# **Report CCS-Directive 2023 - Belgium**

#### 1 CHANGES, REVIEWS AND UPDATES OF NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION LEGISLATION

 Flemish Region: The Flemish Government is in the process of updating the legislation on the transport of carbon dioxide for geological storage and for usage. The Flemish Government has agreed on a first draft in principle on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March. The new legislation will be in full compliance with the CCSdirective and will be notified to the European Commission when it has been published in the Belgian Government Gazette.

Changes in legislation are limited to those provisions that deal with transport of carbon dioxide. Other provisions of the Directive, transposed and duly notified to the European Commission, are not under review.

Brussels Capital Region (BCR) : no change.

Federal government: no change.

**Walloon Region:** The Walloon government is also in the process to update the legislation on carbon dioxide transport.

- 2. No.
- 3. For the **Flemish Region**: Flemish Energy and Climate Agency (VEKA), point of contact tomas.velghe@vlaanderen.be

For BCR : Brussels Environment – Bruxelles Environmement – Leefmilieu Brussel - Frederic D'Angelo -fdangelo@environnement.brussels ;AnnickVanderpoortenavanderpoorten@environnement.brussels.-

For the **Walloon Region** : Direction des Risques Industriels, Géologiques et Miniers – Dominique Martin - <u>dominique.daniel.martin@spw.wallonie.be</u>

4. No.

## 2 SELECTION OF AREAS FOR STORAGE SITES

- 5. No.
- 6. No.
- 7. No.

## **3** EXPLORATION PERMITS

8. No

9. Zero (0).

### 4 STORAGE PERMITS

10. No.

### 5 THIRD PARTY FAIR AND OPEN ACCESS

11. **Flemish Region:** The Flemish Region has transposed the CCS Directive through the Act on the Deep Subsoil (*Decreet Diepe Ondergrond*) and the Decree of the Flemish Government on the Deep Subsoil (*Besluit Diepe Ondergrond*).

Third Party Access is a key aspect of the upcoming review of the Flemish legislation on the transport of carbon dioxide through pipelines. The Flemish framework will aim to enhance the provisions on fair and open third party access, while ensuring correct transposition of the CCS Directive in Flemish legislation.

Furthermore, several key projects in the Flemish Region receive grants from the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF). Fair and open access is an explicit requirement in the CEF.

In **BCR** no measure has been taken.

The **Walloon Region** has transposed the CCS directive through the decree of 10 July 2013 regarding the carbon dioxide geological storage. The update of the legislation on carbon dioxide transport which is currently in the preparatory process will also cover third-party access.

**Federal government**: no measures have been taken yet, but in case of new legislation, fair and open access, in accordance with the CCS Directive, will be a requirement.

- 12. We are not aware of any refusals on grounds of lack of capacity. We also have, at this stage, no indications that future projects would be confronted with lack of capacity.
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## 6 TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION

14. Recently, the consortium around Project Greensand (Wintershall Dea, INEOS et al.) performed the first injection of carbon dioxide in a depleted Danish gas field. The injected carbon dioxide (12.000 tonnes) was of Flemish origin from the INEOS Oxide plant in Zwijndrecht, Belgium. To enable the cross-border transportation of the carbon dioxide under the London Protocol, the Flemish Region, the Federal State of Belgium and Denmark signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Cross Border Transportation of CO<sub>2</sub> with the Purpose of Permanent Geological Storage on the 26th of September 2022.<sup>1</sup> First injection took place on the 8th of March.

Other cross-border CCS-projects are in various stages of development:

- Antwerp@C (including Kairos@C).
  - Participation in the Open Season was closed on the 18<sup>th</sup> of February 2022.
  - Financial close is foreseen in 2023.
  - Start-up of Phase 1 is foreseen in 2026.
- Ghent Carbon Hub
  - Feasibility study launched.
- Fluxys, the Belgian TSO for natural gas, has expressed interest in developing a cross-country backbone in Belgium (see <u>Information Memorandum</u>). A feasibility study is ongoing on the connection via a pipeline between Belgium and Norway to transport captured CO2 to storage sites in the North Sea. Possible offshore connections with other countries are being examined. Recently, Fluxys also announced their partnership with Wintershall Dea to undertake a feasibility study for the transport of CO2 from Germany to Zeebrugge. On the national level, Fluxys has launched open seasons for several areas (Antwerp; Ghent etc.).

The Walloon industry is also working on CCS projects (mainly the cement and lime industry).

Flanders is also part of the North Sea Basin Task Force and is involved in the development of the Regional Plan.

## 7 CO<sub>2</sub> CAPTURE READINESS

15. See Annexes.

## 8 FURTHER QUESTIONS

16. One of the regional programmes supporting CCS is the 'Klimaatsprong'-programme. Klimaatsprong has as its purpose facilitation of the measures needed to enable Flemish industry to evolve towards a carbon neutral production without loss of competitiveness. CCS is one of the measures discussed in the Klimaatsprong-programme.

The Walloon government has launched the call for projects « 0Carbon4WAL» regarding capture, storage, transport and use of  $CO_2$  with the exception of DAC (direct air capture).

The program HECO2 is also funding projects regarding CCUS in the industry.

- 17. Flanders has its 'Moonshot'-programme, where CCS-projects can be supported.
- 18. We are not aware of any plans and/or projects other than the ones already mentioned.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The MoU can be found here: <u>MoU beween the minister for environment of Flemish Region, federal minister for the North Sea of Belgium</u> and the minister for Climate, Enery and Utilities of Denmark on cross border transportation of CO2 with the purpose of permanent geological storage | Departement Kanselarij en Buitenlandse Zaken (fdfa.be)