

2.08 - REPORT BY THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR



(The accompanying translated consolidated financial statements of the Hera Group constitute a non-official version which is not compliant with the provisions of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/815. This independent auditors' report has been translated into English solely for the convenience of international readers. Accordingly, only the original Italian version is authoritative.)

Hera Group

**Consolidated financial statements as at and for the year
ended 31 December 2024**

(with independent auditors' report thereon)

KPMG S.p.A.

7 April 2025



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Independent auditors' report pursuant to article 14 of Legislative decree no. 39 of 27 January 2010 and article 10 of Regulation (EU) no. 537 of 16 April 2014

*To the shareholders of
Hera S.p.A.*

Report on the audit of the consolidated financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of the Hera Group (the "group"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2024, the income statement and statements of comprehensive income, cash flows and changes in net equity for the year then ended and notes thereto, which include material information on the accounting policies.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Hera Group as at 31 December 2024 and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the IFRS Accounting Standards issued by the International Accounting Standards Board and endorsed by the European Union, as well as the Italian regulations implementing article 9 of Legislative decree no. 38/05.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISA Italia). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "*Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the consolidated financial statements*" section of our report. We are independent of Hera S.p.A. (the "parent") in accordance with the ethics and independence rules and standards applicable in Italy to audits of financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Key audit matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in the audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current year. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the consolidated financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.



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Recognition of revenue from the supply of electricity and gas not yet invoiced

Notes to the consolidated financial statements: notes 2.02.01 "Accounting policies and consolidation principles", 2.02.01 "Significant estimates and valuation" and 1 "Revenue"

Key audit matter	Audit procedures addressing the key audit matter
<p>Revenue from the supply of electricity and gas to end users is recognised at the time the electricity or gas is delivered and includes, in addition to amounts invoiced on the basis of periodic meter readings or on the volumes notified by distributors and transporters, an estimate of the electricity and gas delivered during the year but not yet invoiced at year end that is calculated also taking account of any network losses. Revenue accrued between the date of the last meter reading and the year end is based on calculations of consumption of individual customers, primarily based on their historical information, adjusted to reflect the climate factors or other matters that may affect the estimated consumption.</p> <p>These estimates are very complex given the nature of underlying assumptions.</p> <p>Therefore, we believe that the recognition of revenue from the supply of electricity and gas not yet invoiced is a key audit matter.</p>	<p>Our audit procedures included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• understanding the process for the recognition of revenue from the supply of electricity and gas not yet invoiced at year end;• assessing the design, implementation and operating effectiveness of controls, including IT controls, deemed material for the purposes of our audit, including by involving our IT specialists;• checking the accuracy of the data used to estimate revenue accrued and not invoiced at year end;• comparing the accruals for invoices to be issued for revenue from the supply of electricity and gas recognised in the prior year's consolidated financial statements with the subsequent actual figures;• assessing the appropriateness of the disclosures provided in the notes about the revenue from the supply of electricity and gas not yet invoiced at year end.

Other matters - Comparative figures

The group's 2023 consolidated financial statements were audited by other auditors, who expressed their unqualified opinion thereon on 5 April 2024.

Responsibilities of the parent's directors and board of statutory auditors ("Collegio Sindacale") for the consolidated financial statements

The directors are responsible for the preparation of consolidated financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the IFRS Accounting Standards issued by the International Accounting Standards Board and endorsed by the European Union and the Italian regulations implementing article 9 of Legislative decree no. 38/05 and, within the terms established by the Italian law, for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The directors are responsible for assessing the group's ability to continue as a going concern and for the appropriate use of the going concern basis in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements and for the adequacy of the related disclosures. The use of this basis of accounting is appropriate unless the directors believe that the conditions for liquidating the parent or ceasing operations exist, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The *Collegio Sindacale* is responsible for overseeing, within the terms established by the Italian law, the group's financial reporting process.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the consolidated financial statements



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Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISA Italia will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISA Italia, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the group's internal control;
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors;
- conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the group to cease to continue as a going concern;
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation;
- obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the Group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance, identified at the appropriate level required by ISA Italia, regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with the ethics and independence rules and standards applicable in Italy and communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, the measures taken to eliminate those threats or the safeguards applied.



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From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current year and are, therefore, the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditors' report.

Other information required by article 10 of Regulation (EU) no. 537/14

On 28 April 2022, the parent's shareholders appointed us to perform the statutory audit of its separate and consolidated financial statements as at and for the years ending from 31 December 2024 to 31 December 2032.

We declare that we did not provide the prohibited non-audit services referred to in article 5.1 of Regulation (EU) no. 537/14 and that we remained independent of the parent in conducting the statutory audit.

We confirm that the opinion on the consolidated financial statements expressed herein is consistent with the additional report to the *Collegio Sindacale*, in its capacity as audit committee, prepared in accordance with article 11 of the Regulation mentioned above.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

Opinion on the compliance with the provisions of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/815

The parent's directors are responsible for the application of the provisions of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/815 with regard to regulatory technical standards on the specification of a single electronic reporting format (ESEF) to the consolidated financial statements at 31 December 2024 to be included in the annual financial report.

We have performed the procedures required by Standard on Auditing (SA Italia) 700B in order to express an opinion on the compliance of the consolidated financial statements with Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/815.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements at 31 December 2024 have been prepared in XHTML format and have been marked up, in all material respects, in compliance with the provisions of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/815.

Opinion and statement pursuant to article 14.2.e)/e-bis)/e-ter) of Legislative decree no. 39/10 and article 123-bis.4 of Legislative decree no. 58/98

The parent's directors are responsible for the preparation of the group's directors' report and report on corporate governance and ownership structure at 31 December 2024 and for the consistency of such reports with the related consolidated financial statements and their compliance with the applicable law.

We have performed the procedures required by Standard on Auditing (SA Italia) 720B in order to:

- express an opinion on the consistency of the directors' report and certain specific information presented in the report on corporate governance and ownership structure required by article 123-bis.4 of Legislative decree no. 58/98 with the consolidated financial statements;
- express an opinion on the consistency of the directors' report, excluding the section that includes the consolidated sustainability statement, and certain specific information presented in the report on corporate governance and ownership structure required by article 123-bis.4 of Legislative decree no. 58/98 with the applicable law;



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- issue a statement of any material misstatements in the directors' report and certain specific information presented in the report on corporate governance and ownership structure required by article 123-bis.4 of Legislative decree no. 58/98.

In our opinion, the directors' report and the specific information presented in the report on corporate governance and ownership structure required by article 123-bis.4 of Legislative decree no. 58/98 are consistent with the group's consolidated financial statements at 31 December 2024.

Moreover, in our opinion, excluding the section which includes the consolidated sustainability statement, the directors' report and the specific information presented in the report on corporate governance and ownership structure required by article 123-bis.4 of Legislative decree no. 58/98 have been prepared in compliance with the applicable law.

With reference to the above statement required by article 14.2.e-ter) of Legislative decree no. 39/10, based on our knowledge and understanding of the entity and its environment obtained through our audit, we have nothing to report.

Our opinion on compliance with the applicable law does not extend to the section of the directors' report which includes the consolidated sustainability statement. Our conclusion on the compliance of this section with the legislation governing its preparation and with the disclosure requirements of article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852 is included in the assurance report prepared in accordance with article 14-bis of Legislative decree no. 39/10.

Bologna, 7 April 2025

KPMG S.p.A.

(signed on the original)

Renato Naschi
Director of Audit