ACER
European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators

EU'S HYDROGEN FUTURE HANGS ON INDUSTRIAL POLICY CHOICES

Hydrogen

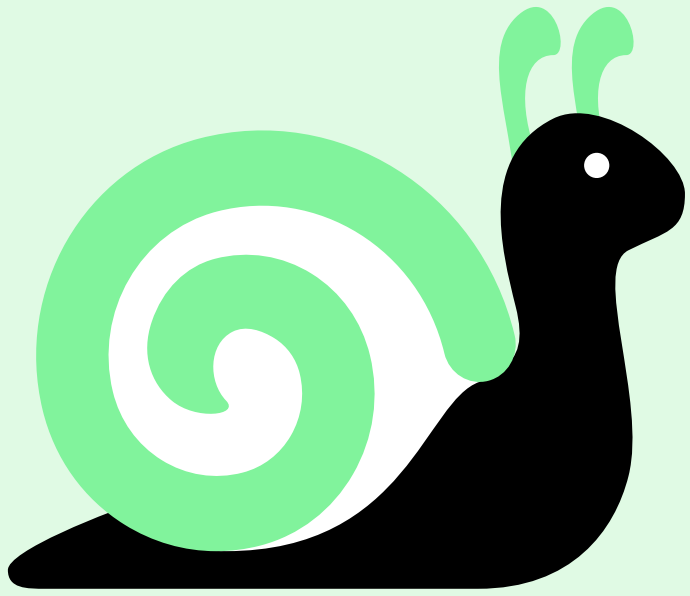
REPORT

2026 Monitoring Report

13.11.2026

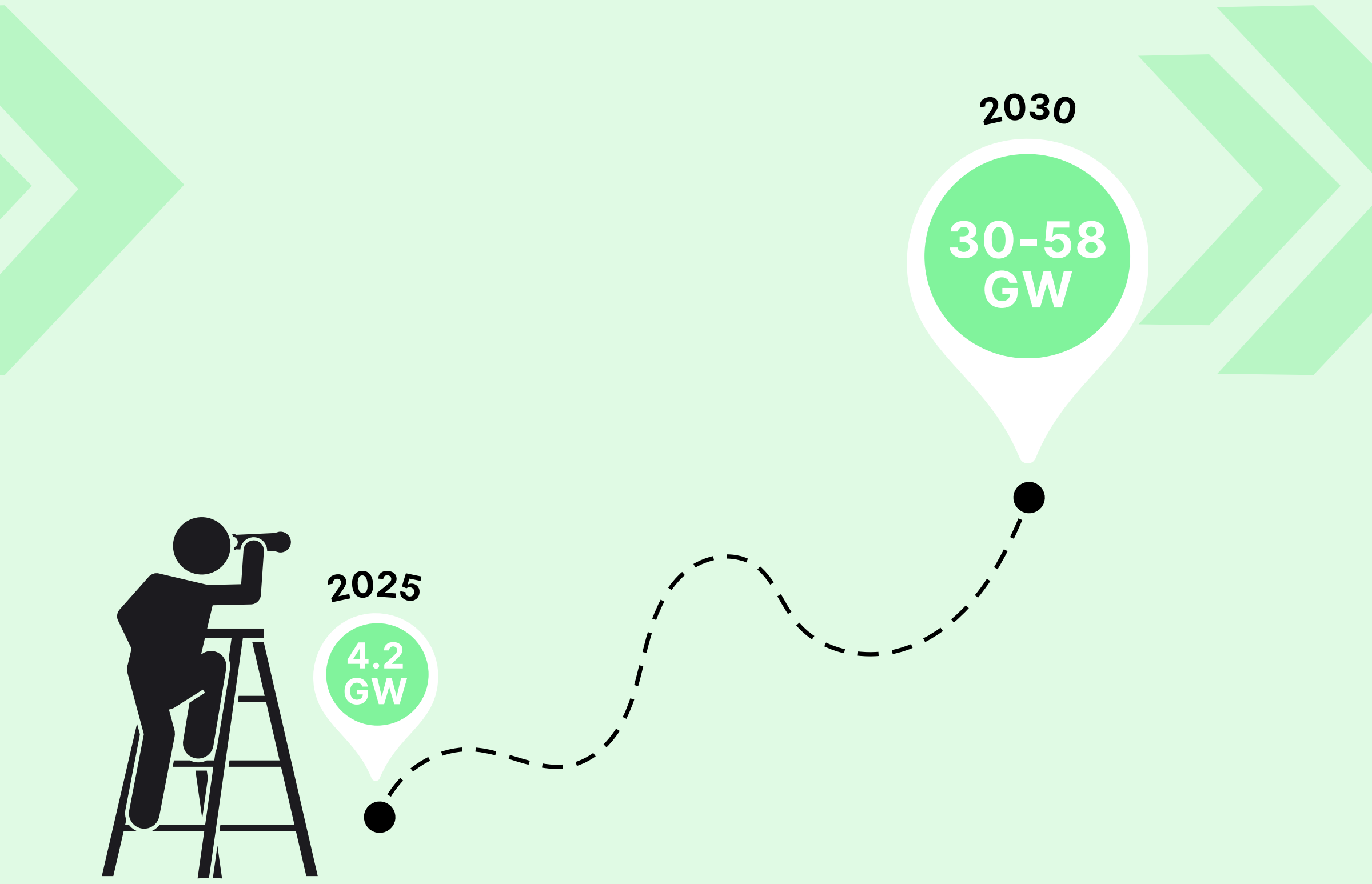
Hydrogen is growing but remains well below 2030 ambitions.

