
projects of common interest falling under
the category set out in point (3) of Annex
II, where they fall under the competency of
national regulatory authorities, shall be
borne by the relevant TSO, interested
investors or the project promoters of the
transmission infrastructure of the Member
States which the project provides a net
positive impact, and, to the extent not
covered by congestion rents or other
charges, be paid for by interested investors
through tariffs for network access in that or those Member States.

and network users through tariffs for network access in that or those Member States.

Amendment 111
Proposal for a regulation
Article 16 – paragraph 4 – subparagraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

4. Within six months of the date on which the last investment request is received by the relevant national regulatory authorities, those national regulatory authorities shall, after consulting the project promoters concerned, take joint coordinated decisions on the allocation of investment costs to be borne by each system operator for the project, as well as their inclusion in tariffs. The national regulatory authorities shall include all the efficiently incurred investment costs in tariffs in line with the allocation of investment costs to be borne by each system operator for the project. The national regulatory authorities shall thereafter assess, where appropriate, whether any affordability issues might arise due to the inclusion of the investment costs in tariffs.

Amendment

4. Within six months of the date on which the last investment request is received by the relevant national regulatory authorities, those national regulatory authorities shall, after consulting the project promoters concerned, take joint coordinated decisions on the allocation of investment costs to be borne by each system operator or interested investor for the project, as well as their inclusion in tariffs. The national regulatory authorities shall include the necessary incurred investment costs in tariffs in line with the allocation of investment costs to be borne by each system operator for the project. The national regulatory authorities shall thereafter assess, where appropriate, whether any affordability issues, that could lead to energy poverty, might arise due to the inclusion of the investment costs in tariffs.

Amendment 112
Proposal for a regulation
Article 17 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. In their decision granting the incentives referred to in paragraph 1, national regulatory authorities shall consider the results of the cost-benefit analysis on the basis of the methodology drawn up pursuant to Article 11 and in particular the regional or Union-wide

Amendment

2. In their decision granting the incentives referred to in paragraph 1, national regulatory authorities shall consider the results of the cost-benefit analysis on the basis of the methodology drawn up pursuant to Article 11 and in particular the regional or Union-wide
positive externalities generated by the project. The national regulatory authorities shall further analyse the specific risks incurred by the project promoters, the risk mitigation measures taken and the justification of the risk profile in view of the net positive impact provided by the project, when compared to a lower-risk alternative. Eligible risks shall in particular include risks related to new transmission technologies, both onshore and offshore, risks related to under-recovery of costs and development risks.

Amendment 113
Proposal for a regulation
Article 18 – paragraph 2 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

2. Projects of common interest falling under the categories set out in points (1)(a), (b), (c) and (e) of Annex II and point (3) of Annex II, except for hydro-pumped electricity storage projects, are also eligible for Union financial assistance in the form of grants for works where they fulfil all of the following criteria:

Amendment

2. Projects of common interest falling under the categories set out in points (1)(a), (b), (c) and (e) of Annex II and point (3) of Annex II, are also eligible for Union financial assistance in the form of grants for works where they fulfil all of the following criteria:

Amendment 114
Proposal for a regulation
Article 18 – paragraph 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) the project specific cost-benefit analysis pursuant to Article 16(3)(a) provides evidence concerning the existence of significant positive externalities, such as security of supply, system flexibility, solidarity or innovation;

Amendment

(a) the project specific cost-benefit analysis pursuant to Article 16(3)(a) provides evidence concerning the existence of significant positive externalities, such as security of supply, system flexibility, solidarity, regional development or innovation;
Amendment 115

Proposal for a regulation
Article 18 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

4. Projects of common interest falling under the categories set out in points (1)(d), (2) and (5) of Annex II shall also be eligible for Union financial assistance in the form of grants for works, where the concerned project promoters can clearly demonstrate significant positive externalities, such as security of supply, system flexibility, solidarity or innovation, generated by the projects and provide clear evidence of their lack of commercial viability, in accordance with the cost-benefit analysis, the business plan and assessments carried out, in particular by potential investors or creditors or, where applicable, a national regulatory authority.

