

Public event – 17<sup>th</sup> September 2018 Identification and analysis of promising carbon capture and utilisation technologies Summary Task 2: Regulatory Assessment









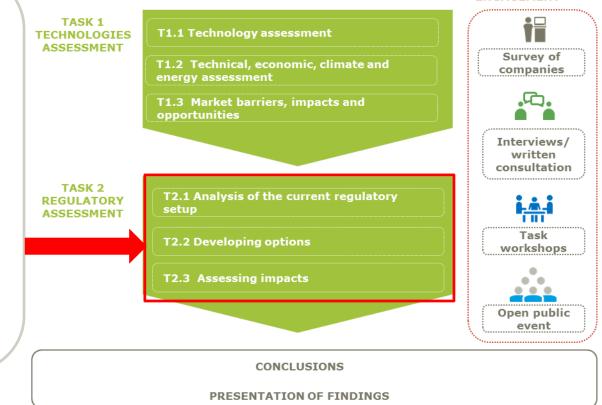
Systems Research



### TASK 2: REGULATORY ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW OF TASK AND METHODOLOGY

#### **Objective Task 2:**

To map and analyse the current regulatory setup affecting CCU technologies, develop options for addressing the issues identified, and provide a preliminary assessment and comparison of these options











#### TASK 3 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

#### **Policy mapping: 25+ legal texts analysed for relevance**

#### Key legislation identified: **Climate and Energy:**

- EU Emission Trading System
- Renewable energy
- Energy efficiency

#### Waste and Circular Economy

- Waste Framework
- EU action for a circular economy



CO<sub>2</sub>

#### EU financing programmes











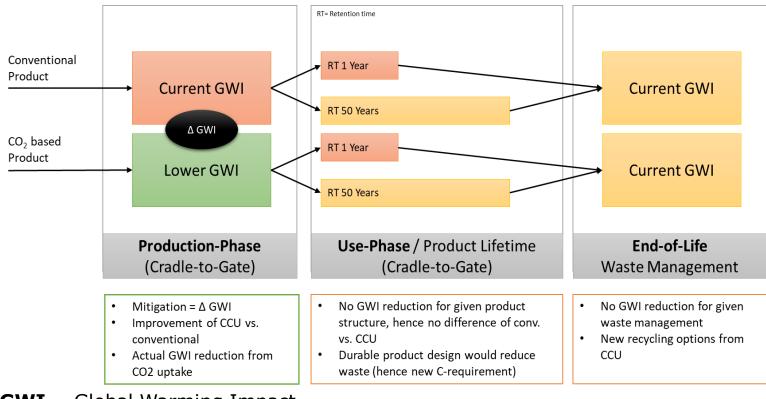






#### Measuring GHG emission mitigation from CCU: What did we learn?

- Compare CCU production with conventional production.
- Only production-phase GHG differ.
- Use-phase, CO2 retention time, and end-of-life are not relevant, except in ETS reasoning.



**GWI** = Global Warming Impact **RT** = Retention Time

#### **EU Emission Trading System in a nutshell:**

- ETS framework to monitor, report and verify industrial installations' emissions.
- Incentivise GHG emission reductions.

#### How?



Installations in sectors at risk of carbon leakage receive free emission allowances up to a benchmark, and purchase additional allowances.



Installations monitor GHG emissions, report their emissions, and surrender an equivalent amount of allowances for emitted carbon.

#### **Problem for CCU:**

- ETS recognises CCU but does not incentivise CO2 capture except for geological storage.
- Capturing installations must still report used CO2 as emitted.











#### Why?

- CCU processes capture CO2 temporarily, CO2 is re-emitted after use or disposal.
- ETS sector coverage is limited, the rest is under Effort Sharing.



**ETS** regulates large industrial installations in certain sectors: power/heat generation, industrial production (metals, cement, lime, glass, paper, etc.).



