Subject: Legal clarity of CCS and CCUS maritime transportation

Given the importance of CO\textsubscript{2} transport regarding the Net-Zero Industry Act and recognising the pivotal role of maritime transport, CO\textsubscript{2} must be seen as a new trade commodity fostering new vessel types and activities under the European flag, with the purpose of maritime transport for safe, permanent geological storage or utilisation of CO\textsubscript{2} between EU Member States and the European Economic Area (EEA). Thus, the legal certainty of cross-border transport is critical.

The International Maritime Organization’s London Protocol delineates permissible cross-border transport of waste, with CO\textsubscript{2} intended for further use, such as in PtX facilities, being exempt. However, a proposed amendment specifically addressing CO\textsubscript{2} for permanent storage is pending ratification, leading to discussions on the necessity of bilateral agreements among Member States.

1. Can the Commission confirm that Directive 2009/31/EC and Directive 2003/87/EC are the applicable legal frameworks in place in the EEA for the capture, cross-border transport (including maritime transport) and safe geological storage of carbon dioxide between EU Member States and the EEA?

2. Accordingly, can the Commission confirm that any operator of CO\textsubscript{2} transport networks and/or CO\textsubscript{2} storage sites enjoys the full benefit of the EU legal framework to import or export captured CO\textsubscript{2} without bilateral agreements when the purpose is permanent storage?

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