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## Press Release

Berlin/Essen, 15 October 2024

### **OGE hosts Energiepolitischen Dialog Berlin: ‘Moving from talk to action on hydrogen.’**

At its 13th Energiepolitischer Dialog (Energy Policy Dialogue) entitled ‘From talk to action: Quo vadis H<sub>2</sub> core network for the green transformation?’, OGE examined the current state of play in the hydrogen sector. The high-level panel included Dr Axel Bree from the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, Dr Arnd Köfler, Member of the Supervisory Board of Hüttenwerke Krupp Mannesmann, Dr Andreas Breuer, Head of Hydrogen at Westenergie AG, Nina Scholz, Country Manager Germany at Equinor, and Dr Thomas Hübener, CEO of OGE as host. A total of more than 100 guests from politics, industry and society had accepted the invitation to the event.

In his keynote speech, Thomas Hübener said: ‘We have already achieved a great deal in terms of the core hydrogen network and expect approval from the Federal Network Agency before the end of this month’. At the same time, he warned policymakers that there were still a number of hurdles to overcome for the hydrogen ramp-up to gain momentum. Among other things, Hübener suggested that ‘even stronger commitment from the German government and the EU to blue hydrogen as a transition fuel for the decarbonisation of industry’ was needed until sufficient quantities of green hydrogen are available. ‘Of course, the medium and long-term goal is to use only green hydrogen,’ he said. ‘But we now need pragmatic solutions to ramp up hydrogen technology in the short term – also with a view to producing the hydrogen that is urgently needed.’

The subsequent discussion focused in particular on how Germany is dealing with the temporary cancellation of an H<sub>2</sub> pipeline from Norway and how the current developments at thyssenkrupp in Duisburg should be viewed.

All the participants agreed, however, that a number of major hurdles had been overcome throughout Germany and that it was now important to join forces and view the hydrogen ramp-up in Germany as a team effort by all stakeholders. Thomas Hübener summarised the debate as follows: ‘The H<sub>2</sub> core network, the import strategy, the H<sub>2</sub> Acceleration Act and the funding from H<sub>2</sub>Infra with 1.5 GW of electrolysis capacity are important. But that’s not enough for the H<sub>2</sub> ramp-up. Every single player in the H<sub>2</sub> value chain is important. The energy industry, together with politics, authorities, business, industry and society, must work together to create the conditions for achieving the climate targets and the green transformation.’



OGE's Energiepolitischer Dialog Berlin was the second event this year aimed particularly at policymakers but also at guests from industry, business and society following the Energiepolitischen Dialog Ruhr held in Essen in the summer. OGE is also planning two events of this kind next year.

#### **About OGE**

OGE gets gaseous molecules flowing. We create and maintain a modern, safe and efficient infrastructure for natural gas, hydrogen and CO<sub>2</sub>. Our pipeline network with a length of more than 12,000 kilometres is fundamental to Germany's energy supply and ensures the prosperity of our society. As the market-leading gas transmission system operator, we are a pioneer, driver and enabler of the energy transition and climate neutrality. We see ourselves as transformation consultants and service providers for industry, power plants, distribution system operators and our partners from production and politics. The OGE Group is also a future-proof, modern workplace for more than 2,000 people. In the interests of our employees and shareholders, we continually adapt our business model to ensure lastingly profitable development.

For more information on the company, go to [www.oge.net](http://www.oge.net).