

**Statement: Additional US LNG projects are needed to contribute to Europe's Energy Security**

Energy security is a crucial stake for Europe. It has become even more important in the wake of the conflict in Ukraine which has triggered an unprecedented energy crisis, highlighting Europe's vulnerability to its dependence on Russian gas imports.

To strengthen its energy security, Europe has promptly reacted since 2022, by diversifying its LNG supply sources in order to (i) reduce its Dependency to Russian gas and mitigate the risks associated with geopolitical disruptions, (ii) procure supply stability by sourcing LNG from multiple countries and multiple projects and developers, including in the United States, and (iii) create Market Flexibility through diversification to allow for better response to fluctuations in the global LNG market.

The global LNG market remains tight and global LNG demand is foreseen to increase at 5+% per year during the 2024-2030 period. While Europe has made significant progress in mitigating price volatility, including through collaboration with the United States and other like-minded countries, the global LNG landscape remains highly competitive. This intensifying demand is placing pressure on existing industry trade chains, and future supply availability hinges on the timely expansion of production capacities globally, including in the United States. If additional LNG export capacities don't materialise it would risk increasing and prolonging the global market imbalance. This would inevitably impact supplies in Europe with the consequent implications that would have for the economy and society.

At Eurogas, we believe that a stable and predictable regulatory framework is essential to attract investments in the energy sector and promote new LNG supply sources from the US, meeting the increasing LNG demand in Europe and globally. Therefore, we advocate for clarity on lifting the current pause on LNG permitting by the Department of Energy, as well as addressing legal and regulatory challenges facing already-permitted US LNG export projects (as it has recently been the case for Rio Grande LNG in South Texas). Putting fully permitted projects at risk when their final investment decision has been taken and their construction has already started is particularly worrying, as it endangers the supply volumes on which Europe relies for the future. This uncertainty could undermine the perception of the US as a reliable alternative energy partner for Europe.

In conclusion, Eurogas supports the timely construction and delivery of US LNG projects to honour its long-term LNG contracts with European clients, and hopes that the DOE pause on LNG permitting process could be lifted soon in order to provide clarity on the regulatory framework for future investments.