Amendment

4. Projects of common interest falling under the categories set out in points (1)(d), (2) and (5) of Annex II shall also be eligible for Union financial assistance in the form of grants for works, where the concerned project promoters can clearly demonstrate significant positive externalities, such as security of supply, system flexibility, solidarity, regional development or innovation, generated by the projects and provide clear evidence of their lack of commercial viability, in accordance with the cost-benefit analysis, the business plan and assessments carried out, in particular by potential investors or creditors or, where applicable, a national regulatory authority.

Amendment 116

Proposal for a regulation
Article 22 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

Not later than 31 December 2027, the Commission shall publish a report on the implementation of projects of common interest and submit it to the European Parliament and the Council. That report shall provide an evaluation of:

Amendment

Not later than 31 December 2027, the Commission shall publish a report on the implementation of projects of common interest and submit it to the European Parliament and the Council. That report shall take into consideration the results of the cost-benefit analysis drawn up pursuant to Article 11 for Union-wide ten-Year Network Development Plans and projects of common interest falling under the categories set out in points (1)(a), (b), (c) and (e) and point (3) of Annex II and shall provide an evaluation of:
Amendment 117

Proposal for a regulation
Article 23 – paragraph 1 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) the main expected benefits and the costs of the projects except for any commercially sensitive information;

Amendment

(c) the main expected benefits and the costs, resulting from cost-benefit analysis drawn up pursuant to Article 11, of the projects except for any commercially sensitive information;

Amendment 118

Proposal for a regulation
Annex I – Part 3 – point 8 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Electrolysers: supporting the deployment of power-to-gas applications aiming to enable greenhouse gas reductions and contributing to secure, efficient and reliable system operation and smart energy system integration. Member States concerned: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Portugal, and Spain;

Amendment

Power to gas facilities including Electrolysers: supporting the deployment of power-to-gas applications aiming to enable greenhouse gas reductions and contributing to secure, efficient and reliable system operation and smart energy system integration. Member States concerned: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Portugal, and Spain;

Amendment 119

Proposal for a regulation
Annex I – Part 3 – point 9 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

(9) Hydrogen interconnections in Central Eastern and South Eastern Europe (‘HI East’): hydrogen infrastructure enabling the emergence of an integrated hydrogen backbone connecting the countries of the region and addressing their specific infrastructure needs for hydrogen supporting the emergence of an EU-wide

Amendment

(9) Hydrogen interconnections in Central Eastern and South Eastern Europe (‘HI East’): hydrogen infrastructure including the transitional use of blending with gas, the repurposing of gas infrastructure or any other specific solutions for disadvantaged, less connected, peripheral or isolated Member
network for hydrogen transport. States and regions, such as islands enabling the emergence of an integrated hydrogen backbone, directly or indirectly (including through third countries) connecting the countries of the region and addressing their specific infrastructure needs for hydrogen supporting the emergence of an EU-wide network for hydrogen transport.

Amendment 120

Proposal for a regulation
Annex I – Part 3 – point 9 – paragraph 2

**Text proposed by the Commission**

Electrolysers: supporting the deployment of power-to-gas applications aiming to enable greenhouse gas reductions and contributing to secure, efficient and reliable system operation and smart energy system integration. Member States concerned: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia;

**Amendment**

Power to gas facilities including Electrolysers: supporting the deployment of power-to-gas applications aiming to enable greenhouse gas reductions and contributing to secure, efficient and reliable system operation and smart energy system integration. Member States concerned: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia;

Amendment 121

Proposal for a regulation
Annex I – Part 3 – point 10 – paragraph 1

**Text proposed by the Commission**

(10) Baltic Energy Market Interconnection Plan in hydrogen (‘BEMIP Hydrogen’): hydrogen infrastructure enabling the emergence of an integrated hydrogen backbone connecting the countries of the region and addressing their specific infrastructure needs for hydrogen supporting the emergence of an EU-wide network for hydrogen transport.

