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## Contents

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### **Gas Strategies Group**

10 Saint Bride Street  
London UK  
EC4A 4AD

ISSN: 0964-8496

T: +44(0) 20 7332 9900  
W: [www.gasstrategies.com](http://www.gasstrategies.com)  
Twitter @GasStrategies

### **Editorials**

+44(0) 20 7332 9957  
[editor@gasstrategies.com](mailto:editor@gasstrategies.com)

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+44(0) 20 7332 9976  
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# Avoiding white elephants: Hydrogen faces reality check as CCS trumpets into scene

Ever since net-zero by 2050 became a policy objective across Europe, bidders in transactions involving natural gas transmission or distribution systems have needed to buy into the hydrogen story: that enough of the system would be incorporated into a sustainable hydrogen grid to justify a long-term investment in the asset. But in the past 12 months, the dominance of the hydrogen story has abated as the realities of the energy transition have become clearer. The flip side of the coin is that the profile of carbon capture and storage (CCS) has risen accordingly.

**Consulting**

+44 (0) 20 7332 9900  
[consult@gasstrategies.com](mailto:consult@gasstrategies.com)

**Alphatania Training**

+44 (0) 20 7332 9910  
[training@gasstrategies.com](mailto:training@gasstrategies.com)

**Information Services**

+44 (0) 20 7332 9976  
[subscriptions@gasstrategies.com](mailto:subscriptions@gasstrategies.com)