



Press Release 10 May 2017

Start of the integration of Eandis and Infrax into one company

- *Green light by all shareholders*
- *Integration process in several steps as from 2018*
- *One management for Eandis, Infrax and the new Fluvius as from 1 January 2018*
- *Brand names Eandis and Infrax to remain until further notice*

Eandis and Infrax, the two operating companies which are a.o. responsible for the distribution network management for electricity and natural gas in Flanders, will soon integrate into Fluvius. The latter will become the new multi-utility operator for the entire Flemish Region. Both companies' Boards of Directors and the fifteen intermunicipalities that are the shareholders of Infrax and Eandis, have given their approval. In the upcoming months a trajectory will be started in which the full integration of the staff will be finalized in 2020. As from 1 January 2018 both companies will already have a common management committee.

A few weeks ago Piet Buyse and Wim Dries, the chairmen of Eandis and Infrax, had already indicated in the media that both operating companies were working on a complete integration. With the approvals of all Boards of Directors there is now also a formal green light for that plan.

One single management

In the upcoming months a roadmap and a structure will be drawn up to steer the whole integration in the right direction. The well-known activities of both companies (electricity, natural gas, sewerage, district heating, cable and public lighting) are not impacted.

On 1 January 2018 a common management committee for Eandis, Infrax and Fluvius – the name for the new company – will become operational. The two current management committees will merge into the common management committee, with the aim to bring together from both companies as much expertise as possible and to carry out the whole integration process in the smoothest possible way, without any impact on our customers.

As managing director Mr Walter Van den Bossche will define the mission, vision, strategy and policy guidelines for Fluvius and he will be responsible for the day-to-day management. He will be assisted by Mr Frank Vanbrabant, who as CEO will lead the executive management and implement the chosen strategy. This will be the situation until May 2019. Then Frank Vanbrabant as CEO will become the sole head of the company.

Efficiency

Now is the right moment to start the integration. The logistic and financial challenges in the energy sector for the next few years are huge and they will require extra efficiency. Besides, the current age pyramid at both companies gives the opportunity to reduce the headcount in a natural way.

As indicated before, the complete integration of Eandis and Infrax should lead to a cost reduction of at least 100 million EUR or 15 per cent of operational costs. Since the core activities of the distribution system operators (DSOs) represent 20 per cent of the energy bill, this would correspond to a 3 per cent reduction in this energy bill. A detailed analysis of concrete savings will be carried out in the upcoming months.

Brand names Eandis and Infrax to remain until further notice

The start of the integration of Infrax and Eandis does not mean that the two well-known brand names will disappear immediately. We want to serve our customers equally well during the integration process. Clarity is the priority.

A concrete date has not yet been set, but probably the names Eandis and Infrax will make way for the new name Fluvius in 2020.

Contact:

Eandis Investor Relations (Koen Schelkens)

Tel: +32/9/263.45.04

Mail: investors@eandis.be