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With green hydrogen, we must think about how to build supply and demand in parallel.

I am a fan of blue hydrogen to the extent of getting the hydrogen economy going but we need to balance that with the green initiatives. Oil and gas companies need to find a way to monetize their hydrocarbon facilities in a global economy that is much more focused on sustainability. When we are making the argument for blue hydrogen, we need to be very careful about how we can mitigate the emissions from the natural gas supply chain. The best practice we see today is that some companies are able to get their total emissions from methane down to less than %1 of total production – the industry average is currently at %1.5. If oil majors can put their entire supply chain of natural gas and methane and try to mitigate those emissions, we can make a credible argument for wanting to be a player in energy transition through action.

Hydrogen valleys

The next step for the Middle East region is to make the local industry competitive and create a hydrogen cluster in the country. In the UAE, there are hard-to-abate industries that need to decarbonize and hydrogen is a solution. We need to look at our local industries and try to make them competitive. This is especially important with the upcoming carbon border adjustments in the EU. A next step is to look into producing green and blue hydrogen through the local cluster valley. That is how it is happening globally. It is valleys and clusters that are building up, not international exports. ■

**Paraphrased comments*

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