

RWE

Industry Associations Climate Review 2023



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Executive Summary

RWE attaches great importance to its involvement in associations and initiatives. We see many benefits in sharing and shaping positions. Furthermore, we are convinced that shaping a sustainable future requires close cooperation. Since 2020, we have published the results of our climate review for our associations. This is our fifth review, reassessing past associations and adding new groups as our methodology requires. A list of the associations we assessed in the past years is provided in the annex.

The effort we put into this assessment is worthwhile: It is important to us and our stakeholders that the associations share our views on the pressing issue of climate change. We check six key expectations against current public documents, no older than January 2021. These expectations include support for the landmark Paris climate agreement, but also other climate-related positions, such as support for climate science, a clear commitment to expanding renewable energy and phasing out fossil fuels in a timely manner, a position on green hydrogen as a future enabler for the decarbonisation of many sectors, a position that climate change needs a global response, and a commitment to a fair and just transition for those most vulnerable to climate change.

Using publicly available information, the associations were rated as aligned or misaligned based on an assessment of their positions and activities against our expectations. Overall, we consider the alignment of the associations to be high on the six criteria. We do not see any cases of misalignment in this assessment. We will continue to engage with all assessed associations, especially those where we would appreciate further or more explicit positioning. This includes a monitoring of their alignment with our climate-related policy positions.

Positions on climate change and the energy transition

The IPCC's special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C states that if the rise in global temperature is to be limited to 1.5 °C, global emissions must be reduced by around 45 % from 2010 levels by 2030 and to net zero by 2050. Electricity is central to any plan to reach net zero as it accounts for nearly 40 % of energy emissions, the most of any sector. Rapid decarbonisation is needed, not just to address these emissions, but also to support the transition of other sectors to net zero.

RWE is well positioned to contribute to transforming the energy sector and the broader economy in all the areas discussed above. And that is precisely what we are doing, by investing billions of euros in wind power, photovoltaics, battery storage and green hydrogen, phasing out coal-based generation, building environmentally friendly backup capacities, and helping industrial customers optimise their energy consumption. These activities make us a driving force in the energy transition and allow us to support the countries where we do business in their efforts to achieve climate protection targets.

As a leading global energy company, we step up for climate.

Our commitment in this regard is reflected by our own ambitions: we want to be net zero by 2040 at the latest, ten years earlier than the EU. Not only does this apply to our direct greenhouse gas emissions (referred to as Scope 1), but it also covers the upstream and downstream value chain (Scope 2 and Scope 3). We have set ourselves ambitious goals for the current decade: by 2030, we want to reduce our emissions per kWh by 67 % for Scope 1 and 2 and absolute emissions by 42 % for Scope 3 compared to 2022. At the Paris Climate Conference in 2015, the global community committed to at best limiting the increase in average global temperatures to 1.5 degrees Celsius compared to pre-industrial levels. Our actions are in line with this target, we are currently undergoing validation by the independent Science Based Targets initiative.

As a leading global energy company, we step up for the climate. This is not only evident in our past performance and in our future targets but in our core positions for political climate action. For this report, we have put together core climate-related policy positions that guide the stance we take on specific policies in countries and regions. We used these positions as the basis for our review of the 22 associations in this report. By evolving our policy positions, and sharing these with industry associations and other stakeholders, we aim to increase collaboration around the climate policy frameworks needed to help the world to achieve net zero emissions by 2050.

Our Core Positions on Climate

We stand behind the agreements of the Paris Climate Agreement and support ambitious national and international climate protection targets. The energy industry has a key role to play in achieving these goals.

- Global warming is one of the greatest risks to humanity and must be stopped. To this end, global greenhouse gas emissions must be brought into line with a 1.5 °C path as quickly as possible.
- The basis for understanding the consequences of climate change and necessary measures are the reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).
- In order to achieve the climate goals, it is first and foremost necessary to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Only unavoidable emissions should be offset with high-quality offsets.

We see the rapid expansion of renewable energies, fair competition, and technological progress as key to the success of the energy transition. The phaseout of fossil power generation must be carried out responsibly.

- In the future, electricity generation must be renewable. That is the only way to replace fossil fuels as quickly as possible but also in a responsible manner. In order to safely achieve the expansion targets, renewable energies need a hedge against market price fluctuations during the ramp-up phase.
- Hydrogen is a crucial building block for decarbonising sectors and areas for which there are no options for decarbonisation via a climate-neutral power supply.
- A stable regulatory environment and a level playing field for the generation of electricity and hydrogen are needed.
- The development of the hydrogen economy must be flanked both by regulation and by promoting the use of climate-friendly hydrogen. In the long term, green hydrogen in particular must be used.

We are convinced that the transition to a climate-neutral economy is an opportunity if prosperity is preserved in this mammoth task and no one is left behind.

