



- Consultation Response –

ACER public consultation on the draft statutory documents of ENNOH

Brussels, 21 October 2024 | Europex welcomes the opportunity to respond to ACER consultation on the draft statutory documents of the European Network of Network Operators for Hydrogen.

Question 5. Do you have any other comments (5000 characters limit)

We believe that integrating market stakeholders into the European Network of Network Operators for Hydrogen (ENNOH), would be beneficial for fostering direct, comprehensive, and transparent cooperation with market participants and market operators, both present and future. The term “market stakeholders”, encompasses a range of entities, including shippers, trading participants, market and trading venue operators, clearing houses, producers, suppliers, end-users, and their respective associations.

While the Articles of Association clearly delineate the role of Hydrogen Transmission Network Operators (HTNOs) as the primary actors within the ENNOH framework, we propose the formation of an advisory group dedicated to fostering a consultative environment within the agency or relevant affiliated entity. This would enable constructive dialogue between all market stakeholders when developing technical rules such as network codes.

While the exact structure should be defined in agreement with ENNOH, ACER, the Commission and HTNOs, it could take the form of a market advisory group, a joint committee, or a forum within or associated with ENNOH. This inclusive approach could streamline the work of ENNOH by:

- Providing real-time feedback from all stakeholders
- Ensuring policies are grounded in operational and market driven realities
- Accelerating the development of practical and effective network codes
- Promoting innovation through diverse industry perspectives
- Enhancing transparency and trust among all hydrogen market stakeholders

It is important to note that this proposed structure would complement, not replace, the public scrutiny of technical rules through existing consultation processes. Instead, it would serve as a proactive mechanism to facilitate ENNOH's overall processes, potentially reducing the need for extensive revisions later in the regulatory development cycle.

Furthermore, it could lead to more robust and effective governance by helping identify potential challenges or unintended consequences of proposed regulations earlier in the process. We therefore believe that the creation of a dedicated Market Advisory Group, including market participants and operators within ENNOH would significantly enhance the organisation's ability to develop a well-functioning, competitive, and sustainable European hydrogen market.

About

Europex is a not-for-profit association of European energy exchanges with 35 members. It represents the interests of exchange-based wholesale electricity, gas and environmental markets, focuses on developments of the European regulatory framework for wholesale energy trading and provides a discussion platform at European level.

Contact

Europex – Association of European Energy Exchanges

Address: Rue Archimède 44, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

Phone: +32 2 512 34 10

Website: www.europex.org

Email: secretariat@europex.org

Twitter: @Europex_energy