

**Translation press release 11-5-2023**

## **Noord-Holland acquires Hydrogen Valley status**

The development of hydrogen in the province Noord-Holland has acquired the European status of Hydrogen Valley. This status is a European grant for areas that devote themselves to developing an energy system based on sustainable hydrogen.

Regarding the aspects 'public-private collaboration' and 'financing', the area is called a 'best practice'. It is a partnership of clusters in the North Sea Canal area and Noord-Holland-Noord. By granting the area the Hydrogen Valley status, the region is officially a part of the European sustainability program. The benefit of this is that the region now has better access to knowledge and financing within Europe, which can contribute to the acceleration of the sustainability of the energy supply.

### **Great next step**

Edward Stigter, deputy of Noord-Holland and chairman of the Bestuurscommissie Energietransitie North Sea Canal area: "The granting of the Hydrogen Valley status is a great step, with which we can accelerate the sustainability of the region. It is great to be able to scale up our plan for the province with the help of Europe. Hydrogen not only contributes in achieving the climate objectives, but also, in comparison to fossil fuels, provides clean air for our inhabitants."

### **Acceleration region Noord-Holland**

Noord-Holland is ideally positioned as an acceleration region in the European transition to hydrogen. With IJmuiden, Amsterdam and Den Helder, the region has three seaports that are of importance for landing, import, transport, and storage of sustainable energy. The seaports, together with Schiphol, the waterways, rail and pipe connections, and the connection to the national hydrogen network, operate excellently for the consumption in the region and the throughput of sustainable energy to adjacent areas and countries.

Within the region, there are multiple initiatives for the production of hydrogen. The province Noord-Holland's ambition regarding the use of hydrogen is unique, as they are deploying high as well as small scale application. From local projects and green hydrogen based value chains (import, production, storage, distribution, usage, export) in steel production, manufacturing, synthetic fuels, mobility and agriculture. The commitment to less emissions within the industry and the encouragement to make heavy mobility (such as heavy road transport and agricultural vehicles) more sustainable, will ensure healthier air and living spaces for our residents.

Together with the TNO's Faraday Lab in Petten, the region accommodates Europe's biggest hydrogen research facility. Moreover, the region has a strong innovation and knowledge cluster regarding energy transition, with, among others, Techport in the IJmond, Investa in Alkmaar, the Science Park in Amsterdam and the Energy Transition Campus Amsterdam.

*This press release was originally published in Dutch and has been partly translated as a service to our website visitors. In the event of a discrepancy between the Dutch and English versions, the Dutch version takes precedence.*