

ANNEX

Republic of Cyprus (CY) Report on Implementation of Directive 2009/31/EC on the geological storage of carbon dioxide (CCS Directive)

Changes, reviews and updates of national implementation legislation

1. Are there any changes to national legislation, permitting system or competent authorities that have taken place since the last report on implementation of the CCS Directive in your country?

The CCS Directive has been fully transported to the National Law in 2012 by Law L. 71(I)/2012 and amended in 2015 by Law L.174(I)/2015.

2. Are there processes in place for storage permit applicants to engage pro-actively with the competent permitting authorities regarding relevant applications? If yes, please provide details.

No application processes are in force yet as there is not carried out yet any assessment of the available storage capacity in CY. Hence storage is not allowed storage on the territory.

3. Please provide the name, email address and telephone of the contact point at the competent authority responsible for fulfilling the duties established under the Directive.

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Email address: director@environment.moa.gov.cy

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The person above is the Director of the Department of Environment to whom the duties are transferred by the power of the Minister (Competent Authority) via the CCS National Law.

4. Are there any issues that the competent authority would like to discuss with other competent authorities in relation to the practical implementation of the Directive and in particular the national permitting procedures in the Information Exchange Group under the auspices of Article 27(2)?

Not Applicable (N/A) at this point of time according to the answer in Q.2

Selection of areas for storage sites (Article 4)

5. Which areas are determined from which storage sites may be selected pursuant to Article 4(1) until April 2023?

6. Will additional areas be determined from which storage sites may be selected in the period until the next report at the end of 2027, if so, which geological type of areas are considered (e.g, saline aquifers, depleted or not depleted gas & oil fields, mafic rocks) from a geological point of view and what are the next steps?



Member States are not obliged to justify any such decision, but an indication which territories are concerned, including their location, and why this has been done, would be appreciated.

7. Are there information about environmental and/or health risks relating to the geological storage of CO₂ in accordance with the applicable Community legislation available to the public?

The answer to Q.5 – 7 is: No areas have been determined, no any assessments of available storage capacity have been done and no exploration permits have been issued.

It shall be noted that CY has no any official research or data on geological formation capability of storing carbon in its territory. In 2022 an initial study was carried out by the Cyprus Hydrocarbon Company (CHC). The main results from that initial exploratory study were to establish evaluation criteria for the identification of the repository and to identify an area of further investigation. If further work is required, additional data and resources will be needed. This must be agreed between the parties concerned. CHC has no access to further information required for a more detailed review of potential storage sites.

Exploration permits (Article 5)

8. Are there areas or specific sites where no exploration permits are required to generate the information necessary for the selection of storage sites, pursuant to Article 5?

9. How many exploration permits have been given pursuant to Article 5 since your last reporting?

The answer to Q.8-9 is: Same as answer to Q.5-7

Storage permits applications (Article 10)

10. Member States shall make the permit applications available to the Commission within one month after receipt. Are there any plans of potential operators to apply for storage permits pursuant to Article 7? If yes, please provide an approximate timing.

The answer to Q.10 is: N/A

Third-party fair and open access (Article 21)

11. What measures – if any – have been taken to ensure that potential users are able to obtain fair and open access to transport networks and to storage sites for the purposes of geological storage of the produced and captured CO₂ (Article 21)

12. Are you aware that prospective transport operators and/or storage operators have refused access to their facilities on the grounds of lack of capacity?

13. What measures – if any – have been taken to ensure that the operator refusing access on the grounds of lack of capacity or a lack of connection makes any necessary enhancements as far as it is economic to do so or when a potential customer is willing to pay for them? (Article 21)

The answer to Q.11-13 is: No - N/A

Transboundary cooperation (Article 24)

14. Is there any experience or plans for transboundary CO₂ transport or CO₂ storage sites or storage complexes? Please provide details on the status of preparations, if any.

The answer to Q14 is: No – N/A

CO₂ capture readiness (Article 33)

15. How many combustion plants with a rated electrical output of 300 MW or more have received a permit since the last implementation report? What was the outcome of the assessment under Article 36 of Directive 2010/75/EU? In case of negative assessment, have the combustion plants set aside suitable space irrespectively? Please provide detail for each permit according to Annex 2.5

The answer to Q15 is: No – N/A

Annex2: Operating licences granted to large combustion installations in accordance with Article 33

The table cannot be filled as no any relevant permits or operations are in place.

Further questions

16. What other national programmes are in place or planned to support research, demonstration and deployment of CCS?

17. Are there any ongoing national or European research projects that may have relevance to the Directive?

18. Are there other plans to support further appraisal of CO₂ storage sites, to prepare for CO₂ transport infrastructure or for CO₂ hubs and clusters?

Further questions

The answer to Q.16 – 18 is: No – N/A

Annex 1: CCS related requests as part of the Commission Notice on the Guidance to Member States for the update of the 2021-2030 national energy and climate plans - C(2022) 8263 final

2.5 Integrating long-term geological storage of CO₂

CCS technologies have not been taken into consideration for the NECP, but they have been included in the national long-term strategy. In order to achieve carbon neutrality in 2050 CCS has been considered that will contribute to the reduction of ETS emissions after 2040.