



For the attention of:  
Ms Catharina Sikow-Magny  
Directorate-General for Energy  
Rue Demot 24 / Demotstraat 24  
1040 Brussels, Belgium

11 October 2021

**Subject: Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) Forum**

Dear Ms Sikow-Magny,

On behalf of the Zero Emissions Platform (ZEP), and as a Co-Chair of the CCUS SET Plan (IWG9), I would like to congratulate the European Commission on the first edition of the CCUS Forum.

This initiative comes at a critical moment for Europe. With the legally-binding target of climate neutrality by 2050 and an increased emissions reduction target for 2030, CCS and CCU technologies must be part of the equation for European decarbonisation.

With an increasing number of European CCS [projects](#) moving towards becoming operational within this decade – highlighted by the 4<sup>th</sup> PCI list and the applications to the 5<sup>th</sup> list – there is a strong need to support this progress and emphasise the role of CCS as an important enabler for a cost-efficient transition to net-zero. Thus, a European approach for development and deployment of CCS and CO<sub>2</sub> infrastructure is necessary, outlining the EU's vision for 2030 and 2050, proposing objectives, enabling policies, business models, roles and responsibilities. Such an approach is needed to create predictability for companies and the finance community to invest in CCS.

I hope that today's CCUS Forum will be the starting point for an annual Forum with an extensive work programme. ZEP would like the Forum to become the basis for much-needed EU strategies for CCS and CCU.

- *CO<sub>2</sub> transport and storage infrastructure* – The EU Taxonomy for Sustainable Activities and the revised EU ETS proposal set out a clear basis for European, cross-border transport of CO<sub>2</sub>, taking into account all CO<sub>2</sub> transport modalities. This outcome should be reflected and preserved across other EU policies.
- *Making CCS and CCU investable* – A set of policy and funding mechanisms are available to promote investments in low-carbon technologies. Putting in place an enabling policy framework for long-term investment and working towards business models will be essential. In addition, the coherence between EU and national frameworks must be further developed.
- *Industrial decarbonisation, carbon dioxide removals and hydrogen* – The cost-efficient trajectory towards net-zero GHG emissions by 2050 will require scale-up of low-carbon technologies. Carbon dioxide removals and low-carbon hydrogen (produced from natural gas with CCS) will be critical in the transition to low-carbon industrial activity.



Given its broad membership basis, excellent coordination with other stakeholders in the CCS and CCU communities – including the CCUS SET Plan – and a large network of experts involved in its work, ZEP is a natural partner for the European Commission to set up the work going forward.

I look forward to the possibility of a meeting with you to discuss the points that are raised in this letter.

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