



## EU CCS Plans Achieve Major Milestone for Clean Energy Future

**May 9, 2011 – Brussels, Belgium** – Three years ago the European Union pledged to become a leader in CO<sub>2</sub> Capture and Storage (CCS), a technology which captures CO<sub>2</sub> from power plants, refineries and other industrial facilities and stores it deep underground. The International Energy Agency (IEA) has calculated that CCS technology could account for one fifth of all CO<sub>2</sub> mitigation needed by 2050 and half of all CO<sub>2</sub> mitigation by 2100. The IEA has also said that without CCS the cost of responding to climate change will be 70% higher.

The EU set itself a goal to have 10-12 large-scale CCS projects in operation around Europe by 2015, an extraordinary endeavor given that there are no major facilities operating anywhere in the world today.

CCS is an essential technology for a low-carbon, clean energy future. The EU has established a fund worth €5 billion (the “NER 300”) as part of the European Emissions Trading System and today, 9th May 2011, marks a crucial milestone in moving CCS from concept to reality with countries across Europe submitting applications for funding of proposed CCS projects.

Efforts by the European Union thus far are to be applauded but much remains to be done. CCS in Europe will fail if Member States do not deliver the essential regulatory and financial support needed. This support needs to be delivered fast.

Major issues remain to be resolved. These include the implementation of the EU Directive on Geological Storage of CO<sub>2</sub> (before a deadline of June 2011), as well as the completion of national CCS legal frameworks which will enable the approval of permit applications for CCS demonstration projects.

The NER 300 funding programme for CCS is important but more funds need to be committed in order to progress this vital technology. CCS demonstration projects are unlikely to generate sufficient revenue so Member State intervention and support is essential as these plants scale up to commercial size.

And delivering this first wave of CCS projects is only the beginning. Future research into the full family of CCS technologies remains a priority, together with a clear programme of international knowledge-sharing. Neither of these requirements is in place today, despite repeated calls from industry to see them materialize.

Finally and most importantly, there is an acute need to win over public support for CCS.

European Technology Platform for Zero Emission Fossil Fuel Power Plants

Rue du Trône 61  
1050 Brussels, Belgium

[info@zero-emissionplatform.eu](mailto:info@zero-emissionplatform.eu)  
[www.zeroemissionsplatform.eu](http://www.zeroemissionsplatform.eu)



Without the support of local communities where CCS projects will be built, progress will not be possible.

While the EU was indisputably first out of the gate in launching a CCS demonstration programme of substantial size and importance, it will only be able to ensure it crosses the finish line if appropriate CCS legislation is in place, funding is delivered and international cooperation is fully engrained in the development of CCS in Europe.

CCS provides one of the most cost-effective ways to respond to climate change. There is no downside to capturing more CO<sub>2</sub> sooner rather than later. There is no second chance at this, and time is running out.

***The companies, scientists, academics and environmental NGOs that together make up the Zero Emissions Platform (ZEP) are united in their support for CCS as a critical solution for combating climate change. ZEP is an advisor to the EU on the research, demonstration and deployment of CCS.***

-----  
***For all media enquiries, please contact:***

Eric Drosin, Director of Communications

E-mail: [edrosin@zero-emissionplatform.eu](mailto:edrosin@zero-emissionplatform.eu)

Tel.: +32-(0)493-511-982