The EU is installing more electrolysers (which produce hydrogen from water using electricity) but not fast enough.

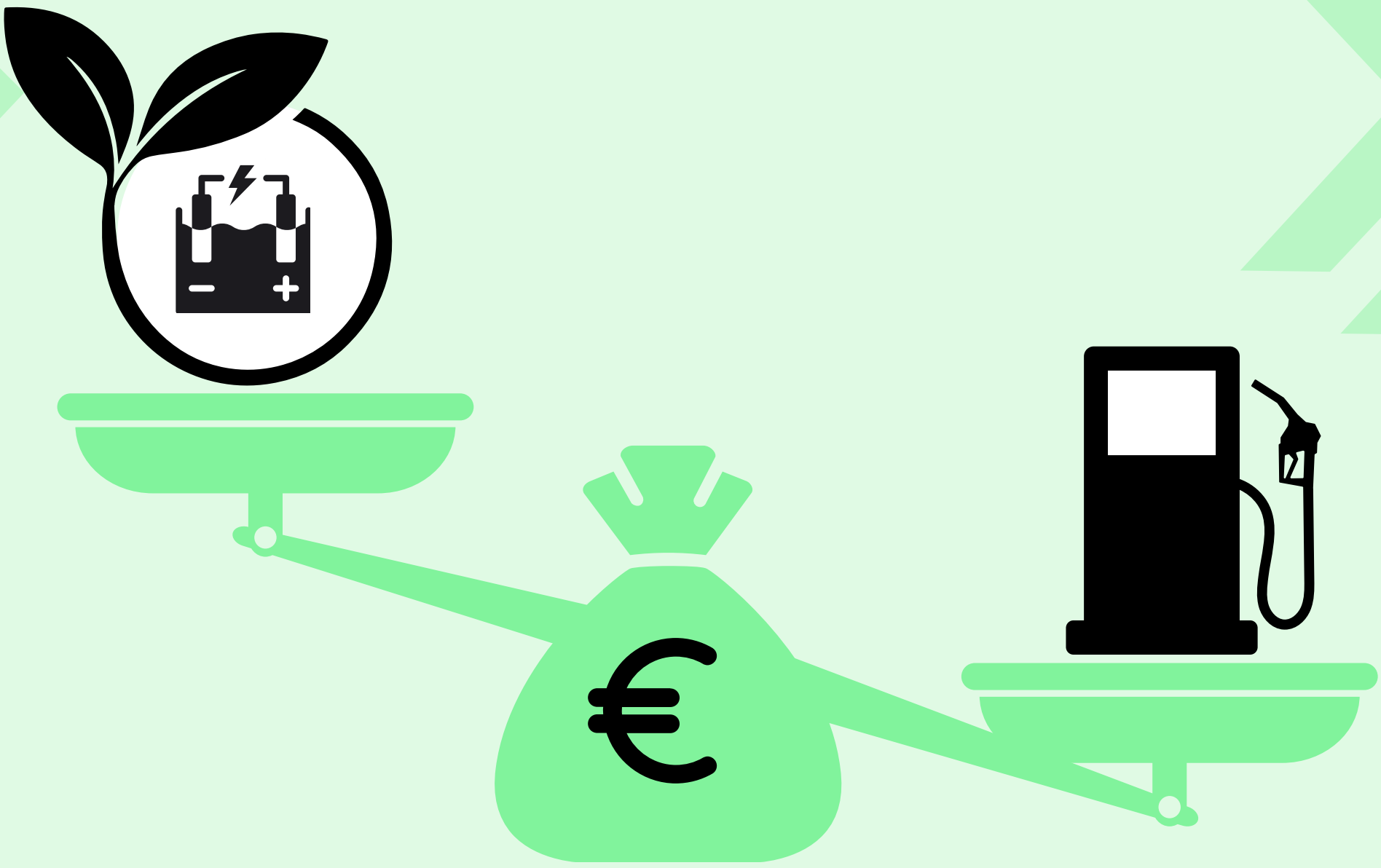


EU electrolyser capacity was only <1% of all hydrogen production capacity in 2025.

