



# PtX Press Monitoring – Week 39/2024

## Table of contents

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| <b>Press releases / News from the public sector</b> .....   | <b>1</b> |
| BMWK (23/09/2024): Federal Minister of Economics Habeck opens 40th German-Brazilian Business Days in Wolfsburg <sup>GER</sup> .....   | 1        |
| Deutscher Bundestag (25/09/2024): Experts see untapped potential in hydrogen expansion <sup>GER</sup> .....   | 1        |
| STMWI Bayern (25/09/2024): Aiwanger: ‘The hydrogen strategies of France and Bavaria complement each other perfectly. We are well positioned and are initiating new partnerships’ <sup>GER</sup> ..... | 1        |
| <b>(Political) Debates and measures</b> .....   | <b>2</b> |
| Germany .....   | 2        |
| Berliner Zeitung (23/09/2024): ‘Too expensive’ - Norway cancels energy export plan to Germany <sup>GER</sup> .....  | 2        |
| Süddeutsche Zeitung (26/09/2024): ‘New insights’ in hydrogen affair <sup>GER</sup> .....  | 2        |
| Europe.....   | 2        |
| Energynews (24/09/2024): Spain increases its green hydrogen ambition to 12 GW by 2030 <sup>EN</sup> .....   | 2        |
| Hydrogen Energy Leaders (25/09/2024): Spain to Re-establish the National Energy Commission <sup>EN</sup> .....  | 3        |
| The Guardian (25/09/2024): Climate scientists call on Labour to pause £1bn plans for carbon capture <sup>EN</sup> .....   | 3        |
| Global.....   | 3        |

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| FuelCellsWorks (25/09/2024): DOE Announces \$15 Million to Develop Innovative Systems for Clean Hydrogen Production <sup>EN</sup> .....      | 3        |
| Hydrogen Insight (26/09/2024): Aspiring green hydrogen hotspot Mauritania targeting '1.5% of green steel market by 2050' <sup>EN</sup> ..... | 4        |
| <b>Practice</b> .....  | <b>4</b> |
| Developing and emerging countries.....   | 4        |
| Offshore Energy (23/09/2024): HIF Global to work on its first e-fuels project in Brazil <sup>EN</sup> .....                                  | 4        |
| Market Insider (26/09/2024): CMMZE Unveils Plan to Produce 180kt of Green Hydrogen Annually for European Market <sup>EN</sup> .....          | 4        |
| Industrialised Countries and Other .....   | 5        |
| ZfK (23/09/2024): Converting the natural gas grid to hydrogen much cheaper than expected <sup>DE</sup> .....                                 | 5        |
| Montel News (23/09/2024): Shell shelves Norwegian blue hydrogen project <sup>EN</sup> .....  | 5        |
| Presseportal (24/09/24): PtX Development and KGAL sign contract for large-scale hydrogen project in Lubmin <sup>GER</sup> .....              | 5        |

The Green Hydrogen Business Alliance serves as an interface between the European hydrogen industry and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The business network supports a socio-ecological transformation in selected partner countries by promoting a sustainable market ramp-up of green hydrogen and Power-to-X (PtX). The Green Hydrogen Business Alliance is implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH on behalf of the BMZ.

Contact: [h2-business-alliance@giz.de](mailto:h2-business-alliance@giz.de)

**BMWK (23/09/2024): Federal Minister of Economics Habeck opens 40th German-Brazilian Business Days in Wolfsburg** <sup>GER</sup>

Extract: Vice-Chancellor and Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, Robert Habeck, opens the 40th German-Brazilian Business Days in Wolfsburg today. (...) Minister Habeck: 'Brazil is a strategic partner and has been Germany's most important trading partner in South America for many years. Many companies from Germany have been investing successfully in Brazil for decades. (...) However, there is still enormous potential for the expansion of our economic relations, particularly in the transformation to a sustainable economy, renewable energies and the supply of raw materials. Parliamentary State Secretary Brantner added: '(...) Topics will include cooperation on the decarbonisation of industry, opportunities for cooperation on raw materials and their further processing as part of our raw materials partnership, on quality infrastructure and in the field of renewable energies, including green hydrogen.' [View press release](#)

**Deutscher Bundestag (25/09/2024): Experts see untapped potential in hydrogen expansion** <sup>GER</sup>

Extract: On Wednesday, the Committee on Climate Protection and Energy held a public hearing on accelerating the availability of hydrogen. A draft bill from the German government (20/11899) on 'Accelerating the availability of hydrogen and amending further legal framework conditions for the hydrogen ramp-up as well as amending further energy law regulations (WassBG)' has been submitted. In principle, the invited experts welcomed the aims of the draft. However, they also saw a need for improvement in many areas. This included Werner Diwald, Chairman of the Board of the German Hydrogen Association, who argued in favour of extending the scope of application, among other things. [View press release](#)

**STMWI Bayern (25/09/2024): Aiwanger: 'The hydrogen strategies of France and Bavaria complement each other perfectly. We are well positioned and are initiating new partnerships'** <sup>GER</sup>

