

## DISCOVERING ...

### Hydrogen : Launch of mosaHYc, a cross-border project to convert the gas network to 100% hydrogen

GRTgaz and CREOS announce their collaboration with a view to creating a European 100% hydrogen transmission network, linking Saarland (Germany), Grand Est (France) and the Luxembourg frontier. This purpose of this unprecedented agreement between two gas transmission operators is to make a 70 km long hydrogen transmission infrastructure accessible, by adapting already existing gas infrastructures. This network will thus contribute to the development of a regional cross-border hydrogen ecosystem between three countries.



*Crédit/Copyright CIRCUSPROD – MOURON ROLAND*

#### The strong points of the mosaHYc project

The aim of the mosaHYc (Moselle Saarland HYdrogen Conversion) project, owned by the two transmission operators, is to convert two existing gas pipelines to 100% hydrogen transmission, enabling the interconnection of Völklingen, Perl (Saarland), Bouzonville and Carling (Moselle). This network covering a distance of 70 km will have a transmission capacity of up to 20,000 m<sup>3</sup>/h.

The first phase of the project will be to guarantee a secure supply of hydrogen for mobility purposes (train, bus, cars, heavy goods vehicles...) in a cross-border region with a high level of daily transit traffic. The project will thus contribute to achieving the carbon free mobility ambitions of the Grand Est region in France, Saarland in Germany and Luxembourg. It is fully in line with European objectives for energy transition and the improvement of the quality of the air in the Saar-Lor-Lux region.

The hydrogen transmission network is ideally placed to eventually support the development of uses of hydrogen at industrial sites in Saarland and the Grand Est such as Völklingen or Carling. The mosaHYc project will thus contribute to the raising of the economic and industrial attractiveness of these areas.

In order to bring this project to a successful conclusion, the two managers of the gas networks intend to apply the strictest standards in terms of safety and quality before converting their pipelines to hydrogen. GRTgaz and Creos Deutschland will work closely with the French and German authorities on the technical and political aspects and the regulatory framework in order to be in a position to take the final investment decision by 2022.

### **Speed up the development of a cross-border hydrogen hub**

The network operators will guarantee easy access in accordance with transparent rules to this new hydrogen transmission network to the producers and consumers who wish to connect up to it. Given its great cross-border dimension, it will contribute to the development of a veritable decarbonized hydrogen hub of European regional proportions.

Over the longer term, the project opens up the way to other conversions of natural gas pipelines to the transmission of 100% hydrogen and therefore to the speeding up of the development of a hydrogen market in Europe.

*« We are convinced of the importance of the development of hydrogen infrastructures at the European level. In this context, the mosaHYc project has great added value as it demonstrates the key role of the gas infrastructures and their contribution to many political challenges faced by the European Union, whether they be in the energy, climate or industrial fields. The discussions with potential producers of low carbon hydrogen, network users and the authorities not only in Germany and France, but also in Luxembourg, have already begun and will continue over the coming months. » emphasizes Thierry Trouvé, Chief Executive of GRTgaz.*

*«Saarland is in the process of becoming a « hydrogen country ». With the mosaHYc project, we wish to speed up this development. We think it is judicious to use an existing infrastructure, here and now, for the transmission of hydrogen. This solution is less costly and more environmentally friendly than that of building new pipelines. CREOS Deutschland and GRTgaz, like other gas network operators, are seeking to make use of the concept of the conversion of existing structures. So, mosaHYc is a pilot project for developing a competitive hydrogen market» explains Jeans Appelt, Chief Executive of CREOS Deutschland GmbH.*



#### **About GRTgaz**

GRTgaz is one of the European leaders in the gas transmission field and a world expert in gas systems. In France, the company operates over 32,000 km of underground pipelines to transport the gas provided by its suppliers to the consumers connected up to its network (managers of public gas supplies to towns, electric power stations and over 700 industrial sites). GRTgaz performs public service missions designed to guarantee the continuity of supplies and provides its customers with network access and energy performance improvement services. With its subsidiaries Elengy, the European leader for methane terminal services, and GRTgaz Deutschland, operator of the MEGAL transport network in Germany, GRTgaz plays a key role on the European gas infrastructures scene and exports its know-how abroad in particular thanks to the services developed by its research center RICE (Research & Innovation Center for Energy). An energy transition player, GRTgaz invests in innovative solutions in order to accommodate a maximum of renewable gases on its network, including hydrogen, support these new sectors and thus contribute to achieving carbon neutrality. Find us on [grtgaz.com](http://grtgaz.com), [energiesdespossibles.fr](http://energiesdespossibles.fr), @GRTgaz, Instagram and Facebook.



**About CREOS Deutschland**

*CREOS Deutschland GmbH, a company based in Homburg-Saar, supplies energy to over two million people in 340 towns and cities in Saarland and Rhineland-Palatinate with its network of high pressure gas approximately 1650 km long and its medium and high voltage electricity grid system approximately 450 km long. The CREOS group employs around 180 people and develops key skills relating to the management of energy networks, related services and the optimization of infrastructures.*

*<https://www.creos-net.de/startseite>*