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<i>Testo del comunicato</i>

Vedi allegato.



Snam: South₂ Corridor and Callisto Mediterranean CO₂ Network enter the 6th List of EU Projects of Common Interest (PCI)

San Donato Milanese (Milan), November 28th, 2023 - The two projects in which Snam is involved have been included in the 6th list of energy Projects of Common Interest (PCIs) announced today by the European Commission. The South₂ Corridor, listed as the "Hydrogen Corridor Italy - Austria – Germany", involves Snam together with the Transmission System Operators (TSOs) Trans Austria Gasleitung (TAG), Gas Connect Austria (GCA) in Austria, and bayernets in Germany, while the Callisto Mediterranean CO₂ Network includes the Carbon Capture and Storage project in Ravenna currently being developed by Eni and Snam.

Projects of Common Interest (PCIs) are identified every two years by the European Commission as key cross border infrastructure projects that link the energy systems of EU countries. PCI projects benefit from accelerated approval and implementation procedures as well as, under certain conditions, access to European funding from the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF).

The Italian H₂ Backbone, a crucial building block of the South₂ Corridor

The Italian H₂ Backbone is a crucial building block of the South₂ Corridor, a hydrogen pipeline corridor currently being developed by the European TSO Snam, TAG, GCA and bayernets. It is comprised of approximately 3,300 km of pipelines and several hundred MW of compression capacity, expected to become hydrogen-dedicated assets by 2030.

The development of the South₂ Corridor, which is part of the European Hydrogen Backbone, is fundamental for the development of an interconnected and diversified hydrogen backbone in Southern and Central Europe. With a hydrogen import capacity of 4 Mtpa from North Africa, the corridor could deliver more than 40% of the overall import target set by the REPowerEU Plan.

The initiative is centred around the utilisation of existing repurposed midstream infrastructure to transport hydrogen, with the inclusion of some new dedicated infrastructure where necessary. A high proportion of repurposed pipelines (>70%), while ensuring security of supply of natural gas over the medium to long term, will enable cost effective production and transportation of hydrogen and facilitate access to favourable renewable hydrogen production locations (wind and solar) in the southern Mediterranean region (Southern Italy, Tunisia and Algeria).

Snam has collected signed letters of support from renewable hydrogen producers for several megatonnes. The corridor also gained strong support from offtakers and storage operators along the whole route, serving hard-to-abate clusters of Italy (e.g. Augusta, Taranto and northern Italy), Austria (e.g. Styria, Vienna and Linz) and Germany (e.g. Burghausen and Ingolstadt).

As evidence of the corridor's significant contribution to the EU's supply security and decarbonization goals, the Energy and Environment Ministries of Italy, Austria, and Germany have all signed a trilateral letter expressing political support.

Further information on the initiative can be found at <https://www.south2corridor.net/>



CALLISTO, the pillar of the Mediterranean CCS Plan

The CALLISTO (CARbon LIquefaction transportation and STOrage) Mediterranean CO₂ Network project aims at developing the biggest open access multi-modal CO₂ Hub in the Mediterranean, supported by dedicated onshore transport infrastructures, with the purpose of enabling decarbonization of various industrial emitters clusters through CO₂ capture, aggregation, transportation and permanent storage. The purpose of this initiative is to effectively pursue decarbonization targets whilst preserving the production levels of energy intensive industries located in the region.

In its main scheme, the candidate PCI CALLISTO Mediterranean CO₂ Network includes the collection and transportation both onshore, through existing or new onshore pipeline, and offshore via shipping of CO₂ from emitters in Italy and France with the relevant CO₂ regasification and liquefaction hubs located in Italy and France for the final storage in the Ravenna CCS Hub in Italy.

This project, which is expected to become operational from 2027, is coordinated by Airliquide and promoted by 18 companies including Snam and Eni as operator of the Ravenna CCS Hub. It will contribute to abate emissions by enabling the transport and geological storage of captured CO₂ from industrial emission points to an Eni's offshore storage site, whose capacity is estimated in 500 MT of CO₂ and where the first injections will start in early 2024.

During the selection process, the project has obtained the support of both involved Member States, Italy and France. Moreover, the cooperation between Italy and France in designing a common CCS strategy has been confirmed by the emission in March 2023 of the "Mediterranean CCS Plan", signed by both governments, which aims at presenting the plan in support of the development of the first CCS project in the Mediterranean Basin, i.e. Callisto Mediterranean CO₂ Network Project, and enhances the promotion of further CCS projects in the Mediterranean Region.

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