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PRESS RELEASE

One-year postponement leaves key methane regulation challenges unresolved

Brussels, 14 October 2026: ***The European Commission's proposal to postpone key obligations under the EU Methane Regulation by one year, published today, provides additional time, but the proposed timeframe remains insufficient to establish the workable and harmonised implementation framework needed to ensure effective compliance.***

The Commission has proposed delaying the application of key requirements under Articles 28 and 29 for importers of crude oil and gas by one year. A targeted postponement is needed not only as a response to recent geopolitical instability, but to fill existing implementation gap and fully develop necessary compliance tools.

A one-year delay will not be sufficient to resolve the fundamental implementation challenges facing importers. A three-year postponement would provide a more realistic timeframe, provided it is accompanied by a clear commitment to establish a functioning, harmonised and predictable compliance framework.

The postponement period must therefore be used to deliver solutions, not simply to shift deadlines.

We call on the European Commission to:

1. Establish a structured implementation roadmap, developed in close cooperation with industry and Member States;
2. Provide industry with sufficient lead time to adapt contracts, reporting systems and commercial arrangements, including to the forthcoming methane intensity methodology;
3. Ensure that implementation avoids unintended consequences for security of supply, diversification and the competitiveness of European industry.

The Commission has committed to monitoring implementation and security of supply during the postponement period. However, the Regulation's review remains due by 1 January 2028, during the proposed extension itself.

Liana Gouta, Director General FuelsEurope underlined "*The delay offers breathing space, but it does not fix the problem. Importers still face significant practical challenges in complying with the Regulation. One year is not enough to build the harmonised implementation framework they need. The postponement period must therefore be used to resolve these issues, not simply to move the deadlines.*"

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FuelsEurope, the voice of the European fuel manufacturing industry. FuelsEurope represents, within the EU institutions, the interest of 40 companies manufacturing and distributing conventional and renewable fuels and products for mobility, energy & feedstocks for industrial value chains in the EU.

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