- The energy sector and industry, in particular, must work together to find a solution for achieving the climate goals. Climate protection must be open to technology and non-discriminatory. Open social discourse is needed instead of ideological reservations.
- Climate protection is a global task to which everyone must contribute - considering their respective capabilities. For example, the phaseout of fossil fuels must be carried out in a socially acceptable manner and with support for the employees affected. Moreover, climate protection must not be carried out at the expense of the weakest in society.

Engagement in industry associations

We are convinced that RWE has a significant role to play for sustainable development. In 2019 we have announced our new purpose that puts this thinking into the core of our business: *Our energy for a sustainable life*. As the associations we are a part of shape the regulatory landscape, we believe they should be aligned with our purpose to facilitate a joint effort in creating a sustainable future. RWE is member of a large number of associations. This includes both group level memberships of RWE AG and memberships of operating companies such as RWE Power, RWE Generation, RWE Supply & Trading and RWE Renewables. Industry associations contribute to the development of well-informed and transparent discussions amongst a broad range of stakeholders, including the members of the respective association, political stakeholders such as government officials and members of parliaments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the financial community, academic bodies and the wider public. Industry associations thus offer the opportunity to jointly engage with stakeholders in order to, among other things, make sure our views on specific topics are heard, foster a common understanding of issues, share our expertise and best practices with our peers and with the wider industry, contribute to the development of standards and align cooperation and support for important projects.

We are convinced that industry associations and think tanks must be a force to accelerate ambition and action to achieve common targets. They offer internal and public formats for



exchanging ideas on positions and are therefore indispensable for our company. Our key memberships in associations are directed towards strategic objectives and relate to current and future activities of the RWE Group. We expect that all these associations share basic principles for collaboration– this includes a clear commitment to science and facts and support for a coherent position on climate-related issues. We understand that positions taken on

any topic by an industry association are often a compromise or majority view, arrived at through their individual decision-making processes, with the potential for differing views among their membership. If we see major or persistent deviations from the principles that guide us, this triggers further engagement and actions.

We consider several factors when joining and reviewing our memberships, including:

- Alignment with business purpose, focus areas and activity,
- Value to RWE's business or the implications of not being involved,
- Ability for RWE to influence the association's positioning,
- Presence of appropriate arrangements with respect to anti-trust and competition law,
- Financial and time commitments.

We regularly review our involvement in industry associations to assess the relevance of our participation versus our strategy and the achievements delivered through the organizations we have subscribed to.

Our RWE Code of Conduct sets out our expectations for working with our business partners. It requires our employees to clearly communicate expectations to our partners, take the appropriate measures if expectations are not met, and report any indications that a business partner is not complying with their obligations. For years we have been reporting our most important memberships and our stance on politics in our annual Sustainability Report.

We expect that all our associations share basic principles for collaboration

In addition, we apply all requirements concerning transparency: Since 2010, we have been entered in the European Union's transparency register and publish relevant information there. Since its establishment in 2022 we are also included in the transparency register of the German Parliament.

RWE's main contribution to the industry associations, it is a member of, relates both to the engagement in the associations working structures (Boards, Committees, Working Groups, Project Groups) as well as by paying membership fees which provide for the financial basis that allows the associations to perform their activities.

Assessment approach

Selection of associations

RWE is a member of numerous industry associations that are active on national and international levels. For our assessment we focus on those associations that form positions in the energy and climate space. This selection provides important insights for our stakeholders and for RWE as we consider these associations as crucial in the framing of the climate discourse. We left aside all other associations that have different purposes. In that sense we continue with the approach we have set up in the first four reports on industry associations alignment.

Based on these criteria we have screened RWE memberships and have selected the associations that are part of this year's assessment. In some associations, RWE is member at various levels, such as regional and national level. In this case, we have only assessed the association on the highest level, as we assume that regional subsidiaries' positions do not differ from overarching ones. In others, RWE has no direct membership but only through other associations. This holds true e.g., for Eurelectric or BDI. However, we also assess them since RWE employees are actively engaged in committees or other bodies of these associations.



In total we have identified 22 associations from either the energy or climate spectrum that are assessed by RWE on their alignment with core RWE climate positions. In this assessment cycle we concentrate on associations with general and broad thematic spectrums, associations that represent conventional energies and associations in the hydrogen space. For a complete list of the associations, see Appendix. We reserve the right to modify that selection of associations until the final release date.

