



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Ascopiave Group and Aeb Group/Gelsia agreed to stop their prospective business combination.**

The Ascopiave Group and the Aeb Group agreed to consensually stop their prospective business combination both for their gas and energy sales and distribution business in Lombardia.

After having carried on intense and challenging comparative activities with transparency and collaboration, the Parties noted that there aren't currently conditions for the completion of the operation, also compared to the new regulatory scenarios with regard to the regulation of unlisted public participation companies.

The two groups acknowledge the affinity of the values from which they are guided, as well as the history similarities, the business model and the market approach, that represent, for both, a strong link with the reference territory and excellence in the services provided; therefore, it's a common will of both parties to keep relationships based on dialogue and confrontation on the future challenges that energy market will present, not excluding, if conditions will exist, the development of future new partnership initiative.

*The Ascopiave Group operates in the natural gas sector, mainly in the segments of distribution and sale to end users.*

*Thanks to its broad customer base and the quantity of gas sold, Ascopiave is currently one of the main operators in the industry at a national level.*

*The Group owns concessions and direct assignments for the management of distribution activities in over 230 Towns, supplying the service to a market segment of about 1,5 million inhabitants, through a distribution network which spreads over 10.000 kilometres.*

*The sale of natural gas is performed through different companies, some under joint control. Overall, in 2015, the companies of the Group sold over 1 billion cubic meters of gas to end users.*

*Ascopiave has been listed under the Star segment of Borsa Italiana since 12th December 2006.*

*The AEB-Gelsia Group operates in the segments of distribution and sale of natural gas and electric energy, in the production of energy, in the administration of heat supply and ambiental services.*

*Thanks to its over 200.000 customer, AEB-Gelsia Group is currently one of the main operators in the distribution and sale of natural gas, being a leadership in the Brianza territory, where it operates since over 100 years.*

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