Extract: Bavaria's Minister of Economic Affairs and Energy Hubert Aiwanger has spoken out in favour of a closer Bavarian-French hydrogen cooperation during a visit to France. Aiwanger said at a networking reception at the German Embassy in Paris: 'The hydrogen strategies in France and Bavaria complement each other perfectly. France is driving forward the production of hydrogen and is investing in pipeline infrastructure such as the H2Med project, a transport infrastructure that will connect Portugal, Spain, France and Germany. Bavaria is focussing on technology and is very interested in hydrogen imports in addition to its own production.' [View press release](#)

## GERMANY

### **Berliner Zeitung (23/09/2024): 'Too expensive' - Norway cancels energy export plan to Germany** <sup>GER</sup>

Extract: The German government has invested billions in hydrogen, with eight billion already being made available for the technology of the future under former Economics Minister Peter Altmaier. The Green Ministry under Robert Habeck sees H2 primarily as a driver for the steel industry. Only on Monday, at the steel summit in Duisburg, he campaigned for more confidence in the crisis-ridden industry together with a two billion euro investment at Thyssenkrupp. 'Green steel made in Germany is what drives us,' said Habeck in front of the assembled steel industry. But this requires imports from abroad, such as from Norway. However, the Norwegian energy company Equinor has now pulled out of the multi-billion euro project with RWE for an offshore pipeline to Germany - a bitter blow for Habeck and his ministry. [View article](#)

### **Süddeutsche Zeitung (26/09/2024): 'New insights' in hydrogen affair** <sup>GER</sup>

Extract: (...) The long-awaited final report on the hydrogen affair in the Ministry of Transport is now available. Since February, Volker Wissing (FDP) has been conducting an internal investigation into the origin, content, and distribution of emails within the Ministry of Transport. The primary objective is to ascertain the veracity of the allegation that a senior official within his department had engaged in undue influence over the multi-million euro funding inquiry from a lobbyist acquaintance. The investigation, according to State Secretary Stefan Schnorr, had yielded new insights, with concrete indications suggesting that two employees of the Federal Ministry of Transport (BMDV) had breached their official duties. Consequently, disciplinary proceedings were initiated on Thursday. [View article](#)

## EUROPE

### **Energynews (24/09/2024): Spain increases its green hydrogen ambition to 12 GW by 2030**

<sup>EN</sup>

Extract: Spain is readjusting its green hydrogen ambitions, now setting a target of 12 gigawatts (GW) of electrolyser capacity by 2030. This increase, compared with the 11 GW proposed in the draft 2022 update, illustrates the country's determination to establish itself as a European leader in the production of hydrogen from renewable electricity. This strategy is in line with the soon-to-be-approved National Energy-Climate Plan, and constitutes an essential reference for investors and industrial players. While some players in the European energy market, notably Norway, have recently scaled back their low-carbon hydrogen projects, Madrid seems to be maintaining the opposite trajectory. Indeed, the abundant availability of natural resources such as solar and wind power makes Spain a prime candidate for the production of green hydrogen, a key technology in the continent's decarbonization efforts.

[View article](#)

### **Hydrogen Energy Leaders (25/09/2024): Spain to Re-establish the National Energy Commission** <sup>EN</sup>

Extract: The Spanish Council of Ministers has approved the Preliminary Draft Law to re-establish the National Energy Commission (CNE). It will be sent to the Congress of Deputies to continue processing as a Bill. It was requested by the Ministry for Ecological Transition, the Demographic Challenge, and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Business. In this energy transition process, the Spanish government believes an appropriate and flexible governance structure is necessary. It will allow for the reinforcement of the proper functioning of the market and consumer protection. All while facilitating decarbonisation and the design of new markets (such as hydrogen), strengthening the economy's competitiveness.

[View article](#)

### **The Guardian (25/09/2024): Climate scientists call on Labour to pause £1bn plans for carbon capture** <sup>EN</sup>

Extract: Leading climate scientists are urging the government to pause plans for a billion pound investment in “green technologies” they say are unproven and would make it harder for the UK to reach its net zero targets. Labour has promised to invest £1bn in carbon capture, usage and storage (CCUS) to produce blue hydrogen and to capture carbon dioxide from new gas-fired power stations – with a decision on the first tranche of the funding expected imminently. However, in the letter to the energy security and net zero secretary, Ed Miliband, the scientists argue that the process relies on unproven technology and would result in huge emissions of planet-heating CO2 and methane – gases that are driving the climate crisis. [View article](#)

## **GLOBAL**

### **FuelCellsWorks (25/09/2024): DOE Announces \$15 Million to Develop Innovative Systems for Clean Hydrogen Production** <sup>EN</sup>

Extract: The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM) today announced up to \$15 million in federal funding to make clean hydrogen a more available and affordable fuel for electricity generation, industrial decarbonization, and transportation. Specifically, the funding opportunity will support research and development projects that convert feedstocks—such as coal, biomass, petcoke, household waste, industrial wastes, and waste plastics—into synthesis gas, also known as syngas, to enable the low-cost production of clean hydrogen. The use of low-carbon fuels like clean hydrogen will help achieve the Biden-Harris Administration goal of a net-zero emissions economy by 2050. [View article](#)