Assessment methodology

RWE and its subsidiaries are member of numerous industry associations on national and international level. For this review, we have assessed their positions on six core expectations based on publicly stated policy and advocacy positions. These six core expectations are derived from our own core positions on climate. Our expectation is that associations, in which we participate,

- ...support the **Paris Climate Agreement**
- ...recognise the **scientific findings of the IPCC** (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) – limiting the global temperature increase to 1.5 °C significantly reduces the negative consequences of climate change
- ...see the key to achieving the climate targets in the **expansion of renewable energies**. The use of **fossil fuels must be responsibly phased out** as soon as possible – especially in the energy sector
- ...support **green hydrogen** to decarbonise activities that are difficult to electrify
- ...see **climate protection as a global task** in which a level playing field – e.g., within the framework of a climate club, e.g., at G20 level – is essential
- ...advocate **social compensatory measures** for those who are particularly burdened by the exit from fossil fuels and climate protection

For the assessment we have collected and analysed information on the positions of the associations. This included primary data gathered for example from the associations' websites, including public statements, press releases and position papers. The review covers only positions and statements that have been published from 01 January 2021 onwards.

Internal auditors have categorized the associations based on their alignment level with the six criteria. These first assessments have been validated by another group of internal auditors. We used the following categories:

- **Aligned:** The association has taken a supportive stance on the criterion in a public statement. This can be either an explicit statement or a statement that implies alignment within a reasonable degree.
- **No position:** The association had no public position on the criterion.
- **Misaligned:** The association is taking positions that are contrary to the criterion.

For this year's assessment, we set stricter rules for the statements we accepted. Statements that were not clear enough, not public or published before 2021 were not accepted. This resulted in us changing some associations criteria from 'aligned' to 'no position' compared to the last time they were assessed by us. We encourage all associations where this was the case to take a public stance on these criteria to update their position.

Results

For this review we assessed 22 industry associations that were found to meet our selection criteria. Overall, we found a high level of alignment across the six criteria. We did not identify any case of misalignment during this assessment. Most of the 22 associations support the Paris Agreement and its goals, only three associations have no position on this issue. By comparison, support for climate science was somewhat weaker, with seven associations taking no public position. The criterion on the renewable energy and fossil fuel phase-out was widely supported by the associations, and we counted only three where no public position was taken. There was even more agreement on green hydrogen. Here all but two associations expressed public support. The criteria relating to the global dimension of climate change and social mitigation measures received less public support. Eight associations took no position on the global dimension of climate protection and eleven on social compensation measures.

Overall the criteria regarding support for the Paris Agreement, renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phase-out and green hydrogen had the highest alignment, while the other criteria had less public support from the associations.

We will continue to engage with all assessed associations, as the assessment concluded them all to be sufficiently aligned with our core principles. All associations are aligned on at least three of the core principles with eight showing full alignment and six showing alignment on at least four. We support the associations in their ambition on climate protection and will continue to monitor them in our next assessments.

We did follow up with some associations covered in last year's report on renewable associations. There was no change in positions from the associations that could be identified; we withdrew from the Lithuanian Wind Energy Association.

The following page shows an overview of the assessed associations and the corresponding results. The assessed associations are presented more in depth in the annex.

Table 1: 2023 Assessment results per criterion

	Paris Agreement Support	Climate Science	Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	Green hydrogen	Global dimension of climate protection	Social compensatory measures
Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bundesverband der Energie- und Wasserwirtschaft	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bundesverband Energiespeicher	✓	☐	✓	✓	☐	☐
Business Europe	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Carbon Capture and Storage Association	✓	✓	☐	☐	✓	☐
Deutscher Braunkohlen-Industrie-Verein	✓	☐	✓	✓	☐	✓
Deutscher Wasserstoff-Verband	☐	☐	✓	✓	✓	☐
Energie Nederland	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐
Energy UK	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
EURACOAL	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurelectric	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurogas	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐
European Federation of Energy Traders	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Federatie van de Belgische Elektriciteits en Gasbedrijven	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	☐
Gas Infrastructure Europe	✓	☐	✓	✓	☐	☐
Hydrogen Europe	✓	☐	✓	✓	☐	☐
Hydrogen UK	☐	✓	✓	✓	☐	✓
Initiative Energien Speichern	✓	☐	✓	✓	☐	☐
International Emissions Trading Association	✓	✓	☐	☐	✓	☐
Verband der Industriellen Energie- & Kraftwirtschaft	☐	✓	✓	✓	☐	☐
VNO NCW	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
World Energy Council	✓	☐	☐	✓	✓	✓

✓ = aligned; ☐ = no position; ✗ = misaligned

Contact

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Feedback and questions can be directed to:

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The descriptions of the associations in the section “Results” are taken from the public websites of the organisations. When required we have adapted these texts for better reading purposes.

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Annex

Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie

About the association and our role: The Federation of German Industries e. V. (BDI) is the umbrella organization of German industry associations and industry-related service providers in the legal form of a registered association with its headquarters in Berlin. In addition, the BDI has further offices abroad as well as in the German federal states and is thus represented internationally and regionally. RWE is contributing in the BDI presidency and board and engaging in various committees.

