

**UK CCUS Council Meeting Minutes**  
**12<sup>th</sup> December 2022, hybrid meeting**

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Rt Hon Graham Stuart (GS)- Co-Chair	Minister for Energy, Clean Growth and Climate Change
James Smith (JS)- Co-Chair	Former Chair, Carbon Trust
Syrie Crouch (SC)	Shell
Andy Lane (AL)	BP
Dominic Martin (DM)	Equinor
Charlotte Morgan	Linklaters
Lord Hutton (LH)	Make UK
David Reiner	Cambridge University
Nicola Cocks	Storegga
Ruth Herbert (RH)	CCS Association
Olivia Powis (OP)	CCS Association
Ronnie Quinn	NECCUS
Hywel Thomas	Cardiff University
Luciano Vasques (LV)	ENI
Laura Sandys (LS)	Challenging Ideas
Allan Baker	Societe Generale
David Parkin (DP)	Progressive Energy
Chris Robinson (CR)	Tees Valley Local Enterprise Partnership
Rodney Allam	8 Rivers & NET Power
Adrian Topham	Crown Estate
Julian Leslie (JL)	National Grid ESO
Stuart Haszeldine (SH)	Scottish CCS
Edward Jones	Energy UK
Andy Samuel	NSTA
Jarad Daniels (JD)	Global CCS Institute
Andrew Benjamin	National Grid Ventures
Dustin Benton (DB)	Green Alliance
Faisal Bachlani	Equinor
Rebecca Groundwater	EIC
Michael Foley	Exxon Mobil
Viana Iancu	NSTA
Brigitte Amoruso	Make UK
Georgina Katzaros	CCSA
Rowaa Ahmar	DRAX
Tim Ince	Ofgem

Rumbidzai Nhunduru	RCCS- Heriot-Watt University
Andrew Basile	Crown Estate
<b>Observers</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Alex Milward (AM)	Director, CCUS, BEIS
Stephanie Murphy	Director, Hydrogen and ICC, BEIS
Beatrice Filkin (BF)	Deputy Director, CCUS, BEIS
Matthew Taylor	Deputy Director, CCUS, BEIS
Chris Thackeray (CT)	Deputy Director, CCUS, BEIS
Will Lochhead	Deputy Director, CCUS, BEIS
Alexander Blades (AB)	CCUS Council Secretariat
Enrique Cornejo (EC)	Supply Chain Policy Advisor, BEIS
Chris Wiseall (CW)	CCUS ECPF co-chair

## 1. **Opening remarks from the Minister for Energy, Clean Growth and Climate Change, James Smith and Lord Hutton**

GS welcomed members to the CCUS Council meeting. GS noted that the government had made substantial progress to date, including the publication of business model contracts and the announcement of a shortlist of CCUS technology projects in August. GS also confirmed that an indicative level of funding for Track 1 had been reached with the Chancellor. GS noted the important role of CCUS in reducing greenhouse emissions and that he was looking forward to future collaboration with the UK's industrial clusters to reduce emissions.

JS welcomed members of the CCUS Early Careers Professional Forum (ECPF), and new members: Dr. Richard Hauxwell-Baldwin and Andy Samuel of the North Sea Transition Authority (NSTA), to the meeting. JS emphasised the importance of beating climate change, the opportunity for low-carbon products on the international market, and that the major opportunity the UK has to rebuild its industrial base in delivering net-zero. LH highlighted that CCUS is an essential foundation towards net zero and highlighted his ambition for UK companies to participate in CCUS supply chains.

### 2a. **Overview from CCSA on CCUS deployment and implementation**

RH presented on accelerating CCUS deployment in the UK cluster programme and beyond. RH noted the demand for CCUS from UK emitters was high and that the sector was keen to decarbonise.

RH stated that de-carbonising could accelerate the governments levelling up agenda, and that being clear on a potential pipeline is required for supply chain development. RH also expressed how currently EU storage is a bottleneck, so the UK remains attractive for investors. RH then expressed how the UK's cluster programme can generate faster deployment.

### 2b. **Overview of HyNet Northwest delivery plans and implementation**

DP presented an update on HyNet Northwest delivery plans and implementation. DP highlighted implementation was demand led.