Projects under construction, approved for investment or operational total 4.2 GW, compared to 30–58 GW envisaged for 2030.

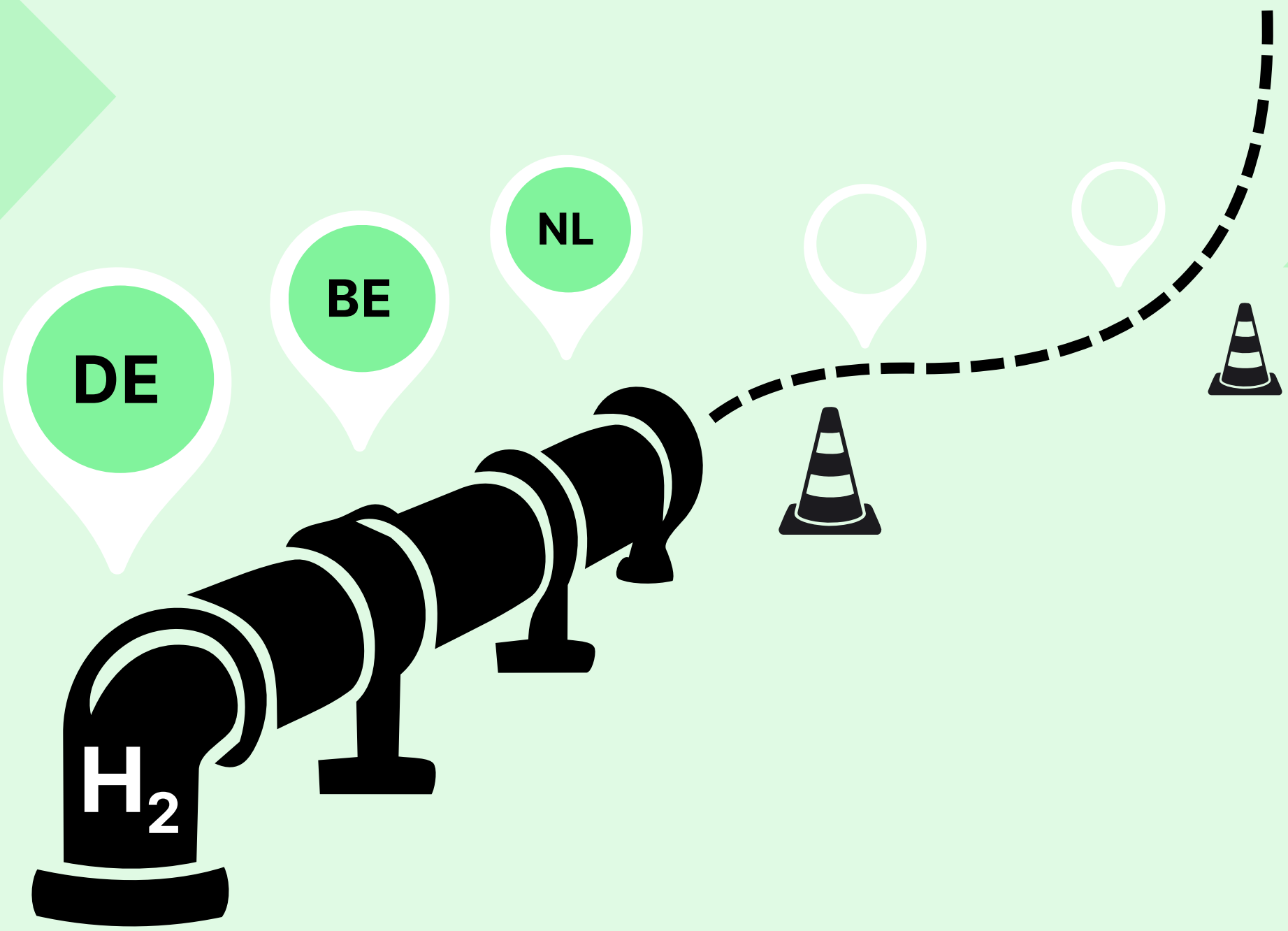


Hydrogen produced with electricity remains more costly than conventional fossil-based hydrogen.



