

## ■ PRESS RELEASE

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## AquaDuctus offshore hydrogen pipeline: off we go.

■ *Project implementation of the pipeline for the North Sea can begin. GASCADE is making an important contribution to development of an interconnected European hydrogen infrastructure.*

**Kassel/Berlin.** The implementation of our offshore pipeline in the North Sea is taking shape: Minister Robert Habeck today handed over the early start of measures notice for the IPCEI project AquaDuctus as part of the so-called Hy2Infra wave at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action.

■ "With the early start of measures, we can now get started. The implementation of the first offshore hydrogen pipeline has now begun. We are delighted that we can make a decisive contribution to the development of the hydrogen economy and drive forward the energy transition with AquaDuctus," explains GASCADE Managing Director Christoph von dem Bussche.

AquaDuctus is the only hydrogen pipeline planned for the German North Sea. The project plays a central role in the development of the hydrogen core network and the implementation of the National Hydrogen Strategy.

"With this offshore pipeline, we want to both tap into the hydrogen potential of the German North Sea and become an essential part of an interconnected European transport infrastructure for hydrogen. In principle, all North Sea countries and producers of offshore hydrogen can feed into the pipeline," says project manager Oliver Reimuth.

The overarching importance of AquaDuctus is reflected in its classification as an "Important Project of Common European Interest" (IPCEI). This is the basis for funding from the federal government and the state of Lower Saxony.

In the Hy2Infra wave, a total of 23 German hydrogen projects from the production, transportation and storage stages of the value chain are being supported. The public funding is intended to ensure the rapid realization of the projects and a quick hydrogen market ramp-up.

### About GASCADE

GASCADE Gastransport GmbH operates a gas pipeline network throughout Germany. The Kassel-based transmission system operator offers its customers modern and competitive transport services for natural gas and, in future, other gases in the heart of Europe via its own high-pressure pipeline network, which is around 3,700 kilometres long. GASCADE is pursuing the goal of successively converting its pipeline network to the transport of hydrogen and is therefore active in several onshore and offshore hydrogen projects.