



ZEP briefing – Outcome of negotiations on TEN-E regulation

Outcome

The European Parliament and the Council reached a provisional [agreement](#) during inter-institutional (trilogue) negotiations on the proposal for a Regulation on the Trans-European Energy Network ([TEN-E](#)) guidelines on 14 December 2021. **Pending the final text**, the key points for the category of CO₂ infrastructure are:

- CO₂ storage is included in the regulation. CO₂ storage will also be included for infrastructure developed between an EU member state and a non-EU country, which could receive the status of Projects of Mutual Interest (PMI).
- CO₂ transport modalities other than pipeline – such as ship, train, truck, barge – will not be included in the regulation, as the Commission and the Council ‘fail to see the network component of their inclusion’.
- CO₂ transport for utilisation will be allowed, given that the utilisation is ‘with a view to permanent neutralisation’ of the CO₂. The sustainability of utilisation will be checked against the sustainability criteria included in the regulation.
- There will be a general sustainability criteria in the Regulation, however, it will not include a specific capture rate for industrial installations.
- The focus of CO₂ infrastructure will be on industrial CCS installations, not power installations.

The status of the relationship with non-EU countries remains to be clarified in the final text.

Background

Based on a proposal for a revised Regulation by the European Commission in December 2020, negotiations between the European Parliament, Council and Commission began in March 2021. The Parliament and Council have expressed the same view regarding the inclusion of CO₂ storage in the regulation, while their views differ on the need for CO₂ transport operated by modalities other than pipeline. At the Parliament’s request, a sustainability criteria for CO₂ infrastructure was introduced.

Next steps

Having reached a Provisional Agreement, both the Council, represented by the committee of permanent representatives, and the Parliament, with the ITRE Committee and Plenary, will have to approve of the final text. The ITRE Committee will [vote](#) on the text on 26 January 2022.

If both co-legislators approve the Provisional Agreement, the Regulation is considered adopted and can be published in the EU Official Journal before entering into force.