

PRESS STATEMENT

CCS Infrastructure is Key to Unlocking Decarbonisation Across Europe's Economy

Brussels, June 12 – The European Zero Emissions Technology & Innovation Platform (ZEP) is today taking part in the final event of the *Finance for Innovation: Towards the ETS Innovation Fund* workshops. The event represents the culmination of a series of sectoral workshops which have taken place over the last few months to discuss the importance of the Innovation Fund for Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS), among other sectors.

CCS is one of the ten low-carbon technologies included in the European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan). Moreover, a group of Member States have been developing an implementation plan to realise the specific actions agreed for CCS as well as Carbon Capture and Utilization (CCU).

On the same day, ZEP is also launching a new report <u>"Fast Track CO₂ Transport and Storage for Europe"</u>. The report concludes that coordinated action is needed urgently to deliver the shared CO₂ transport and storage infrastructure that will seed the first CCS clusters in Europe, delivering local and regional benefits whilst safeguarding vital European industries.

Commenting on today's event and ZEP report, Dr. Graeme Sweeney, Chairman of ZEP, said:

"Momentum is building for CCS deployment. The fact that it has featured so prominently in the Innovation Fund workshops is a very promising sign. We now need to identify the first enabling pieces of infrastructure that can be quickly expanded and extended. The good news is that much of this is already known, thanks to learnings from the Rotterdam project in The Netherlands, the White Rose and Peterhead projects in the UK and the Norwegian CCS projects.

Europe and its Member States have the collective capability and responsibility to deliver this vital European asset. The development of the joint SET Plan Implementation Plan and, crucially, the four CO_2 transport projects submitted as Projects of Common Interest (PCI) under the Connecting Europe facility, are a step in the right direction. If selected, these will enable the development of a European CO_2 network. We must ensure that we put in place the investment and financing models needed to build this network and with it, a thriving and sustainable European industry."

Notes to Editors:

ZEP

Founded in 2005, the European Zero Emission Technology and Innovation Platform (ZEP) is a unique coalition of European oil and gas companies, equipment suppliers, scientists, academics and environmental NGOs united in their support for CO₂ Capture and Storage (CCS) as a key technology for combating climate change. ZEP serves as advisor to the European Commission on the research, demonstration and deployment of CCS.

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