

## **Press Release**

Brussels, 27 September 2018

## **Eurogas to welcome James Watson as new Secretary General in January 2019**

The Eurogas General Assembly has unanimously appointed James Watson as the Secretary General of Eurogas with effect from 1 January 2019, when James will succeed Beate Raabe, who after more than seven years of service will leave Eurogas at the end of 2018.

"Thanks to his profound knowledge of the energy sector and EU affairs as well as experience in very successfully heading a European trade association, James is an ideal successor to Beate," says Eurogas acting President Martin Herrmann.

Since 2014, James has been the CEO of SolarPower Europe, a member-led association like Eurogas, based in Brussels and representing organisations active along the whole solar value chain. James worked previously in Brussels with the consultancy Weber Shandwick for seven years and prior to that was posted in Africa as a European Commission expert.

"I am very pleased to hand over to James because I am confident that he has the competence and skills to ensure continuity and progress, whilst enriching the work of Eurogas with new ideas and strategies", says Beate Raabe. "I myself look forward to dedicating more time to private life together with my husband, who retired last year, and to maintaining some professional activity in Brussels as a management and career coach."

Note to Editors: Eurogas is an association representing 44 companies and associations engaged in the wholesale, retail and distribution of gas in Europe. Eurogas provides data and information relevant to EU decision makers and opinion formers in making the right policy choices.