

## CCUS must be at the heart of the Clean Industrial Deal

Dear President von der Leyen,  
Executive Vice-President Séjourné,  
Executive Vice-President Ribera Rodríguez,  
Commissioner Hoekstra and Commissioner Jørgensen,

We urge you to consider carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS) as a key decarbonisation tool in the Clean Industrial Deal that should be presented during the first 100 days of the new European Commission. The Carbon Capture and Storage Association (CCSA), the European trade association representing more than 120 members across the CCUS value chain, sees the Clean Industrial Deal as a vital policy instrument for Europe. Not just to accelerate the decarbonisation of Europe's industries, but also to ensure these industries remain in Europe.

### The CCSA calls on the European Commission to prioritise the following actions:

1. **Include CCUS in the scope of the Clean Industrial Deal;**
2. Develop a **regulatory framework for low-carbon industrial products;**
3. Significantly increase **Connecting Europe Facility and Innovation Fund budgets;**
4. Prioritise an **EU regulatory framework for CO<sub>2</sub> transport;**
5. Enable the **cross-border transport & storage of CO<sub>2</sub> captured between the European Union/European Economic Area and United Kingdom.**

The economic situation is becoming critical. Industrial production in the EU has fallen by more than 5% between 2022 and 2023 and close to a million industry jobs have been lost since 2019<sup>1,2</sup>. Factories across the continent are ramping down production with local communities most impacted.<sup>3</sup> At the same time, Europe is running out of time to achieve its climate targets for 2030 and 2040.

A logical way out of this double challenge is by prioritising the European Commission's own Industrial Carbon Management Strategy which assigns a central role for CCUS technologies. Reversing deindustrialisation while reaching our climate targets is not possible without extensive carbon capture notably for the hard-to-abate industries. Your Political Guidelines also recognise the important role of CCUS.

So, it is time for action: **The Clean Industrial Deal and the Industrial Decarbonisation Accelerator Act must include CCUS in their scope.** Furthermore, we call on you to prioritise low-carbon products in the Clean Industrial Deal, increase EU funding for CCUS projects, prioritise the CO<sub>2</sub> transport regulation, and include the UK and other third countries into the single, competitive CO<sub>2</sub> market that you envisage. Without those measures, it will be next to impossible to decarbonise without a further loss of Europe's industrial base.

In the annex you may find our requests in more detail.

Yours sincerely,

**Olivia Powis**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Carbon Capture & Storage Association

## Key asks – Putting CCUS at the centre of EU industrial policy

### 1. Include CCUS within the scope of the Clean Industrial Deal

The Industrial Carbon Management Strategy assigns a strong role to CCUS technologies, requiring at least 250 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> to be stored every year by 2040 in the European Economic Area. During the Clean Transition Dialogue in March, the CCSA first mentioned that more investments are needed to allow enough projects to become operational. The Clean Industrial Deal and the Industrial Decarbonisation Accelerator Act must include CCUS to support the fast deployment required.

### 2. Develop a regulatory framework for low-carbon industrial products

An EU regulatory framework for low-carbon products will be crucial to incentivise European consumers to favour and financially support green industrial products abated via low-carbon technologies, including CCS. This framework should build on the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation to trigger sufficient investments to meet the Industrial Carbon Management Strategy targets.

### 3. Significantly increase Connecting Europe Facility and Innovation Fund budgets

The Industrial Carbon Management Strategy highlights that the funding shortfall for CCS projects could amount to €10 billion by 2030<sup>4</sup>. Closing this funding gap should be a key focus point of the new Commission. The Draghi report clearly shows that Europe has become a leader in carbon capture technologies. This initial success must be preserved by providing stronger financial support for industrial installations and CO<sub>2</sub> transport infrastructure providers.

### 4. Prioritise an EU regulatory framework for CO<sub>2</sub> transport

Building the transport infrastructure required to achieve the Industrial Carbon Management Strategy targets will require stronger financial incentives and an investable regulatory framework. Developing a regulation on CO<sub>2</sub> transport, while ensuring streamlined permitting processes, will provide investors with the predictability required for large-scale capital-intensive investments.

### 5. Enable the cross-border transport and storage of captured carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) captured between the European Union/European Economic Area and the United Kingdom

Creating a Europe-wide CO<sub>2</sub> storage market is required to create economies of scale, drive down costs, develop effective and timely emissions reduction and support deployment – early findings from a CCSA study demonstrate this could provide 20% CO<sub>2</sub> storage savings to European emitters. President von der Leyen's Political Guidelines note the European Commission "will work to strengthen relations with the United Kingdom on issues of shared interest, such as energy, security"<sup>5</sup>. These strengthened relations should lay the ground for enhanced cooperation on CCUS by developing a cross-border solution to achieve a Europe-wide storage market.

<sup>1</sup> [Industrial production \(volume\) index overview](#), Eurostat, 2023. <sup>2</sup> [EU loses almost a million manufacturing jobs in just 4 years](#), ETUC, 2024. <sup>3</sup> European industries, unions and trade associations (including the CCSA) called for policy makers to take swift action in the Antwerp Declaration for a European Industrial Deal. <sup>4</sup> [Industrial Carbon Management Strategy](#), European Commission, 2024. <sup>5</sup> [Political guidelines for the next European Commission 2024–2029](#), Ursula von der Leyen, 2024.