Assessment Results: The assessment has shown, that the BDI is fully aligned with our core positions. Alignment on the global dimension of climate protection has been shown by the following statement: *“Answers to climate change can only be developed with the help of an international approach.”* (Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie, 2024)

Paris Agreement Support	Aligned
Climate Science	Aligned
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	Aligned
Green Hydrogen	Aligned
Global dimension of climate protection	Aligned
Social compensatory measures	Aligned

Bundesverband der Energie- und Wasserwirtschaft

About the association and our role: The German Association of Energy and Water Industries (BDEW) represents over 1,900 companies. The German association has set itself the goal of helping Germany achieve climate neutrality with a secure and efficient energy supply and is committed to safe and sustainable water management. The headquarter is based in Berlin, however, it also has regional affiliates in the German federal states. RWE is actively engaging in the Presidency, in the Board and in various steering committees as well as in many working groups.

Assessment Results: The assessment has shown, that the BDEW is fully aligned with our core positions. The association is supporting fossil fuel phase out and renewables expansion as shown in the following statement: *“BDEW welcomes the results of the 28th World Climate Change Conference in Dubai, which are groundbreaking in many respects: It sends a clear signal to the global community that the use of fossil fuels for energy, especially coal, is an obsolete model and that the necessary transition to emission-free energy systems based on renewable energies must be further accelerated.”* (Bundesverband der Energie- und Wasserwirtschaft, 2023)

Paris Agreement Support	Aligned
Climate Science	Aligned
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	Aligned
Green Hydrogen	Aligned
Global dimension of climate protection	Aligned
Social compensatory measures	Aligned

Bundesverband Energiespeicher

About the association and our role: The German Energy Storage Association (BVES) is committed to creating a fair political and legal framework for energy storage, which makes rapid growth of the storage market possible. Its aim is to promote energy storage and ensure that it is perceived as a valuable, efficient, and cost-effective part of the sustainable energy landscape. RWE is engaged in various working groups of the association.

Assessment Results: The assessment showed alignment for three out of six positions, as no public statements expressing support for climate science, global dimension of climate protection and social compensatory measures were found. Support for renewables expansion was expressed in the following statement: *“Mission statement: Rapid expansion of renewable energies - without any caps or legal restrictions”* (Bundesverband Energiespeicher, 2024)

Paris Agreement Support	Aligned
Climate Science	No position
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	Aligned
Green Hydrogen	Aligned
Global dimension of climate protection	No position
Social compensatory measures	No position

BusinessEurope

About the association and our role: BusinessEurope is the umbrella organization of European industry and employers' associations based in Brussels. The overarching goal of BusinessEurope's work is steady economic growth within the EU. In 2023 it counted 42 member associations from 35 European countries. RWE is a member of BusinessEurope's "Advisory and Support Group" and, by that, engaged in multiple working groups in the association.

Assessment Results: Assessment showed full alignment of BusinessEurope with our core positions. Support for the Paris Agreement was shown with the following statement: *"The European business community fully supports the Paris Agreement and stands firmly behind the EU's climate neutrality ambition."* (BusinessEurope, 2023)

Paris Agreement Support	Aligned
Climate Science	Aligned
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	Aligned
Green Hydrogen	Aligned
Global dimension of climate protection	Aligned
Social compensatory measures	Aligned

Carbon Capture and Storage Association

About the association and our role: The CCSA is the lead European association accelerating the commercial deployment of carbon capture, utilisation, and storage (CCUS) through advocacy and collaboration. They represent the interests of companies and organisations seeking to develop commercial-scale CCUS projects. RWE is actively engaged in the associations board and multiple working groups.

Assessment Results: The assessment found that the CCSA publicly supports three of our core positions. Public statements expressing support for climate science, green hydrogen and social compensatory measures could not be found. The statement: “...and the clear message from the outset is that collaboration is essential if we are to achieve the Paris goal of limiting warming to 1.5 degrees [sic].” (Carbon Capture and Storage Association, 2023) shows support for the Paris Agreement.

Paris Agreement Support	Aligned
Climate Science	Aligned
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	No position
Green Hydrogen	No position
Global dimension of climate protection	Aligned
Social compensatory measures	No position

Deutscher Braunkohlen-Industrie-Verein

About the association and our role: The German Lignite Industry Association (abbreviated DEBRIV, also known as the Federal Lignite Association) is the industry association of the German lignite industry. Its headquarter is based in Berlin, Germany, with a dependance in Bergheim. RWE is engaged in the Board as well as in all working groups.