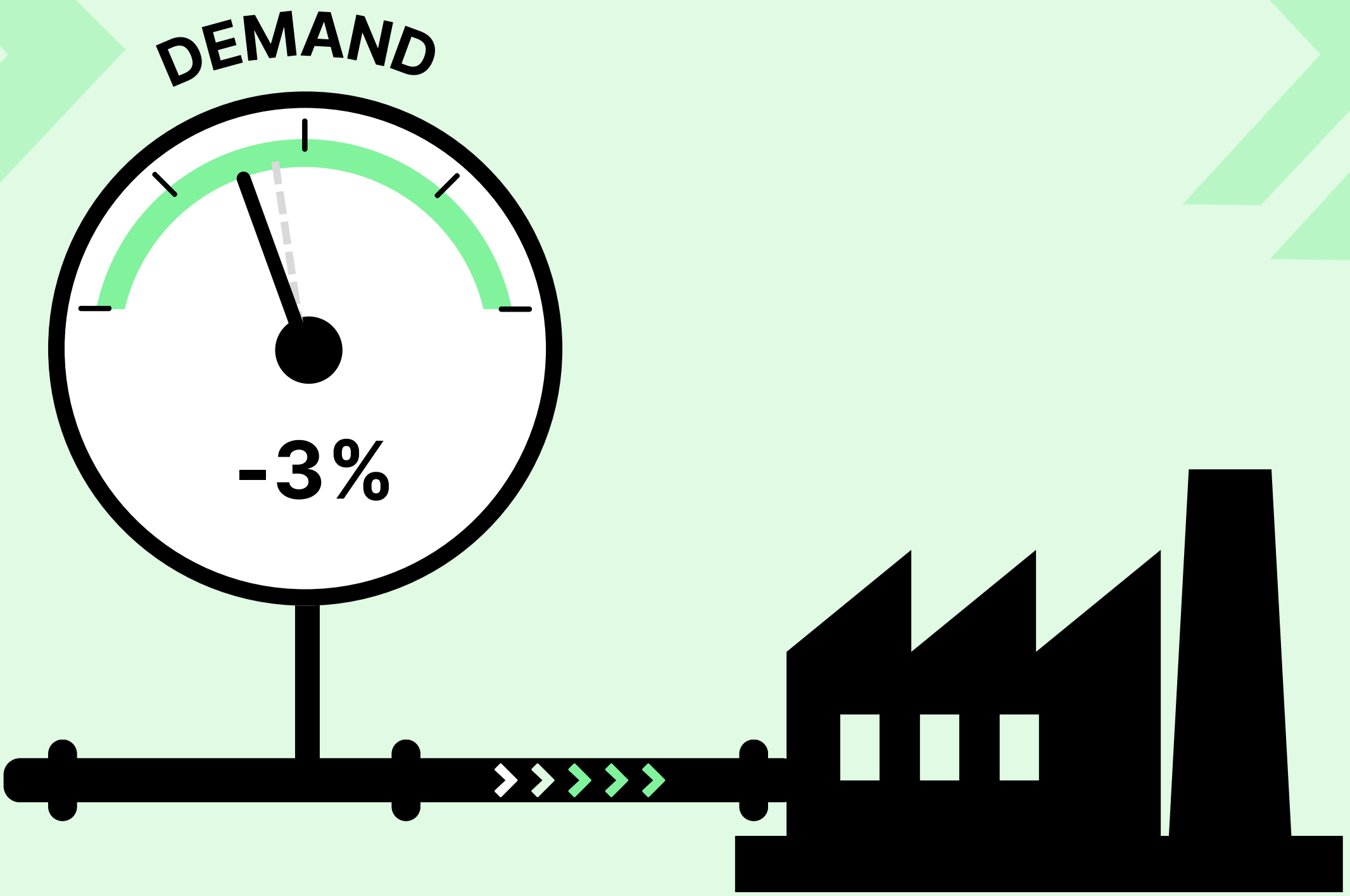
Hydrogen infrastructure is advancing slowly and unevenly:

Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands lead deployment.



3% fall in hydrogen demand from 2022 to 2025.

Future renewable and low-carbon hydrogen uptake depends on choices about EU fertiliser, chemical, steel and fuel production, including the balance between domestic production and imports.



Looking ahead ...

Reassess hydrogen ambitions and clarify policy beyond 2030.

Implement EU rules.

Develop networks incrementally.

Clarify the future role and scale of hydrogen-consuming industries.

Target funding at mature projects that can support long-term demand.