**Amendment**

(10) Baltic Energy Market Interconnection Plan in hydrogen (‘BEMIP Hydrogen’): hydrogen infrastructure and the repurposing of existing natural gas infrastructure with a view of enabling the emergence of an integrated hydrogen backbone connecting the countries of the region and addressing their specific infrastructure needs for hydrogen supporting the emergence of an EU-wide network for hydrogen transport.
network for hydrogen transport.

Amendment 122

Proposal for a regulation
Annex I – Part 4 – point 12 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

(12) Cross-border carbon dioxide network: development of carbon dioxide transport infrastructure between Member States and with neighbouring third countries in view of the deployment of carbon dioxide capture and storage.

Amendment

(12) Cross-border carbon dioxide network: development of carbon dioxide transport and storage infrastructure between Member States and with neighbouring third countries in view of the deployment of carbon dioxide capture and storage.

Amendment 123

Proposal for a regulation
Annex I – Part 4 – point 13 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

(13) Smart gas grids: Adoption of smart gas grid technologies across the Union to efficiently integrate a plurality of renewable and low-carbon gas sources into the gas network, support the uptake of innovative solutions for network management and facilitating smart energy sector integration and demand response.

Amendment

(13) Smart gas grids: Adoption of smart gas grid technologies across the Union to efficiently integrate a plurality of renewable and low-carbon gas sources into the gas network, in particular through their blends with methane, support the uptake of innovative digital, technological, mechanical or engineering solutions for network management and facilitating smart energy sector integration and demand response.

Amendment 124

Proposal for a regulation
Annex I – Part 4 – point 13 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(13a) Natural gas infrastructure: Completion of gas infrastructure projects for the purpose of
enhancing market integration, security of supply, and competition and which contribute to sustainability.

Member States concerned: all.

Amendment 125

Proposal for a regulation
Annex I – Part 4 – point 13 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(13b) Gas grid deployment: development of selected gas infrastructure projects that have already been granted the PCI status according to the previous Regulation or can prove their advanced implementation level or mature stage or can contribute, for a transitional period until 2040, to the promotion of hydrogen and renewable and low-carbon gases.

Amendment 126

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(d) systems and components integrating ICT, through operational digital platforms, control systems and sensor technologies both at transmission and medium voltage distribution level, aiming at a more efficient and intelligent electricity transmission and distribution network, increased capacity to integrate new forms of generation, storage and consumption and facilitating new business models and market structures;

Amendment 127
Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – paragraph 1 – point 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) any of the following equipment or installation aiming at enabling and facilitating the integration of renewable and low-carbon gases (including biomethane or hydrogen) into the network: digital systems and components integrating ICT, control systems and sensor technologies to enable the interactive and intelligent monitoring, metering, quality control and management of gas production, transmission, distribution and consumption within a gas network. Furthermore, such projects may also include equipment to enable reverse flows from the distribution to the transmission level and related necessary upgrades to the existing network.

Amendment

(a) any of the following equipment or installation aiming at enabling and facilitating the integration of renewable and low-carbon gases (including biogas, biomethane, synthetic gas, synthetic methane or hydrogen) and their blends with methane into the network: digital systems and components integrating ICT, control systems and sensor technologies to enable the interactive and intelligent monitoring, metering, quality control and management of gas production, transmission, distribution, storage and consumption within a gas network. Furthermore, such projects may also include connections from renewable and low-carbon gases production facilities into the transmission and distribution grid, equipment to enable reverse flows from the distribution to the transmission level as well as from pipelines of different capacities and related necessary upgrades to the existing network, such as retrofitting, repurposing or capacity expansion.