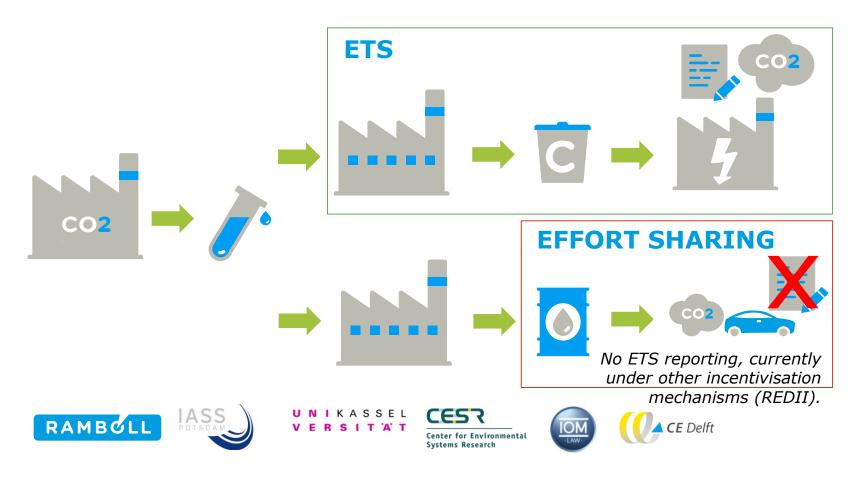
**Effort Sharing** regulates transport, buildings, agriculture, waste, and smaller industrial installations. Accounting occurs at the level of Member States.

#### **Risk of loophole:**

- Carbon captured in CCU product can be transferred to Effort Sharing sector, where it is re-emitted (end-of-life).
- Emission is then not reported in the ETS.

**Example:** Production of methane via CCU, used for:

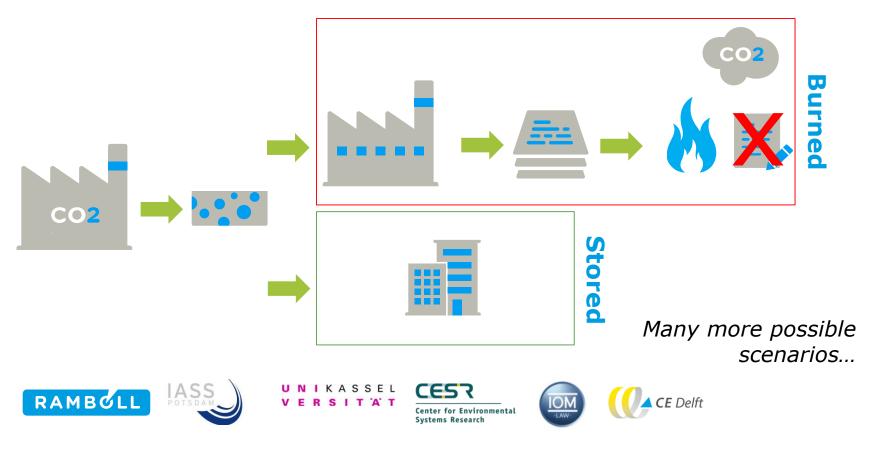
- 1. Producing carbon-based product (e.g. plastic), burned in coincineration plant under ETS.
- 2. Fuel (transport), tail-pipe emission.



Some CCU applications avoid loopholes as CO2 is potentially never re-emitted, i.e. carbon is 'stored' similarly to CCS.

**Example:** production of calcium carbonate used in:

- 1. Paper production (burned)
- 2. Construction materials (stored)





#### **European Court of Justice ruling in favour of Schaefer Kalk**

• CO2 transfers for producing calcium carbonate should lead to exemptions from surrendering emission allowances.

#### Problem

- Ruling does not address loopholes, yet must be implemented.
- Need to identify when CO2 will be released, and which installation should be incentivised.











#### **Principles for environmentally sound policies supporting climate-beneficial technologies:**

- 1. Maintain the **integrity of the EU environmental policy framework**, avoid double counting;
- 2. Avoid **technological lock-in** effects and account for **negative impacts on other environmentally promising technologies**;
- 3. Continue to ensure **technology neutrality** of the EU policy framework.



