

PILGRHYM

PRE-NORMATIVE RESEARCH ON INTEGRITY ASSESSMENT PROTOCOLS OF GAS PIPES REPURPOSED TO HYDROGEN AND MITIGATION GUIDELINES



Project ID	101137592
PRR 2024	Pillar 2 – H ₂ storage and distribution
Call topic	HORIZON-JTI-CLEANH2-2023-02-02: Pre-normative research about the compatibility of transmission gas grid steels with hydrogen and development of mitigation techniques
Project total cost	EUR 3 999 073.75
Clean H₂ JU max. contribution	EUR 3 999 073.75
Project period	1.1.2024–31.12.2027
Coordinator	GRTgaz, France
Beneficiaries	Commissariat à l'Énergie Atomique et aux Énergies Alternatives, Enagás Transporte SA, Fluxys Belgium SA, Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Angewandten Forschung EV, Fundación para el Desarrollo de las Nuevas Tecnologías del Hidrógeno en Aragón, Fundacion Tecnalia Research and Innovation, Groupe Européen de Recherches Gazières, Onderzoekscentrum voor Aanwending van Staal NV, Sintef AS, Snam SpA, Universidad de Burgos

<http://pilgrhym.eu/>

PROJECT AND GENERAL OBJECTIVES

The main goal of Pilgrhym is to provide a European roadmap for safely and efficiently integrating pure H₂ into existing natural gas infrastructure, contributing to the decarbonisation of the energy sector. To achieve this goal, Pilgrhym has set forth an ambitious objective of providing transmission system operators with comprehensive guidelines to assess the feasibility of using pure H₂ in existing natural gas pipelines.

To reach the previously stated goals, Pilgrhym has established seven technical and non-technical specific objectives (SOs), interconnected with the project's results, key performance indicators and work packages.

- Develop a database of material characterisation testing on representative steel grades of the EU gas grids, including tensile properties, fracture toughness and fatigue crack growth properties.

- Establish a harmonised testing protocol to support the repurposing of natural gas lines to accommodate hydrogen.
- Develop a numerical modelling approach for simulating and predicting hydrogen-assisted fracture and fatigue.
- Produce a more realistic fatigue crack growth rate master curve for the purpose of assessing fitness for service, in particular for low K values corresponding to the actual operating domain of the EU gas grids.
- Identify existing and/or innovative technologies for mitigation compatible with operational constraints.
- Engage with stakeholders to ensure cooperation and awareness.
- Facilitate the uptake and exploitation of Pilgrhym results by the academic community, technology developers and end users.