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Top stories: MEPs back methane regulation, Russia attacks Ukraine storage, Papua LNG FID postponed
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The second week of April saw key legislations for energy and climate, including **the EU Methane Regulation**, **backed by MEPs** [1] in the European parliament, just as concerns over Europe's security of gas supplies returned, causing **an uplift to prices** [2], this time due to an alleged **attack by Russia on storage** [3] infrastructure in western Ukraine. However, Ukrainian state oil and gas company Naftogaz said the fresh attack caused no serious damage.

The EU Methane Regulation, voted for by MEPs on Wednesday, aims to cut the EU's methane emissions and covers direct methane emissions from the oil, fossil gas and coal sectors, as well as biomethane once it is injected into the gas network. It also imposes thresholds for methane intensity on imported fossil fuels, including piped gas and LNG.

Also on Wednesday, the **European Commission approved** [4] a EUR 2.2 billion (USD 2.36 billion) **German scheme** to help industrial companies switch from fossil fuels to greener alternatives including hydrogen. It is one of several national support schemes for decarbonising heavy industry in Europe approved by the EC.

Other major news included **TotalEnergies** saying it had postponed final investment decision (FID) on its **5.6 mtpa Papua LNG project** [5] until 2025, citing challenges to obtain commercially viable engineering, procurement and construction contracts. Meanwhile, in his annual letter to shareholders, **Jamie Dimon, the chief executive of JP Morgan**, the world's number one investment bank, **came out fighting** [6] in the corner of the oil and gas sector, taking issue with the impacts on trade due to the Biden administration's January decision to pause new US LNG export permits.

On Tuesday, **six North Sea countries** – Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Norway, the UK and Denmark – **signed an agreement** [7] to cooperate on protecting infrastructure, including gas pipelines against sabotage. The declaration was signed in the wake of the damages to the Nord Stream pipelines and Balticconnector in the Baltic Sea, which happened in 2022 and 2023 respectively.

MEPs back key legislations for energy and climate, including methane rules [1]

Russia launches new attack on Ukrainian underground storage facilities: Naftogaz [3]

EC backs EUR 2.2bn German plan to cut industrial fossil fuel consumption [4]

TotalEnergies postpones FID on Papua LNG, signs MoU with Sonatrach [5]

JPMorgan boss Jamie Dimon: LNG is an 'economic boon' for the US [6]

North Sea nations to beef up energy infrastructure protection against sabotage [7]

Deutsche ReGas granted permit to operate Baltic Sea LNG terminal at Mukran [8]

Energean closes Morocco farm-in as country hopes for fruitful gas production future [9]

EU priority list for energy projects released as scrutiny period ends [10]

Shell plans to 'explore other options' beyond 2025, including listing, to achieve shareholder value [11]

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