

## Prochain tarif d'utilisation des réseaux de distribution de gaz naturel de GRDF

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Notre contribution en anglais:

*The European Biogas Association (EBA) is the voice of renewable gas in Europe. Founded in February 2009, the association is committed to the active promotion of the deployment of sustainable biogas and biomethane production and use throughout the continent. We have over 100 direct members in 28 European countries. With the right support, biogas/biomethane can be competitive by 2030, and a vital tool to meet some of Europe's key policy aims such as energy security, sector integration, sustainable employment and climate-friendly energy. France has a large biogas and biomethane potential and we have warmly welcomed the recent ambitions of ADEME, industry partners, farmers and others for green gas. The biomethane industry is indeed growing fast in France, with 31 production plants commissioned in the last 9 months. In order to keep up that level, we are strongly against decreasing the distribution tariff. The proposal would give a contradictory, inappropriate price signal: it stimulates the consumption of a polluting, fossil resource – natural gas –, while cutting down an investment source for the development biomethane, a renewable energy with a much cleaner carbon footprint than natural gas.*

*Biomethane production 'greens' the consumed gas and contributes directly to reducing the proportion of fossil energy, in line with national and European objectives. But the proposal of the CRE leads to a reduction in authorized investments to connect anaerobic digesters to the gas network.*

*The tariff proposal of the CRE is contradictory to its own forecast of 42 TWh of renewable gas production in 2030, as it would lead to a delay of such forecasted development. The proposal of the CRE presupposes 6 TWh would be produced in 2023, 4.8 TWh of which would be injected in the distribution grid. The forecast of staff level in distribution being adjusted, the CRE therefore proposes to reduce HR expenditures in distribution by €5.6 million / year. For distribution utilities, this means cutting down HR that would be directed allocated to greening the networks.*

*Keeping current tariff stable, or slightly increasing it, would set the right conditions to fund renewable gas development as well as the R et D and innovation activities necessary to speed up and optimise production and distribution of renewable gas. R et D et I is critical to adapt the grids to the new gases, optimise anaerobic digestion (which includes pre-processing of inputs and development of a new, cheaper and better purification technology), and bring to maturity and commercial availability new production methods (gasification of biomass, methanation, hydrothermal gasification), as well as the sector coupling of gas and power grids and hydrogen. R et D et I activities in distribution operators are most often led in partnerships with other actors (research centres, universities); there are thus beneficial to the biomethane sector and value chain overall. Such an investment effort would bear fruit on the medium and long terms in terms of scaling-up the greening of the gas grids and decreasing production costs; thus contributing to reaching renewable gas targets. It would therefore make sense to significantly allow key stakeholders of R et D, like major distribution operators, to have higher R et D expenditures related to renewable gases.*

*We are happy to provide any further information if needed.*