Assessment Results: The assessment concluded, that DEBRIV has shown public alignment with four of our core positions. Public statements regarding Climate science and the global dimension of climate protection could not be found. Support for the Paris Agreement has been shown with the following statement: *“This serves to achieve the goals set out in the international climate protection agreement of Paris, to which the German lignite industry and the German Lignite Industry Association (DEBRIV) are committed as their lobby organisation.”* (Deutscher Braunkohlen-Industrie-Verein, 2024)

Paris Agreement Support	Aligned
Climate Science	No position
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	Aligned
Green Hydrogen	Aligned
Global dimension of climate protection	No position
Social compensatory measures	Aligned

Deutscher Wasserstoff-Verband

About the association and our role: The German Hydrogen Association e.V. (Deutscher Wasserstoff-Verband) is the umbrella organization of all German companies who are committed to the general use of hydrogen as an energy source in the economy and to the fact that hydrogen is produced from renewable energies – for a sustainable energy economy. Its headquarter is located in Berlin. RWE is actively engaged in multiple working groups in the association.

Assessment Results: The assessment concluded that three criteria were met. There were no public statements found in support of the Paris Agreement, climate science and social compensatory measures. Support of green hydrogen has been shown with the following statement: *“The development of a climate-neutral hydrogen market economy as part of a sustainable energy supply is the focus of DWV. . . . Hydrogen produced with renewable energies plays a decisive role in this.”* (Deutscher Wasserstoff-Verband, 2024)

Paris Agreement Support	No position
Climate Science	No position
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	Aligned
Green Hydrogen	Aligned
Global dimension of climate protection	Aligned
Social compensatory measures	No position

Energie Nederland

About the association and our role: Energie Nederland is a Dutch industry association for all parties that produce, supply and trade electricity, gas, and heat. Its members are active in both 'green' and 'grey' energy and all kinds of services. The association also includes many newcomers to the market, innovative players, and sustainable initiatives. Energie-Nederland is committed to a sustainable, reliable, and affordable energy supply. The association's headquarter is located in Den Haag. RWE is currently represented in the Board of Energie-Nederland and engaged in the work of the association.

Assessment Results: Energie-Nederland has shown public support for all our core positions except for social compensatory measures and the global dimension of climate protection. Alignment with our position regarding climate science has been expressed with the following statement: *"In the short term, a substantial reduction in greenhouse gas emissions is needed to prevent further global warming."* (Energie Nederland, 2022)

Paris Agreement Support	Aligned
Climate Science	Aligned
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	Aligned
Green Hydrogen	Aligned
Global dimension of climate protection	No position
Social compensatory measures	No position

Energy UK

About the association and our role: Energy UK is a British trade association for the energy industry with over 100 members spanning every aspect of the energy sector. The association provides a source of expert advice on industry matters and work to enhance the industry's reputation with customers and with the communities it serves. Energy UK is based in London. RWE is fully engaged with Energy UK across a number of working groups and its regular topic groups, such as the Strategic Policy Committee and the Public Affairs Sub-Committee. RWE is also represented on the Energy UK Board.

Assessment Results: Our assessment for Energy UK showed, that they are fully aligned with our core positions. They publicly expressed support for social compensatory measures with following statement: *"A fair, just energy transition will tackle inequalities and provide tailored support where it's needed most."* (Energy UK, 2023)

Paris Agreement Support	Aligned
Climate Science	Aligned
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	Aligned
Green Hydrogen	Aligned
Global dimension of climate protection	Aligned
Social compensatory measures	Aligned

EURACOAL

About the association and our role: The European Association for Coal and Lignite (EURACOAL) is a trade association of the European coal industry. The association, based in Brussels, is the umbrella organisation for the national organisations and was founded in 2003. Its members include the German Lignite Industry Association and the German Coal Association. RWE is actively engaged in the Presidency as well as in multiple working groups in the association thereby representing DEBRIV.

Assessment Results: EURACOAL showed full alignment with our core positions in the assessment. Public support for the Paris Agreement was shown with the following statement: *“EURACOAL and the EU coal and lignite industry stand to achieve the climate goals set out in the UNFCCC Paris Agreement, as ratified by all EU member states. The provisions of the Paris Agreement should shape EU policy on energy transition.”* (EURACOAL, 2024)

Paris Agreement Support	Aligned
Climate Science	Aligned
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	Aligned
Green Hydrogen	Aligned
Global dimension of climate protection	Aligned
Social compensatory measures	Aligned

Eurelectric

About the association and our role: Eurelectric is an industry association of the European electricity sector based in Brussels. The association is a European umbrella organization of national associations representing the European electricity sector with members in more than 32 European countries and thus bundles the representation of interests of more than 3,500 companies in the areas of electricity generation, distribution, and supply. RWE is actively engaged in multiple working groups in the association, thereby representing BDEW.