Amendment 128

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – paragraph 1 – point 3 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) transmission pipelines for the transport of hydrogen, giving access to multiple network users on a transparent and non-discriminatory basis, which mainly contains high-pressure hydrogen pipelines, excluding pipelines for the local distribution of hydrogen;

Amendment

(a) transmission pipelines for the transport of hydrogen, including repurposed and retrofitted gas infrastructure, giving access to multiple network users on a transparent and non-discriminatory basis, which mainly contains high-pressure hydrogen pipelines, excluding pipelines for the local distribution of hydrogen;
Amendment 129

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – paragraph 1 – point 3 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission: (b) underground storage facilities connected to the high-pressure hydrogen pipelines referred to in point (a);

Amendment: (b) underground storage facilities connected to the high-pressure hydrogen pipelines and retrofitted infrastructure referred to in point (a);

Amendment 130

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – paragraph 1 – point 3 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission: (c) reception, storage and regasification or decompression facilities for liquefied hydrogen or hydrogen embedded in other chemical substances with the objective of injecting the hydrogen into the grid;

Amendment: (c) reception, storage and regasification or decompression facilities for liquefied hydrogen or for a transitional period liquefied hydrogen blended with liquefied natural gas and embedded in other chemical substances with the objective of injecting the hydrogen or its blending with natural gas into the grid;

Amendment 131

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – paragraph 1 – point 3 – point d – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission: (d) any equipment or installation essential for the hydrogen system to operate safely, securely and efficiently or to enable bi-directional capacity, including compressor stations.

Amendment: (d) any equipment or installation essential for the hydrogen system to operate safely, securely and efficiently or to enable bi-directional capacity, including compressor stations;

Amendment 132
Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – paragraph 1 – point 3 – point d a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(da) transmission pipelines or reception, storage and regasification or decompression facilities for liquefied natural gas (LNG) or any equipment or installation essential for the system to operate safely, securely and efficiently for the purpose of methane and hydrogen to enable fuel switch from more carbon intensive fuels (notably coal, lignite, oil) during a transitional period, giving access to multiple network users on a transparent and non-discriminatory basis, provided that, upon construction, these investments are ready for the future use of hydrogen;

Amendment
Amendment 133

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – paragraph 1 – point 3 – point d b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(db) steam methane reforming (SMR) installations, combined with CCS/CCUS and methane pyrolysis installations.

Amendment
Amendment 134

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – paragraph 1 – point 3 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Any of the assets listed in points (a), (b), (c), and (d) may be newly constructed assets or assets converted from natural gas dedicated to hydrogen, or a combination of the two.

Amendment
Any of the assets listed in points (a), (b), (c), (d), (da) and (db) may be newly constructed assets or assets converted from natural gas dedicated to hydrogen, or a combination of the two. They may be used in the transitional period for the purpose of blending of hydrogen with methane.
until the emergence of sufficient market demand which will make pure hydrogen economically feasible.

The implementation of provisions under point 3 should be thoroughly assessed in the light of the starting point, the various economic, social and ecological conditions and the capacity of the energy sector of the Member State concerned.

Amendment 135

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – paragraph 1 – point 5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(5a) concerning natural gas: all infrastructure, equipment, installation or services which were part of natural gas projects that were included in the fourth or fifth Union list established pursuant to Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 and not yet finished and which will physically end the isolation of a Member State from the EU gas network.

Amendment 136

Proposal for a regulation
Annex III – Part 1 – point 1 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

(1) with regard to energy infrastructure falling under the competency of national regulatory authorities, each Group shall be composed of representatives of the Member States, national regulatory authorities, TSOs, as well as the Commission, the Agency and the ENTSO for Electricity or the ENTSO for Gas, as relevant.
Amendment 137

Proposal for a regulation
Annex III – Part 1 – point 1 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

For the other energy infrastructure categories, each Group shall be composed of the representatives of the Member States, project promoters concerned by each of the relevant priorities designated in Annex I and the Commission.

Amendment

For the other energy infrastructure categories, each Group shall be composed of the representatives of the Member States, including from regional level, project promoters concerned by each of the relevant priorities designated in Annex I and the Commission.

Amendment 138

Proposal for a regulation
Annex III – Part 1 – point 2

Text proposed by the Commission

(2) depending on the number of candidate projects for the Union list, regional infrastructure gaps and market developments, the decision-making bodies of the Groups may split, merge or meet in different configurations, as necessary, to discuss matters common to all Groups or pertaining solely to particular regions. Such matters may include issues relevant to cross-regional consistency or the number of proposed projects included on the draft regional lists at risk of becoming unmanageable.