### **Hydrogen Insight (26/09/2024): Aspiring green hydrogen hotspot Mauritania targeting '1.5% of green steel market by 2050'** <sup>EN</sup>

Extract: Mauritania wants to grab a 1.5% slice of the global green steel market by 2050, as well as a 1% share of the green hydrogen market, the country's president reportedly announced on Tuesday. The northwest African country, which recently passed its flagship green hydrogen law laying out tax incentives for renewable H2 producers, has an abundance of wind and solar resources suitable for powering electrolyzers, as well as significant iron ore resources for use in steelmaking. "Mauritania aspires to acquire 1% of the global hydrogen market, and 1.5% of the green steel market by 2050," president Mohamed Ould Cheikh El Ghazouani said at a session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York (...).

[View article](#) 

## Practice

### DEVELOPING AND EMERGING COUNTRIES

#### **Offshore Energy (23/09/2024): HIF Global to work on its first e-fuels project in Brazil** <sup>EN</sup>

Extract: HIF Global revealed that a large area within the complex of Port of Açú has been reserved for the facility, adding that the port will provide support in several aspects related to the project development. The Port of Açú is located in the state of Rio de Janeiro and holds the preliminary environmental license for the development of a hydrogen and derivatives hub. According to HIF Global, the port complex stands out as an "important logistics and industrial center" and is positioning itself as a player in the renewable energy sector. The HIF project is expected to attract new investment and boost the local economy. [View article](#)

#### **Market Insider (26/09/2024): CMMZE Unveils Plan to Produce 180kt of Green Hydrogen Annually for European Market** <sup>EN</sup>

Extract: Sustainable energy solutions provider Compagnie Maritime Monegasque Zero Emission (CMMZE) unveiled ambitious plans to construct a large-scale green hydrogen production facility in United Arab Emirates. The project, together with facilities in Morocco and Tunisia, will produce 180,000 tonnes of clean hydrogen per year, primarily for export to the European market. This initiative represents a leap forward in North Africa's transition to renewable energy and positions UAE, Morocco, and Tunisia as major players in the emerging global green hydrogen economy. The facility in UAE will use state-of-the-art technology powered by solar and wind energy. Meanwhile, in Tunisia, the energy solutions company will develop dedicated renewable energy sites in Nefetia Benguerdane for photovoltaic solar power and El Hama for wind energy to supply clean electricity for hydrogen production. [View article](#)

## INDUSTRIALISED COUNTRIES AND OTHER

### **ZfK (23/09/2024): Converting the natural gas grid to hydrogen much cheaper than expected** <sup>DE</sup>

Extract: The conversion of the natural gas network for the transport of hydrogen requires significantly less additional investment than originally assumed. This is one of the findings of the 'H2-Transformation' project carried out by *Stadtwerke Jena Netze* together with experts from *DBI Gas- und Umwelttechnik* in Leipzig. The project is now complete. The company now intends to use the results to drive forward the planned gas network transformation. According to a press release, the aim is to distribute pipeline-based hydrogen in Jena from 2028/2029. According to the results of the project, a large part of the existing natural gas network in Jena and Pößneck is already H2-ready. The approximately 540 kilometres of underground pipelines made of steel and plastic are in principle suitable for hydrogen. [View article](#)

### **Montel News (23/09/2024): Shell shelves Norwegian blue hydrogen project** <sup>EN</sup>

Extract: UK energy giant Shell is putting its plans for exporting hydrogen made from natural gas from Norway in 2030 on hold, just days after Norway's Equinor did the same. "It doesn't make financial sense to move forward with the plans. The market for blue hydrogen isn't there, and there are no signs that it's maturing," Shell spokesman Jan Soppeland told Norwegian news publication Energi og Klima. Shell had plans to use gas from the Nyhamna facility in western Norway to produce up to 450,000 tonnes of hydrogen annually starting in 2030. On Friday, Equinor scrapped its plans for so-called blue hydrogen. "We note that Equinor sees the same thing as we do. The market for blue hydrogen just isn't there," Soppeland said. There was a lack of demand from industrial customers, he added, noting the framework conditions were not in place for such a major investment as transitioning to hydrogen. [View article](#)

### **Presseportal (24/09/24): PtX Development and KGAL sign contract for large-scale hydrogen project in Lubmin** <sup>GER</sup>

Extract: PtX Development, an initiator and site developer for the production of green hydrogen, and the independent investment and asset manager KGAL have signed a financing agreement for the construction of one of Germany's largest hydrogen production plants at the hydrogen hub in Lubmin, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. (...) The hydrogen plant is a large-scale electrolysis plant with an electrolysis capacity of over one gigawatt (1,050 megawatts) and an annual hydrogen production of around 100,000 tonnes. For comparison: today Germany has less than 1 gigawatt of sustainable electrolysis capacity. [View article](#)



A selection of paywall articles is included given their high relevance to the topic. If necessary, please purchase access from the respective provider.