Assessment Results: The assessment concluded that Eurelectric is fully aligned with our core positions. They expressed support for the Paris Agreement with the following statement: *“Eurelectric strongly welcomed the Paris agreement as a major landmark in addressing the global climate change challenge. The Accord sent a clear signal that the international community recognised the need to fight climate change and transition to a low-carbon world.”* (Eurelectric, 2024)

Paris Agreement Support	Aligned
Climate Science	Aligned
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	Aligned
Green Hydrogen	Aligned
Global dimension of climate protection	Aligned
Social compensatory measures	Aligned

Eurogas

About the association and our role: Eurogas is an association representing the European gas wholesale, retail, and distribution sectors in relation to relevant EU institutions. The association's aim is to strengthen the role of gas in a sustainable and competitive EU energy market. Eurogas accelerates the transition to climate neutrality through dialogue and advocacy on optimising the use of gases. RWE is represented in the Governing Board through the CEO of RWE Supply & Trading and engaged in the work of the association.

Assessment Results: Except for social compensatory measures, Eurogas showed alignment on all our core positions. The publicly expressed their support for green hydrogen with the following statement: *"Our sectors crucially depend on the large-scale availability of RFNBOs, supplied cost-competitively and securely across the EU for meeting the objective of climate neutrality."* (Eurogas, 2023)

Paris Agreement Support	Aligned
Climate Science	Aligned
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	Aligned
Green Hydrogen	Aligned
Global dimension of climate protection	Aligned
Social compensatory measures	No position

European Federation of Energy Traders

About the association and our role: The European Federation of Energy Traders (EFET) was established in 1999 with the mission to promote competition, transparency, and open access in the European energy sector. EFET works to build trust in power, gas, and carbon markets across Europe, so that they may underpin a sustainable, efficient, and secure energy supply and enable the transition to a carbon neutral economy. RWE Supply & Trading was elected to EFET's board, and we participate in all major working groups of this association.

Assessment Results: EFET showed alignment with all our core positions during the assessment. They expressed their support for green hydrogen with the following statement: *"In a decarbonized energy landscape, the future of the gas industry lies in the utilization of bio-methane and green hydrogen."* (European Federation of Energy Traders, 2023)

Paris Agreement Support	Aligned
Climate Science	Aligned
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	Aligned
Green Hydrogen	Aligned
Global dimension of climate protection	Aligned
Social compensatory measures	Aligned

Federatie van Belgische Elektriciteits en Gasbedrijven

About the association and our role: FEBEG, Federatie van Belgische Elektriciteits en Gasbedrijven, represents electricity producers, traders and suppliers of electricity and gas as well as laboratories in the electricity and gas sector. FEBEG is based in Brussels and counts currently 40 effective members. RWE is actively engaged in the association.

Assessment Results: Our Assessment has shown that FEBEG has shown public support for all our core positions except for social compensatory measures. They expressed their alignment on the global dimension of climate protection with the following statement: *“Every person, company and State must take urgent action at their own level to stop global warming, which poses a serious threat to the livability of our planet.”* (Federatie van de Belgische Elektriciteits- en Gasbedrijven, 2024)

Paris Agreement Support	Aligned
Climate Science	Aligned
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	Aligned
Green Hydrogen	Aligned
Global dimension of climate protection	Aligned
Social compensatory measures	No position

Gas Infrastructure Europe

About the association and our role: Gas Infrastructure Europe (GIE) is an association representing the interests of European gas infrastructure operators. Its members are active in transmission, storage, and regasification via LNG terminals. In addition, its members work and innovate with renewable and low-carbon molecules, including hydrogen, natural gas, and biogases. The association gathers 70 industry entities from 25 EU countries, its headquarters is based in Brussels. RWE is actively engaged in the association.

Assessment Results: For GIE the assessment concluded that they publicly expressed alignment on the positions regarding the Paris Agreement, renewable energy expansion and green Hydrogen. The following statement supporting green hydrogen was found: *“Electrolytic hydrogen is one of the solutions well suited to provide flexibility to the energy system, via e.g. smart management of electrolyzers, storage assets directly connected to the electricity grid, or the use of hydrogen in H₂-fired turbines for power generation.”* (Gas Infrastructure Europe, 2022)

Paris Agreement Support	Aligned
Climate Science	No position
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	Aligned
Green Hydrogen	Aligned
Global dimension of climate protection	No position
Social compensatory measures	No position

Hydrogen Europe

About the association and our role: Hydrogen Europe is an association representing European based companies and stakeholders that are committed to moving towards a (circular) carbon-neutral economy. With 344 companies and 38 national associations as members, the association encompasses the entire value chain of the European hydrogen and fuel cell ecosystem. Its vision is to propel global carbon neutrality by accelerating European hydrogen industry. RWE joined Hydrogen Europe in 2020 and is actively engaged in multiple working groups in the association.