DP emphasised desire to further enhance carbon capture in sites not selected through phase one of the cluster sequencing process. DP raised concern regarding capacity, knowledge base of regulators, and length of competition processes. He highlighted the need for a funding envelope and a desire to streamline the bidding process.

DP presented that multiple delivery partners and multiple final investment decisions (FID) required a cleared execution framework for the cluster. DP noted there were 3 overlapping challenges: planning, legislation, and commercial framework. He would like to decouple FIDs, and see closer work between the government and Ofgem.

## **2c. Overview of East Coast Cluster delivery plans and implementation**

AL presented an update on East Coast Cluster delivery plans and implementation. AL echoed DP's presentation on challenges and choreographing. AL suggested they were ready to begin procurement and noted that choreography, and a co-created schedule, was essential.

AL noted he was keen to maximise the use of networks and that alignment on scheduling is key for the next level of staging. AL also noted concern that the schedule is too complicated and schedule dependencies should be simplified where possible.

## **2d. CCUS Council discussion**

CR agreed that there was demand for UK CCUS projects and highlighted difficulty in aligning this demand to the Track 2 process. SC sought clarity regarding Track 2's timelines. SC further requested additional flexibility to allow the UK to compete internationally. LV highlighted ENI's strong position and that they were ready to make the projects operational sooner than the timeline suggested.

DM commented on the strengths of the UK's approach to CCUS. He highlighted the positive lessons learnt and highlighted that the legal complexity of the sequencing process had not been anticipated. DM noted that the simplification of competition law frameworks would be beneficial.

LS asserted the need to think on demand side of project implementation. Requested considering how ideas such as green accreditation could bring the programme to life and help in engaging communities. JD commented that the consideration of leveraging additional technical capacity could enhance the projects overall success.

## **3a. Presentation from CCSA on supply chains**

OP presented an update on supply chains and noted that the potential estimated expenditure in net zero CCUS projects could be substantial. OP proposed that the CCUS industry developed a supply chain development strategy to act as a supply chain guidance/charter for Track1, and successive CCUS clusters. It was proposed that this would enable the sharing of best practice, allow for the agreement of common definitions and methodologies. OP also emphasised the need to avoid a bottleneck in skilled labour and highlighted the need to move quickly to secure appropriately skilled staff.

## **3b. CCUS Council Discussion**

LH noted the potential issues surrounding workforce and highlighted his desire to get involved, noting that Make UK is keen to work with the CCSA to avoid any such bottlenecks. AS noted that the NSTA wanted to be part of working group and keen. CR noted that Tees Valley has a cluster plan, to be developed by end of March alongside 5 other cluster plans.

CR noted that he was co-ordinating with industry to determine what skills will be needed in the cluster.

DM agreed with the CCSA paper and sought to encourage local content without erecting protectionist barriers around our economies. DM did not want to see retrofitting onto projects past a certain phase. EC was keen that we focus on exportable opportunities. EC was also glad that the strategy did not just focus on kit, but also installations. EC raised the importance of engaging with civil construction supply chains.

#### **4a. Presentation of a Forward Look of CCUS Council Agenda Items**

BF reviewed the Council's progress in 2022 and then presented a forward look of agenda items for the CCUS Council which focused on the five priority areas of the council. BF noted that the CCUS Council Secretariat welcomed the views of members on agenda items for the upcoming council meetings.

CW highlighted that the Early Careers Professional Forum (ECPF) aimed to build a resilient future industry, that it was key to see development of diversity and inclusion as part of this, and that the ECPF wants to deliver this action plan. CW requested the council nominate a diversity champion to drive forward this agenda and requested for interested parties to get in touch either through himself, or the Council secretariat.

LS requested that the Council set up a working task and finish group on demand side including Certification, this was seconded by CR and DB. JS noted that in the early part of 2023 the council should focus on scheduling and the willingness to take risk. DM noted that adding international perspectives to the forward look would be beneficial.

#### **4b. AOB and Close**

JS thanked council members for their in driving forward the deployment of CCUS in the UK. JS offered seasonal greetings and brought the meeting to a close.