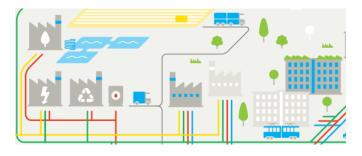








## **Options for attributing ETS incentives to installations in CCU system:**



|               | OPTIONS  | ADVANTAGES  | CHALLENGES   |
|---------------|--|---|--|
| Short-term    | Only incentivise<br>permanent storage<br>applications                      | <ul> <li>CJEU ruling implemented</li> <li>Mitigation potential recognised for<br/>permanent applications</li> <li>Avoid unreported emissions</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Not technology-neutral<br/>(mineralisation)</li> <li>Which product uses lead to<br/>permanent storage?</li> </ul>     |
|               | List production<br>processes, product<br>uses and end-of-life<br>scenarios | Knowledge of emitted CO2  | <ul><li>Each production process is different</li><li>High complexity of product markets</li></ul>                              |
|               | Track carbon and product transfers   | <ul> <li>Know where product is used and<br/>carbon re-emitted</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Monitoring/reporting burdensome</li> <li>Verification by third party legally<br/>impossible outside of ETS</li> </ul> |
| Long-<br>term | Project-based GHG<br>accounting  | <ul> <li>Use LCA comparative<br/>methodology</li> <li>Ongoing research to develop<br/>methodologies</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>How to integrate in existing carbon<br/>market mechanisms?</li> <li>Project-specific assessment needed</li> </ul>     |

#### **Conclusion: reforming the ETS?**

- No 'one size fits all'. Each CCU process is different.
- Options for accurate monitoring, reporting and verification of CCU seem costly.
- Is ETS the right tool?
- ETS unlikely to change fundamentally until 2030.

#### However, financing becoming available:

- CCU will be financed by ETS Innovation Fund.
- Other EU financing programmes could synergetically finance CCU:
  - Horizon 2020
  - European Fund for Strategic Investments
  - European Structural Investment Funds
  - Research for Coal and Steel Fund

#### **Other support mechanisms exist:**

 Renewable Energy Directive II recognise CCU fuels from renewable energy and recycled carbon fuels under certain conditions.

#### **Solutions beyond the ETS:**

#### **Waste and Circular Economy**

- Promote carbon recycling under circular economy
  - Facilitate re-use of carbon-based products to improve energy efficiency

#### **Products and Labelling**

- Products blending quotas (similar to Renewable Energy Directive II)
- Ecolabelling











### **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- CCU needs support to be viably developed and deployed, but ETS does not fully accommodate CCU.
  - Continue to pursue diverse policy options and financing.
  - Create a level-playing field between EU market and rest of the world: harmonise carbon trading schemes.
- Each CCU project must prove environmental benefits.
  - Facilitate adoption of standardised LCA methodology.
  - Compare cost-benefit of CCU with that of low-carbon technologies for making policy decisions.
- CCU climate mitigation potential limited by available renewable energy, but contributes to circular economy (closing the carbon cycle), replacing fossil feedstocks and reducing fossil imports.
  - > Provide clarity to EU debate: CCU  $\neq$  CCS.
  - CCU can be used where carbon is needed.









#### **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- CCU fuels can store renewable energy otherwise curtailed.
  - Explore role of CCU fuels as energy storage in the lowcarbon transition (considering other energy options).
  - Higher energy conversion efficiency in use for batteries, hydrogen production.
- CCU projects cut across sectors (industrial symbiosis).
  - Support CCUS networks.
  - Facilitate knowledge transfer.











### **THANK YOU**

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# WASTE AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY: Ensuring circular principles

#### Status of waste policy:

Waste Framework Directive

**Problem:** Cases where (incineration waste-based) carbon-recycled construction materials integrating hazardous materials produced in one country are rejected on other national markets due to waste status.

**Policy already aiming to address this:** Waste Framework Directive has been revised.

#### Key points of the Commission's proposal for a revised WFD:

- Sets targets for re-use and recycling of waste (60% by 2030) → general incentive for waste recycling.
- Empowers the Commission to establish detailed end-of-waste criteria, making possible the harmonised application of e-o-w criteria by EU.