Assessment Results: The assessment concluded that Hydrogen Europe showed public support for the Paris Agreement, climate science and green hydrogen. Their alignment with our core position on renewable energy expansion has been shown in the following statement: *"Accelerate deployment of renewables enabling large production of reliable and competitive hydrogen and derivatives in Europe, laying the pathway towards 2040 climate framework."* (Hydrogen Europe, 2024)

Paris Agreement Support	Aligned
Climate Science	No position
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	Aligned
Green Hydrogen	Aligned
Global dimension of climate protection	No position
Social compensatory measures	No position

Hydrogen UK

About the association and our role: Hydrogen UK is a trade association committed to the development and deployment of hydrogen solutions, based in London, UK. Hydrogen UK represents a broad range of companies across the entire hydrogen value chain. They currently count 94 members from various European states. RWE is actively engaged in the associations executive committee and multiple working groups.

Assessment Results: The assessment concluded that Hydrogen UK is aligned with most of our core principles. Public statements regarding their position on the Paris Agreement and the global dimension of climate change could not be found. They expressed their support for social compensatory measures with the following statement: *“Delivering a just transition is as important for the workforce as it is for customers.”* (Hydrogen UK, 2022)

Paris Agreement Support	No position
Climate Science	Aligned
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	Aligned
Green Hydrogen	Aligned
Global dimension of climate protection	No position
Social compensatory measures	Aligned

Initiative Energien Speichern

About the association and our role: The Initiative Energien Speichern e.V. (INES) is an association of operators of German gas and hydrogen storage facilities. It represents over 90 percent of the German and about a quarter of the gas storage capacities in the European Union. The central task of INES is to promote public awareness of the contributions of German gas and hydrogen storage facilities to energy policy goals. The initiative has set itself the goal of participating in the design of an appropriate market framework. RWE is actively engaged in the association.

Assessment Results: INES has shown publicly that they are aligned with our core principles on the Paris Agreement, renewable expansion, and green hydrogen. For the other positions, no public statements could be found. The statement from INES in support of green hydrogen was the following: *“Renewable gases need the right political framework. After all, they are crucial to achieving our climate targets.”* (Initiative Energien Speichern, 2024).

Paris Agreement Support	Aligned
Climate Science	No position
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	Aligned
Green Hydrogen	Aligned
Global dimension of climate protection	No position
Social compensatory measures	No position

International Emissions Trading Association

About the association and our role: The International Emissions Trading Association (IETA) is a non-profit business organisation created in June 1999, which aims to establish a functional international framework for trading in greenhouse gas emission reductions. IETA members seek to develop an emissions trading regime that results in real and verifiable greenhouse gas emission reductions while balancing economic efficiency with environmental integrity and social equity. RWE Supply & Trading GmbH was elected to the board of IETA, and we participate in its working groups, for example on developments around the European Emissions Trading Scheme

Assessment Results: The assessment found that the IETA publicly aligned itself on our core principles regarding the Paris Agreement, climate science and the global dimension of climate protection. For the other criteria no public statement could be found. The following statement showed alignment on the global dimension of climate protection: *“We must deliver rapid cuts in emissions in this decade and kickstart the roll-out of carbon removals we need to achieve net zero. There cannot be net zero without international carbon market mechanisms.”* (International Emissions Trading Association, 2023)

Paris Agreement Support	Aligned
Climate Science	Aligned
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	No position
Green Hydrogen	No position
Global dimension of climate protection	Aligned
Social compensatory measures	No position

Verband der Industriellen Energie- & Kraftwirtschaft

About the association and our role: VIK represents about 80 per cent of industrial energy consumption and about 90 per cent of industrial electricity self-generation in Germany. RWE is engaging with this association to ensure we understand the requirements of our German industrial customers.

Assessment Results: VIK has aligned itself publicly with our core principles regarding climate science, renewable energy expansion and green hydrogen. The statement which expressed support for a renewable energy expansion was: *“However, clear investment incentives are needed in the ramp-up phase in particular. Only then can RE expansion and the H2 economy contribute to climate neutrality quickly and cost-effectively within the set timeframe.”* (Verband der Industriellen Energie- & Kraftwirtschaft, 2022)

Paris Agreement Support	No position
Climate Science	Aligned
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	Aligned
Green Hydrogen	Aligned
Global dimension of climate protection	No position
Social compensatory measures	No position

VNO-NCW

About the association and our role: VNO-NCW is a Dutch association of entrepreneurs, with branch organisations and companies as members. The association represents companies of diverse sizes and across all sectors. In cooperation with governments and other social parties, VNO-NCW strives for an inclusive and sustainable Netherlands, where everyone benefits from increasing prosperity. This requires sustainable economic growth and a good business climate to make it possible. The association's headquarter is based in Den Haag. RWE is actively engaged in the association.

