QUESTIONS FROM DWS INVESTMENT GMBH TotalEnergies SE ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025 INTENDED FOR ONLINE PUBLICATION



TotalEnergies SE ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS 23<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2025 QUESTIONS FROM DWS INVESTMENT GMBH

Dear Mr. Pouyanne, Dear Members of the Board,

DWS Investment GmbH, also acting on behalf of funds of DWS Investment S.A. (incl. SICAVs and PLCs) and certain institutional mandates of DWS International GmbH, all according to delegation agreements (hereafter DWS), is one of the largest asset managers in Europe. As a responsible investor in TotalEnergies, it is part of our fiduciary duty to express our expectations in the best economic interest of our clients.

Ahead of your 2025 annual general meeting of shareholders (AGM), we would like to share our questions with you. We would greatly appreciate your answers in written form. Please note that we will also share our questions on our website (www.dws.com) on the day of your AGM. Thank you for your consideration.

## Independence of External Auditors

We place high value on the quality and independence of auditors. A strong degree of transparency regarding the audit fees, the proportionality and limitations on audit and non-audit fees, the tenure of the audit firm and the lead audit partner is key for DWS to assess whether ratifications for audit firms are deemed responsibly.

We regard regular rotation of both the audit firm (after ten years at the latest) and the lead audit partner (after five years at the latest) as a reasonable measure to ensure reliable, independent and critical evaluation of a firm's accounts.

We observe that your audit firm Ernst & Young has been associated with the company since 2004.

QUESTION 1: Has TotalEnergies evaluated a rotation of the audit firm?

QUESTION 2: If so, when can we expect the company to appoint a new audit firm?

QUESTION 3: If not, how do you ensure the objectivity and independence of the lead audit partner and firm?

## **Overboarding**

Directors must ensure that they have sufficient time and capacities to fulfil their board commitments. Therefore, directors should not hold an excessive number of mandates. DWS considers directors overboarded in case they hold more than five external non-executive mandates. For directors who hold an executive position, our limit is two additional non-executive mandates and they cannot serve as chair of board or audit committee chair on more than one of them. Due to their extended responsibilities, DWS attributes an additional mandate to members assuming the role of a CEO, chair position of the board or the chair position of the audit committee.

Based on DWS' policy, Mr. Laurent Mignon is currently overboarded.

## QUESTION 4: Are there any plans to reduce the number of mandates for the above-mentioned director in the near term?



## **Climate**

Climate change can pose a material financial risk to our investee companies, including physical and transition risks. Failure to assess and manage such risks could lead to financial losses, decreased market value, and increased costs.

TotalEnergies is committed to be carbon neutral by 2050. However, the company plans to grow its oil and gas production by around 3% every year over the next five years, predominantly from liquefied natural gas (LNG) along with allocating 33% of the total capex (2026-2030) to new oil and gas projects. Additionally, the LNG volumes managed by the company is expected to grow by 50% by 2030.

QUESTION 5: Could the company clarify how it reconciles continued hydrocarbon development and net zero pathway, particularly in terms of emissions accounting and alignment with climate scenarios?

QUESTION 6: Can the company provide additional transparency, including the assumptions, regarding the consistency of its plans to significantly grow its production of LNG with its commitment to reach carbon neutrality by 2050?

To get to "*net zero together with society*", TotalEnergies plans to "eliminate" an equivalent of 100 Mt/year of CO2 generated by its customers by developing carbon utilization (CCU) and carbon capture and storage (CCS) solutions of approximately 100 Mt CO2 e/year by 2050.

QUESTION 7: How commercially feasible and competitive is the company's goal of deploying approximately 100 Mt CO2e of carbon storage capacity annually?

To conclude, we would like to thank all members of the Board and all the employees of TotalEnergies on their commitment and dedication.

Thank you in advance for your answers.