



Press release of Cargo sous terrain AG

Olten, July 6, 2023

Even more climate protection thanks to Cargo sous terrain

Cargo sous terrain (CST) not only excels in its environmentally friendly goods logistics, but the project also has the potential to pave the way for the breakthrough of carbon capture and storage (CCS) technology by constructing the necessary transport infrastructure in Switzerland. CST is now launching a pilot project to demonstrate the feasibility of the process.

In the face of the advancing climate crisis, the capture and permanent storage of CO₂ underground, in addition to emission reductions, is a necessary measure to achieve net-zero goals and limit global warming. This process, known as Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS), is being developed in various locations. In Switzerland, this application is intended for hard-to-abate emissions, such as those from cement production or waste management, according to the Federal Council.

Companies in the Netherlands, Norway, and Iceland are working on providing underground storage capacity to offer as CO₂ storage to interested states. In Switzerland, such geological storage sites would need to be explored and developed. A feasibility study published in September of last year concluded that only a CO₂ pipeline could provide the capacity for an economically viable export of large quantities of the climate-damaging gas. According to a roadmap for the expansion of CCS and negative emission technologies (NET) from May 2022, the federal government is examining regulatory options and concrete proposals until the end of 2024.

The underground CST logistics span a network from Geneva to St. Gallen and from Basel to Lucerne, with an additional branch from Bern to Thun. This route is suitable for efficiently disposing of a large portion of Switzerland's CO₂ point sources, namely waste incineration plants and cement factories. The prerequisite for this is the installation of a pipeline under the roadway in the CST tunnel, where space is already available. Therefore, the Board of Directors of Cargo sous terrain AG has decided at its last meeting to include this CO₂ pipeline as part of the planning of the new logistics infrastructure.

Cargo sous terrain initiates a pilot project

Over the next few months, a feasibility study will examine the technical, economic, and legal framework conditions of this sub-project within CST in cooperation with industry and logistics partners. Since there will be no European pipeline network for the transport of CO₂ for some time to come, CST is planning to export it by ship via the Rhine port in Basel.

CST thereby intends to complement its environmental advantages as a logistics system by actively contributing to the achievement of Swiss climate goals through CCS.

Further information for the media

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Carbon Capture and Storage on the website of the Federal Office for the Environment FOEN:
<https://www.bafu.admin.ch/bafu/en/home/topics/climate/info-specialists/co2-capture-removal-storage.html>

www.cst.ch