

Wilhelmshaven, 16 December 2022

## PRESS RELEASE

### LNG Terminal Opens for Business: First Milestone in Germany's Energy Transformation

#### The ENERGY HUB Port of Wilhelmshaven sets the course for the national energy transition

- A strong network of experts: the ENERGY HUB turns potential into added value
- A tradition of change: Wilhelmshaven is the ideal location for the energy transition
- Liquid natural gas as a solution to bridge the gap in Germany's energy supply – with a focus on hydrogen in the long term

**Wilhelmshaven, December 2022.** It was a vital signal for Germany – and the national energy supply: today's historic opening of the first German LNG terminal. In only a few months, a state-of-the-art port facility has been built just outside Wilhelmshaven that will supply Germany with additional energy in the short term and promises to become a key element of a secure supply based on climate-neutral energy carriers in the long term. 'Today, we have taken the first of many, many steps towards the conversion of our energy system for a climate-neutral future,' says Alexander Leonhardt of the Wilhelmshaven Business Development Agency ("Wirtschaftsförderung Wilhelmshaven"). In his opinion, the region around the city by the Jade plays a key role in the energy supply, together with the companies within the ENERGY HUB Port of Wilhelmshaven.

#### Wilhelmshaven: a centre of expertise for energy matters

The ENERGY HUB Port of Wilhelmshaven is a strong network that has joined forces to achieve this goal. More than 30 companies, organisations and institutions are united under this umbrella – and are contributing their years of experience and knowledge in the fields of industry and the energy economy. For Wilhelmshaven and the region. 'Thanks to the high density of energy expertise within the ENERGY HUB Port of Wilhelmshaven, we can swiftly identify potential in the region and are therefore able to create a framework for opportunities that add value,' explains Leonhardt, adding, 'In this context, we are focusing on climate-neutral energy carriers – and on green hydrogen in particular.'

For a carbon-neutral energy supply, Germany would have to import 50 percent of energy demands – most of it by ship. Wilhelmshaven and the region offer an infrastructure that – once it has been adapted to meet the new challenges – can be used for that precise purpose comparably quickly. Besides underground storage capacities, developed industrial properties and the availability of off- and onshore wind power, its proximity to the water is a huge advantage. The Jade is home to Germany's only deep-sea harbour – and as of today, to Germany's first LNG terminal, as well. 'The ENERGY HUB Port of Wilhelmshaven will define the energy transition. We are, after all, a city with a tradition of change. In terms of the energy supply, we are the perfect catalyst for a world in transition,' says Leonhardt.

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### **An important signal against climate change**

Liquid natural gas is a solution to both stop and bridge the gap in Germany's energy supply – but at the same time, the LNG infrastructure that has been developed here is a key element for the future, Leonhardt explains. 'This is a fundamental structure, and we expect it to set the course for the use of green hydrogen and other eco-friendly molecules as quickly as possible,' he continues. Together, Leonhardt says, the ENERGY HUB members are helping counter climate change. 'We would like to congratulate the federal government, the state government, the authorities and the companies involved, namely Niedersachsen Ports, OGE and Uniper, on acting in record time and realising a historic solution.'

For more information on the ENERGY HUB Port of Wilhelmshaven, our philosophy and upcoming projects, please visit <https://www.energyhub-wilhelmshaven.de/en/>.

### **About the ENERGY HUB Port of Wilhelmshaven**

Our world is in motion. And our energy supply in transition. That creates opportunities. For companies, for the economy, for Wilhelmshaven and the entire region. As the ENERGY HUB, Wilhelmshaven is at the heart of the transition. Whether liquefied gas, hydrogen, other molecules or renewable energy: we are the port of call for the things that drive Germany and its industry. The Port of Wilhelmshaven makes sure we have the energy for so much more. For information on the individual actors, please visit <https://www.energyhub-wilhelmshaven.de/en/>.

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