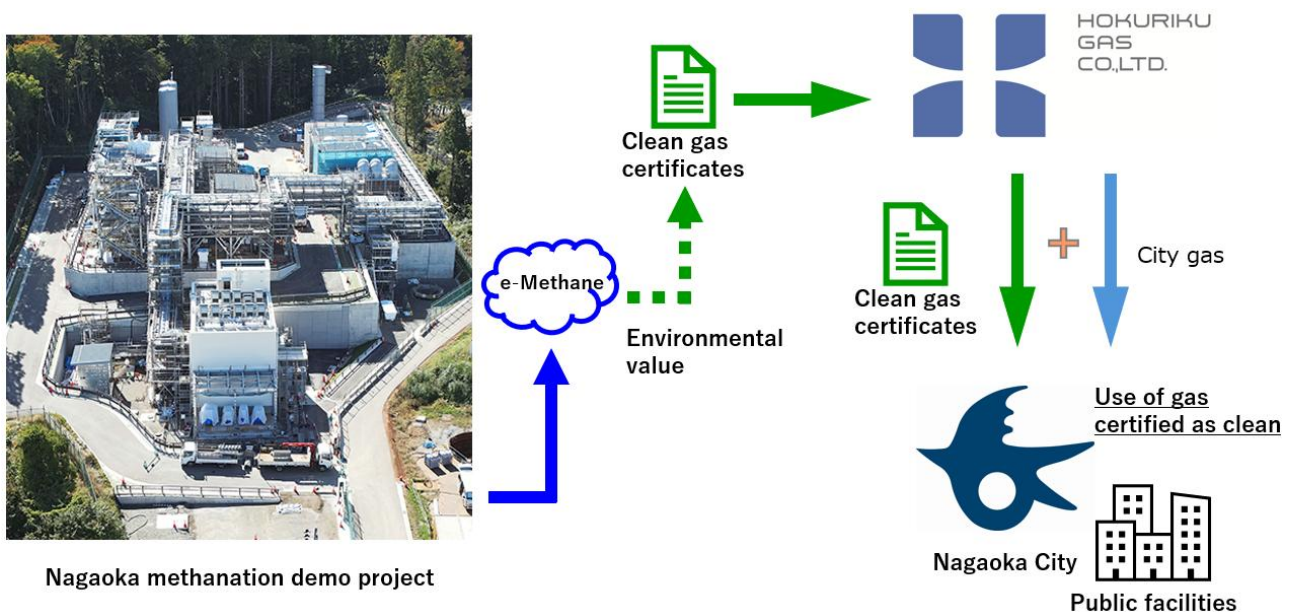


Nagaoka City, Hokuriku Gas and INPEX Agree on Transfer of Clean Gas Certificates for e-Methane from Nagaoka Methanation Demo Project

Nagaoka City, HOKURIKU GAS CO., LTD. (“Hokuriku Gas”), and INPEX JAPAN Co., Ltd. (“INPEX JAPAN”), a wholly owned subsidiary of INPEX CORPORATION (“INPEX”), announced today that they have entered into an agreement for the transfer of clean gas certificates representing the environmental value of e-methane produced in the “Nagaoka Methanation Demonstration” project jointly implemented by INPEX and Osaka Gas Co., Ltd.

In the Nagaoka Methanation Demonstration, e-methane is produced using hydrogen (H₂) and CO₂ captured at the Koshijihara Plant of the INPEX JAPAN Nagaoka Field (located in Nagaoka City, Niigata Prefecture) and is supplied to end users through INPEX JAPAN’s natural gas pipeline network. The e-methane produced at the clean gas production facility, certified in January 2026, obtained certification for an equivalent volume of clean gas on May 29, 2026. Under this agreement, clean gas certificates issued through these processes will be transferred to Nagaoka City via Hokuriku Gas. As a result, a portion of city gas supplied to public facilities in Nagaoka City can be regarded as clean gas that does not increase CO₂ emissions, thereby contributing to carbon neutrality initiatives in the city.

This initiative is also part of efforts to achieve a decarbonized society under the comprehensive partnership agreement concluded between Nagaoka City and Hokuriku Gas on March 6, 2026.



Conceptual Image of Clean Gas Certificate Transfer

Through this initiative, Nagaoka City, Hokuriku Gas and INPEX will continue to promote the establishment of a local production-for-local consumption model for e-methane and contribute to the realization of a carbon-neutral society.

Notes

*1: Nagaoka Methanation Demonstration: Project entitled “Development of CO₂ utilization technology for gaseous fuel and Development of practical technology for pipeline injection using large-scale CO₂-methanation system”, subsidized by Japan’s New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO). Injection of produced e-methane into natural gas pipelines began on February 20, 2026. The test facility was certified as a clean gas production facility under the Clean Gas Certificate System on January 27, 2026, and the e-methane produced at the facility was certified as clean gas on May 29, 2026.

For details, see the following press release:

“INPEX, Osaka Gas Commence Demonstration Operations at World’s Largest-Class Methanation Test Facility” (February 24, 2026)

<https://www.inpex.com/english/news/upload/20260224.pdf>

*2:Environmental value: Since CO₂ emitted into the atmosphere (or CO₂ in the atmosphere) is captured and carbon recycled as raw material for e-methane, even when e-methane is used (burned), the amount of CO₂ in the atmosphere does not increase in real terms, so CO₂ emissions are effectively zero.

*3:Clean gas production facilities, clean gas equivalent: Under the clean gas certificate system, managed in part by the Japan Gas Association (JGA), e-methane and biogas, which carry environmental value (considered not to increase atmospheric CO₂ even when burned), are certified as clean gas and issued Clean Gas Certificates through a process that involves certification of the clean gas production facility, and certification of the equivalent amount of clean gas produced at the certified facility.

For details, see the Clean Gas Certificate Evaluation Committee website:

<https://www.clean-gas-certificate.com/>

About Nagaoka City

Nagaoka City is celebrating the 120th anniversary of its municipal incorporation this year and has launched a new comprehensive plan developed together with its citizens. The city aims to realize its future vision as an innovation-leading city.

About Hokuriku Gas

Hokuriku Gas marked its 110th anniversary in June 2023 and continues to contribute to safe and comfortable living while promoting initiatives toward a low-carbon society.

About INPEX

INPEX is Japan’s largest exploration and production (E&P) company, engaged in the development and operation of oil and gas projects worldwide. We are committed to contributing to a brighter future by delivering energy in a sustainable way. As part of this commitment, we are also engaging in lower-carbon solutions such as CCS, hydrogen and integrated power supply, while pursuing new opportunities in the evolving energy landscape. For more information, visit <https://www.inpex.com/english/index.html>.

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