

PRESS STATEMENT

First Step Towards a CCS-Hydrogen Economy

Brussels, July 7 - Today Statoil, Vattenfall and Gasunie have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to evaluate the possibilities of converting Vattenfall's gas power plant Magnum in the Netherlands into a hydrogen-powered plant. The companies also agreed to explore the possibility of combining hydrogen production with Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS), which can open up new business opportunities.

The Magnum plant in Eemshaven has three units and this MoU will investigate how to convert one of the units to run on hydrogen. In total, the plant currently has a capacity 1.3 GW and this joint proposal would reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 4 million tonnes per year.

Commenting on the announcement, Dr. Graeme Sweeney, Chairman of ZEP, said:

"Today's announcement is further proof that companies are committed to CCS and see strategic importance in developing this technology for a variety of sectors. Hydrogen is fast becoming an extremely attractive solution to decarbonising power, heat and transport and CCS is currently the best option for producing large-scale, low-cost clean hydrogen."

The platform recently published [a report on hydrogen](#) in which we concluded that developing hydrogen through the CCS route is already less expensive than electrolysis-derived hydrogen from renewables. Moreover, according to the ['H21 Leeds City Gate' report](#), development of large-scale clean hydrogen production can also accelerate the decarbonisation of the heating of homes and businesses in European cities.

Hydrogen could actually represent a much-needed catalyst for CCS; where CCS equipped hydrogen plants are located in industrial clusters, this could trigger the initiation of a CO₂ transport and storage network, enabling a number of different users of hydrogen to co-exist whilst reducing emissions at least cost.

Large-scale CCS will be vital to delivering a low-carbon hydrogen economy for Europe. Projects such as Magnum are crucial in developing early steps, however to ensure additional projects can come forward, Europe must initiate the establishment of CO₂ transport and storage infrastructure. With countries such as Norway now moving forward with CCS, we urge the European Commission to ensure that EU policies and financial instruments are ready to support the deployment of this vital infrastructure."

For further information: [announcement by Statoil](#)

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.

Contact:

ZEP Media Team

Ruta Malinauskaite

Tel: +32 2 894 90 07

rmalinauskaite@webershandwick.com