Assessment Results: The assessment concluded that the VNO-NCW is fully aligned with our core principles. They expressed their alignment on the global dimension of climate protection with the following statement: *"To halt global warming, VNO-NCW says it is important to agree on our climate policy at a global level."* (VNO-NCW, 2023)

Paris Agreement Support	Aligned
Climate Science	Aligned
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	Aligned
Green Hydrogen	Aligned
Global dimension of climate protection	Aligned
Social compensatory measures	Aligned

World Energy Council

About the association and our role: The World Energy Council (WEC) is a global organisation with member committees in over 90 countries. Its members are mainly large energy producers and traders, plus some government bodies, research, and energy consumer organisations. The WEC provides various services to its members, including research, analysis, and policy recommendations on energy sources such as coal, oil, gas, and renewables. Its headquarter is in London. RWE is actively engaged in multiple working groups in the association.

Assessment Results: The assessment found that the WEC has shown public support for all our core principles except for climate science and renewable energy expansion. They showed their public support for social compensatory measures with the following statement: *"It reflects an imperative to effectively engage many and more diverse energy users and uses – a new and more demanding side of the equation – and to include the voice of those impacted by energy transition in designing and managing the process, including workers, customers, communities and cities, alongside companies and countries."* (World Energy Council, 2023)

Paris Agreement Support	Aligned
Climate Science	No position
Renewable energy expansion & fossil fuel phaseout	No position
Green Hydrogen	Aligned
Global dimension of climate protection	Aligned
Social compensatory measures	Aligned

Table 2: List of Industry Associations in scope of the review

2019 + 2020 ¹	2021	2022	2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie • Bundesverband der Energie- und Wasserwirtschaft • Business Europe • Deutsche Braunkohlen-Industrie-Verein • Energie Nederland • Energy UK • EURACOAL • Eurelectric • Eurogas • European Federation of Energy Traders • International Emissions Trading Association • Verband der Industriellen Energie- & Kraftwerkswirtschaft • Verein der Kohleimporteure • VNO NCW • World Energy Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benelux Business Round Table • Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie • Bundesverband der Energie- und Wasserwirtschaft • Bundesverband Energiespeicher • Business Europe • Deutscher Wasserstoff- und Brennstoffzellen-Verband • Deutscher Braunkohlen-Industrie-Verein • Energie Nederland • Energy UK • EURACOAL • Eurelectric • Eurogas • European Federation of Energy Traders • Federatie van de Belgische Elektriciteits en Gasbedrijven • Gas Infrastructure Europe • Gasopslag Nederland • HyCymru Wales Hydrogen Trade Association • Hydrogen Europe • Hydrogen Ireland • Initiative Erdgasspeicher • International Emissions Trading Association • Koninklijk Vereniging van Gasfabrikanten in Nederland • NECCUS • Power to X Alliance • Scottish Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Association • Verband der Industriellen Energie- & Kraftwirtschaft • Verein der Kohlenimporteure • VNO NCW • World Energy Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Clean Power Association / American Wind • American Council on Renewable Energy • Asociacion de Productores de Energias Renovables • Associazione Nazionale Energia del Vento • Bundesverband der Windparkbetreiber Offshore • Bundesverband Erneuerbare Energien • Bundesverband Geothermie • Bundesverband WindEnergie • FA Wind Fachagentur Windenergie an Land e.V. • Global Wind Energy Council • Holland Solar • Japan Wind Power Association • Korea Wind Energy Industry Association • Nederlandse Vereniging voor Duurzame Energie • Nederlandse WindEnergie Associatie • Polskie Stowarzyszenie Energetyki Wiatrowej • Renewables UK • Scottish Renewables • Solar Energy Industries Association • SolarPowerEurope • Wind Denmark • Wind Energy Ireland • WindEurope 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie • Bundesverband der Energie- und Wasserwirtschaft • Bundesverband Energiespeicher • Business Europe • Carbon Capture and Storage Association • Deutscher Braunkohlen-Industrie-Verein • Deutscher Wasserstoff-Verband • Energie Nederland • Energy UK • EURACOAL • Eurelectric • Eurogas • European Federation of Energy Traders • Federatie van de Belgische Elektriciteits- en Gasbedrijven • Gas Infrastructure Europe • Hydrogen Europe • Hydrogen UK • Initiative Energien Speichern • International Emissions Trading Association • Verband der Industriellen Energie- & Kraftwirtschaft • VNO-NCW • World Energy Council

¹ For 2020 we released an update of our initial review only for new associations.

