



Berlin, 7th December 2023

## **INES Board elected for the next two years**

**Carsten Haack, Peter Schmidt, Michael Schmöltzer and Dr. Frank Fischer were elected to the INES Board at the INES General Assembly on November 8, 2023. At its constituent meeting on December 7, 2023, the Board appointed Mr. Haack as Chairman and Mr. Schmidt as Deputy Chairman from among its members. The term of office of the newly elected Board runs until December 31, 2025.**

Carsten Haack (Trianel Gasspeicher Epe GmbH & Co. KG), Peter Schmidt (EWE Gasspeicher GmbH), Michael Schmöltzer (Uniper Energy Storage GmbH) and Dr. Frank Fischer (Storengy Deutschland GmbH) were elected to the Board of Initiative Energien Speicher e.V. (INES) for the coming term of office from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2025 by the General Assembly on November 8, 2023. Three of the four previous board members were thus confirmed in office.

Catherine Gras (Storengy Deutschland GmbH) will now be followed by Dr. Frank Fischer. Ms. Gras has resigned from the management of Storengy Deutschland GmbH at her own request as of September 30, 2023. At the same time, Ms. Gras also resigned from her position as a member of the INES Board as of October 1, 2023. Dr. Fischer succeeded Ms. Gras on the Management Board of Storengy Deutschland GmbH. With his election to the INES Board, he now also takes her place on the INES Board. By being elected as Ms. Gras' replacement on the Board, he took office on 9 November 2023.

At its constituent meeting today, the INES Board re-elected Carsten Haack as Chairman and Peter Schmidt as Deputy Chairman from among its members.

The current INES Board of Directors has been appointed in the following constellation until December 31, 2025:

- Carsten Haack (Chairman)
- Peter Schmidt (Deputy Chairman)
- Dr. Frank Fischer
- Michael Schmöltzer

The INES members are thus relying on proven structures to continue the association's successful work and overcome future challenges. In the future, the main focus will be on adapting gas storage facilities to the requirements of the energy transition. On the one hand, gas storage facilities are essential for an affordable and secure gas supply.

On the other hand, the implementation of the energy transition and thus an environmentally friendly energy supply will only succeed with the development of sufficient hydrogen storage capacities. Fulfilling both requirements in full poses major challenges for the storage industry and political decision-makers. In INES, policymakers have a reliable partner for finding solutions.

Carsten Haack, Chairman of the INES Board, summarizes the association's perspective as follows: *„The gas and hydrogen storage operators have found a home at INES in order to find answers to the industry's pressing questions together and quickly. Many issues have already been resolved. But even more have been added. We therefore invite all companies that are specifically interested in storing energy, especially green hydrogen underground, to participate in the search for answers within INES.“*

## **ABOUT US**

INES is the association of gas and hydrogen storage system operators in Germany. INES' members represent over 90 per cent of German gas storage capacities and account for about 25 per cent of gas storage capacities in the European Union. INES' member companies also push the development of underground hydrogen storage in numerous projects and thereby form pioneers in this important technology field for the energy transition.

The members of INES are astora GmbH, bayernugs GmbH, Enovos Storage GmbH, Erdgasspeicher Peissen GmbH, Etzel-Kavernenbetriebsgesellschaft mbH & Co. KG, EWE Gasspeicher GmbH, HanseWerk AG, OMV Gas Storage Germany GmbH, RWE Gas Storage West, NAFTA Speicher GmbH & Co. KG, STORAG Etzel GmbH, Storengy Deutschland GmbH, Trianel Gasspeicher Epe GmbH & Co. KG, Uniper Energy Storage GmbH and VNG Gasspeicher GmbH.

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