Amendment

(2) depending on the number of candidate projects for the Union list, regional infrastructure gaps and market developments, the Groups and the decision-making bodies of the Groups may split, merge or meet in different configurations, as necessary, to discuss matters common to all Groups or pertaining solely to particular regions. Such matters may include issues relevant to cross-regional consistency or the number of proposed projects included on the draft regional lists at risk of becoming unmanageable. To ensure a consistent development of the network, within their respective regional group, TSOs shall have the opportunity to coordinate with competent national regulatory authorities and competent Member States the opinion on projects not promoted by them but developed in their country creating the necessary synergies with the national
Amendment 139

Proposal for a regulation
Annex III – Part 1 – point 5

Text proposed by the Commission

(5) each Group shall invite, as appropriate, the organisations representing relevant stakeholders — and, where deemed appropriate, directly the stakeholders— including producers, distribution system operators, suppliers, consumers and organisations for environmental protection. The Group may organise hearings or consultations, where relevant for the accomplishments of its tasks.

Amendment

(5) each Group shall invite the organisations representing relevant stakeholders — and, where deemed appropriate, directly the stakeholders— including producers, distribution system operators, suppliers, consumers, organisations for environmental protection, civil society organisations and relevant researchers and independent scientists. During the consultation process, the Group shall seek to cover different territorial levels including European, national, cross-border, regional or local. Conflict of interest shall be excluded. The Group may organise hearings or consultations, where relevant for the accomplishments of its tasks.

Amendment 140

Proposal for a regulation
Annex III – Part 2 – point 4

Text proposed by the Commission

(4) as of 1 January 2024, the proposed hydrogen projects of common interest falling under the categories set out in point (3) of Annex II are projects that are part of the latest available Union-wide ten-year network development plan for gas, developed by the ENTSO for Gas pursuant Article 8 of Regulation (EC) No 715/2009.

Amendment

(4) as of 1 January 2024, the proposed hydrogen projects of common interest falling under the categories set out in point (3) of Annex II are projects that are part of the latest available Union-wide ten-year network development plan, developed by the Agency with the participation and close cooperation of hydrogen project promoters.

Amendment 141
Proposal for a regulation
Annex III – Part 2 – point 5 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

(5) by 30 June 2022 and, subsequently, for every Union-wide ten-year network development plans, the ENTSO for Electricity and ENTSO for Gas shall issue updated guidelines for inclusion of projects in their respective Union-wide ten-year network development plans, referred to in points (3) and (4), in order to ensure equal treatment and transparency of the process. For all the projects included in the Union list of projects of common interest in force at the time, the guidelines shall define a simplified process of inclusion in the Union-wide ten-year network development plans by automatic inclusion taking into account the documentation and data already submitted during the previous Union-wide ten-year network development plan processes as long as the information therein remains valid.

Amendment

(5) by 30 June 2022 and, subsequently, for every Union-wide ten-year network development plans, the Agency shall issue updated guidelines for inclusion of projects in their respective Union-wide ten-year network development plans, referred to in points (3) and (4), in order to ensure equal treatment and transparency of the process. For all the projects included in the Union list of projects of common interest in force at the time, the guidelines shall define a simplified process of inclusion in the Union-wide ten-year network development plans by automatic inclusion taking into account the documentation and data already submitted during the previous Union-wide ten-year network development plan processes as long as the information therein remains valid.

Amendment 142

Proposal for a regulation
Annex III – Part 2 – point 5 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

The ENTSO for Electricity and ENTSO for Gas shall consult with the Commission and the Agency about their respective draft guidelines for inclusion of projects in the Union-wide ten-year network development plans and take due account of the Commission’s and the Agency’s recommendations before the publication of the final guidelines.

