

POSITION PAPER

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T&D Europe confirms to support a transition towards SF6-free alternative switchgear and equipment

T&D Europe strongly supports the goals of the European Commission to strengthen all climate protection efforts and to achieve climate neutrality for Europe by 2050, specifically by also avoiding any kind of atmospheric emission of GHG, such as SF6.

The members of T&D Europe have been working intensely to develop alternative technologies, including gases, that can replace application by application the universal SF6 technology used for more than 50 years in the high voltage electrical switchgear and equipment industry. Industry invested massively in R&D with technical success and needs now a clear regulatory framework and confidence into the different technological solutions developed, to continue their investment on R&D as well as manufacturing capacity. This will also enable the European T&D equipment manufacturing industry to keep its technological leadership.

As a result, today, SF6-free equipment is partly available, and the coverage of the applications needed for the European electrical grid by one or more T&D equipment manufacturer is ongoing.

Considering the long expected lifetime of T&D equipment, T&D Europe therefore supports a transition time towards SF6 free alternative technologies to be as short as possible wherever a reliable, safe, technical feasible and economical solution exists, that ensure full reliability and availability in the critical infrastructure of grid operation.

T&D Europe recommends the European Commission not to consider restrictive measures for medium and high/very high voltage equipment before the end of those transition times.

ABOUT T&D EUROPE

T&D Europe is the European Association of the Electricity Transmission & Distribution Equipment and Services Industry, which members are the European National Associations representing the interests of the electricity transmission and distribution equipment manufacturing and derived solutions. The companies represented by T&D Europe account for a production worth over € 25 billion EUR, and employ over 200,000 people in Europe. Further information on T&D Europe can be found here: <http://www.tdeurope.org>

CONTACTS

Diederik Peereboom
Secretary General, T&D Europe
Diederik.Peereboom@tdeurope.eu
+32 2 206 6888

Laure Dulière
Policy Adviser
Laure.Duliere@tdeurope.eu
+32 2 206 86863