Gas blending: the bridge to a decarbonised network

Gas blending means lower-carbon gases can be combined with natural gas in the network. This can benefit the UK's energy transition by:

- Using existing gas network infrastructure, minimising upfront costs
- Enabling a controlled, gradual transition that can overcome safety and practical challenges
- Giving time for low-carbon gases to securely meet demand capacity
- Supporting energy-intensive and hard-to-transition sectors to reduce emissions
- Creating a baseline demand for hydrogen from which the market can develop

Which gases are being blended?



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The UK Government aims to produce 10GW of low-carbon hydrogen by 2030, and 50GW of capacity by 2050.

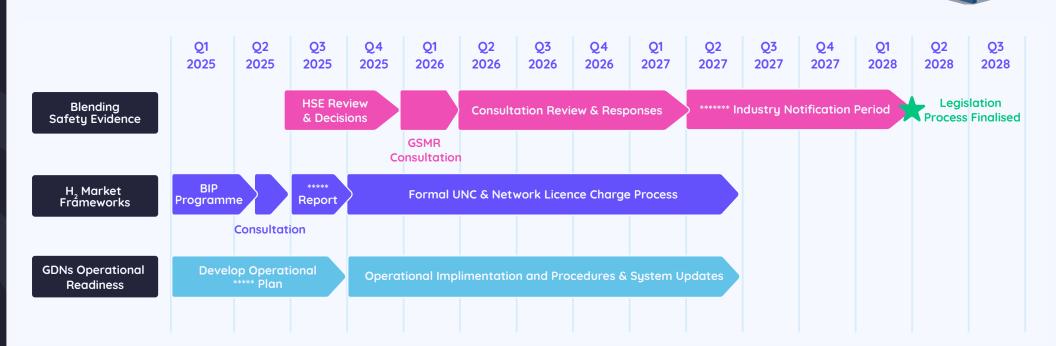


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The UK Biomass Strategy sets out that 11TWh of biomethane is currently being produced, with the potential to exceed 100TWh.

What's the UK's gas blending plan?



Up to 20%

hydrogen blending into the gas distribution network supported by the UK Government.*

6.8 TWh

of biomethane domestically produced and injected into the grid in 2022.**

The UK Government is supporting gas blending as part of its decarbonisation strategy.

- Safety trials led by the Health and Safety Executive and further research and assessment decisions are underway.
- The UK Hydrogen Strategy was last updated in December 2024.
- A call for evidence into biomethane production closed in April 2024, the strategy is outstanding.

Step-by-step: how gas blending works



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Production:

blending facilities carefully mix gases to precise, safe proportions using advanced sensors, real-time monitoring and control systems.

Transportation:

the gas blend is transported through existing or new pipelines, with its quality being closely monitored.

End Use:

blended gas is then delivered and used in homes and industrial processes.

Benefits of using gas blending to decarbonise

Gas blends can be supplied via existing gas networks, meaning no costly, disruptive infrastructure upgrades are required.

Gas blends maintain a reliable supply while the production capacity of low-carbon alternatives scales up.

The composition of gas can be flexed to ensure a reliable, robust supply, even in times of peak demand.



^{*} Hydrogen blending in GB distribution networks: strategic decision

^{**} Future Policy Framework for Biomethane Production