Amendment

The ENTSO for Electricity and ENTSO for Gas shall consult with the Member States for the respective Group regarding the development strategies at regional and national level, with the Commission and the Agency about their respective draft guidelines for inclusion of projects in the Union-wide ten-year network development plans and take due account of the Member States’, the Commission’s and the Agency’s recommendations before the publication of the final guidelines.
Amendment 143

Proposal for a regulation
Annex III – Part 2 – point 6

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(6) proposed carbon dioxide transport projects falling under the category set out in point (5) of Annex II shall be presented as part of a plan, developed by at least two Member States, for the development of cross-border carbon dioxide transport and storage infrastructure, to be presented by the Member States concerned or entities designated by those Member States to the Commission.

*Amendment*

(6) proposed carbon dioxide transport and storage projects falling under the category set out in point (5) of Annex II shall be presented as part of a plan, developed by at least two Member States, for the development of cross-border carbon dioxide transport and storage infrastructure, to be presented by the Member States concerned or entities designated by those Member States to the Commission.

Amendment 144

Proposal for a regulation
Annex III – Part 2 – point 10 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(10a) if the Group considers the project is of major importance for the development of at least two other Member States and for reducing the social and economic gap, the project proposed shall be considered approved if the project promoter and the investors can finance the project on the territory of the Member State that did not support the project and if the project respects the principle of ‘do no significant harm’; the Member State concerned shall apply the rules and regulations for permit granting for projects of common or mutual interest.

*Amendment*

(10a) if the Group considers the project is of major importance for the development of at least two other Member States and for reducing the social and economic gap, the project proposed shall be considered approved if the project promoter and the investors can finance the project on the territory of the Member State that did not support the project and if the project respects the principle of ‘do no significant harm’; the Member State concerned shall apply the rules and regulations for permit granting for projects of common or mutual interest.

Amendment 145

Proposal for a regulation
Annex III – Part 2 – point 11
(11) the Group shall meet to examine and rank the proposed projects taking into account the assessment of the regulators, or the assessment of the Commission for projects not falling within the competency of national regulatory authorities.

Amendment

(Amendment 146)

Proposal for a regulation
Annex IV – point 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

(11) the Group shall meet to examine and rank the proposed projects based on a transparent assessment of the projects, using the criteria set out in Article 4 and taking into account the assessment of the regulators, or the assessment of the Commission for projects not falling within the competency of national regulatory authorities.

Amendment

(Amendment 147)

Proposal for a regulation
Annex IV – point 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(1) a project with significant cross-border impact or potential to create such an impact is a project on the territory of a Member State, which fulfils the following conditions:

Amendment

(a) for electricity transmission, the project increases the grid transfer capacity, or the capacity available for commercial flows, at the border of that Member State with one or several other Member States, having the effect of increasing the cross-border grid transfer capacity at the border of that Member State with one or several other Member States, by at least 500 Megawatt compared to the situation without commissioning of the project;
more Member States, including the connection between islands or islands and the mainland, or the project improves energy security of a region;

Amendment 148

Proposal for a regulation
Annex IV – point 1 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) for smart electricity grids, the project is designed for equipment and installations at high-voltage and medium-voltage level. It involves transmission system operators, transmission and distribution system operators or distribution system operators from at least two Member States. Distribution system operators can be involved only with the support of the transmission system operators, of at least two Member States, that are closely associated to the project and ensure interoperability. A project covers at least 50000 users, generators, consumers or prosumers of electricity, in a consumption area of at least 300 Gigawatthours/year, of which at least 20 % originate from variable renewable resources;

Amendment

(c) for smart electricity grids, the project is designed for equipment and installations at high-voltage and medium-voltage level. It involves transmission system operators, transmission and distribution system operators or distribution system operators from at least two Member States. Distribution system operators can be involved provided they ensure interoperability and their investments have a significant cross-border impact or potential to create such an impact. A project covers at least 50000 users, generators, consumers or prosumers of electricity or the region has a development strategy and on-going projects that have as targets the increase of the population, in the near future, to at least 50000 users, generators, consumers or prosumers, in a consumption area of at least 300 Gigawatthours/year, of which at least 20 % originate from variable renewable resources. The projects may also foresee a cross-border impact, without involving a physical common border;

Amendment 149

Proposal for a regulation
Annex IV – point 3 – point c
(c) security of supply, interoperability and secure system operation measured in line with the analysis made in the latest available Union-wide ten-year network development plan in electricity, notably by assessing the impact of the project on the loss of load expectation for the area of analysis as defined in Annex V in terms of generation and transmission adequacy for a set of characteristic load periods, taking into account expected changes in climate-related extreme weather events and their impact on infrastructure resilience. Where applicable, the impact of the project on independent and reliable control of system operation and services shall be measured.

Amendment 150

Proposal for a regulation
Annex IV – point 4 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission
(b) Security of supply: This criterion shall be measured by the level of losses in distribution and/or transmission networks, the percentage utilisation (i.e. average loading) of electricity network components, the availability of network components (related to planned and unplanned maintenance) and its impact on network performances, the duration and frequency of interruptions, including climate related disruptions.

(b) Security of supply: This criterion shall be measured by the level of losses in distribution and/or transmission networks, the percentage utilisation (i.e. average loading) of electricity network components, the availability of network components (related to planned and unplanned maintenance) and its impact on network performances, the duration and frequency of interruptions, including climate related disruptions and the expected changes in the economic and social development of the area and their impact on the demand.
Amendment 151
Proposal for a regulation
Annex IV – point 5 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) Sustainability measured as the contribution of a project to: greenhouse gas emission reductions in different end-use applications, such as industry or transport; flexibility and seasonal storage options for renewable electricity generation; or the integration of \textit{renewable} hydrogen.

Amendment

(a) Sustainability measured as the contribution of a project to: greenhouse gas emission reductions in different end-use applications, such as industry or transport; flexibility and seasonal storage options for renewable electricity generation; or the integration of hydrogen.

Amendment 152
Proposal for a regulation
Annex IV – point 6 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) level of sustainability measured by assessing the share of renewable and low-carbon gases integrated into the gas network, the related greenhouse gas emission savings towards total system decarbonisation and the adequate detection of leakage.

Amendment

(a) level of sustainability measured by assessing the share of renewable or low-carbon gases integrated into the gas network, the related greenhouse gas emission savings towards total system decarbonisation, \textit{air pollution mitigation} and the adequate detection of leakage.

Amendment 153
Proposal for a regulation
Annex IV – point 6 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) quality and security of supply measured by assessing the ratio of reliably available gas supply and peak demand, the share of imports replaced by \textit{local} renewable and low-carbon gases, the stability of system operation, the duration and frequency of interruptions per customer.

Amendment

(b) quality and security of supply measured by assessing the ratio of reliably available gas supply and peak demand, the share of imports replaced by \textit{domestic} renewable or low-carbon gases, the stability of system operation, the duration and frequency of interruptions per customer, \textit{the expected changes in the}
Amendment 154
Proposal for a regulation
Annex IV – point 6 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission
(c) facilitation of smart energy sector integration measured by assessing the cost savings enabled in connected energy sectors and systems, such as the heat and power system, transport and industry.

Amendment
(c) facilitation of smart energy sector integration measured by assessing the cost savings and greenhouse gas emission reduction savings and efficient use of energy enabled in connected energy sectors and systems, such as the heat and power system, transport and industry.

Amendment 155
Proposal for a regulation
Annex IV – point 7 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission
(a) sustainability measured by assessing the share of renewable hydrogen or hydrogen meeting the criteria defined in point (4) (a) (ii) of Annex II integrated into the network, and the related greenhouse gas emission savings;

Amendment
(a) sustainability measured by assessing the share of hydrogen or hydrogen meeting the criteria defined in point (4) (a) (ii) of Annex II integrated into the network, and the related greenhouse gas emission savings;

Amendment 156
Proposal for a regulation
Annex V – point 1

Text proposed by the Commission
(1) the area for the analysis of an individual project shall cover all Member States and third countries, on whose territory the project is located, all directly neighbouring Member States and all other

Amendment
(1) the area for the analysis of an individual project shall cover all Member States and third countries, on whose territory the project is located, all directly neighbouring Member States and all other
Member States significantly impacted by the project. For this purpose, ENTSO for electricity and ENTSO for gas shall cooperate with all the relevant system operators and authorities in the relevant third countries.

Amendment 157
Proposal for a regulation
Annex V – point 3

Text proposed by the Commission

(3) it shall define the analysis to be carried out, based on the relevant multi-sectorial input data set by determining the impacts with and without each project.

Amendment

(3) it shall define the analysis to be carried out, based on the relevant multi-sectorial input data set, the expected significant increase in power demand from the transport sector, in particular for electric vehicles along highways national roads and in urban areas and regional and local development strategies by determining the impacts with and without each project.

Amendment 158
Proposal for a regulation
Annex V – point 5

Text proposed by the Commission

(5) it shall include and explain how the energy efficiency first principle is implemented in all the steps of the ten-Year Network Development Plans.

Amendment

(5) it shall include and explain how the energy efficiency first principle is implemented, and how the cost-effectiveness of investments has been calculated to fully anticipate any redundancy of assets, to avoid stranded assets in the long term, to prefer extending and developing the use of existing assets before new investment in all the steps of the ten-Year Network Development Plans.
Amendment 159

Proposal for a regulation
Annex VI – point 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) specifications of the relevant pieces of legislation upon which decisions and opinions are based for the different types of relevant projects of common interest, including environmental law;

Amendment

(a) specifications of the relevant pieces of legislation upon which decisions and opinions are based for the different types of relevant projects of common interest, including environmental law and development strategies;
### PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Title</strong></th>
<th>Guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure and repealing Regulation (EU) No 347/2013</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>References</strong></td>
<td>COM(2020)0824 – C9-0417/2020 – 2020/0360(COD)</td>
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<td><strong>Committee responsible</strong></td>
<td>ITRE 18.1.2021</td>
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<td><strong>Opinion by</strong></td>
<td>REGI 18.1.2021</td>
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<td><strong>Rapporteur for the opinion</strong></td>
<td>Vlad-Marius Botoş 21.1.2021</td>
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<td>22.4.2021</td>
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<td><strong>Date adopted</strong></td>
<td>15.6.2021</td>
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| **Result of final vote** | +: 28  
| | −: 13  
| | 0: 0 |
| **Members present for the final vote** | Mathilde Androuët, Pascal Arimont, Adrian-Dragoş Benea, Isabel Benjumea Benjumea, Tom Berendsen, Erik Bergkvist, Stéphane Bijoux, Franc Bogovič, Vlad-Marius Botoş, Rosanna Conte, Andrea Cozzolino, Corina Crețu, Ciarán Cuffe, Rosa D’Amato, Christian Doleschal, Francesca Donato, Raffaele Fitto, Isabel García Muñoz, Chiara Gemma, Mireea-Gheorghe Hava, Krzysztof Hetman, Peter Jahr, Manolis Kefalogiannis, Ondřej Knotek, Elżbieta Kruk, Cristina Maestre Martín De Almagro, Pedro Marques, Martina Michels, Dan-Ştefan Motreau, Andżelika Anna Możdżanowska, Niklas Nienaß, Andrey Novakov, Alessandro Panza, Tsvetelina Penkova, Caroline Roose, André Rougé, Susana Solís Pérez, Valdemar Tomaševski, Yana Toom, Monika Vana |
| **Substitutes present for the final vote** | Alin Mituța |
### FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

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<td>ECR Group</td>
<td>Raffaele Fitto, Elżbieta Kruk, Andżelika Anna Możdżanowska, Valdemar Tomaševski</td>
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<td>S&amp;D Group</td>
<td>Corina Crețu, Tsvetelina Penkova</td>
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<td>S&amp;D Group</td>
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<td>The Left Group</td>
<td>Martina Michels</td>
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<td>Verts/ALE Group</td>
<td>Ciarán Cuffe, Rosa D'Amato, Niklas Nienaß, Caroline Roose, Monika Vana</td>
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**Key to symbols:**
+ : in favour
- : against
0 : abstention