



## **IEAGHG Information Paper; 2012-IP14: ONS Stavanger, 2012**

### **Background: ONS Event, Stavanger, Norway, August 2012**

The ONS Event consists of both a series of conferences and an exhibition, some 60,000 people from 109 countries attended over the 4 days it was open. The exhibition focus is on the offshore oil and gas industry, and the offshore wind industry. It seems that recent discoveries in the northern North Sea and in the Barents Sea have injected new life into the oil and gas sector in Norway. Many of the exhibitors were openly prospecting for new staff to meet the upturn in the market. There was a large stand from the Government of Western Australia also focusing on recruitment. Of particular interest were stands on the development of the Arctic resources around Greenland, and a block of stands by 10 Chinese companies selling their wares into the North Sea market place.

IEAGHG were invited to attend the ONS event in Stavanger this year by Statoil and the ONS organiser of the CCS session, Birte Marie Skoftland, formerly the IEAGHG representative for Statkraft of Norway. The session was entitled CCS: Bringing it down to Earth and was split into three parts; Technology and Innovation, International Perspectives and Norwegian Perspectives.

The Technology Innovation session summarised:

- The ECCSEL project which is a pan-European research infrastructure, led by SINTEF of Norway which is looking to reduce the costs of CCS through co-operative research and knowledge/expertise sharing across Europe.
- Statoil experiences of CCS in a presentation entitled “Key elements to assure safe storage - a prerequisite to realise CCS”
- An academics perspective of what further research is needed.

The focus of the discussion that followed the first part of the session was largely based around public awareness / public acceptance and public misconceptions about CCS and how the scientific community can better communicate its results to lay people.

The International Perspectives element provided the following:

- A status report on the US R&D Programme on CCS, including the regional partnership programme as well as the refocusing of the carbon storage programme that was underway to look at CO<sub>2</sub>-EOR rather than deep saline formations.
- An insight from Bill Spence of Shell, on his twin tasks to try and predict when there might be a market for CCS, whilst ensuring that a company like Shell has the capabilities and skill base to play an active role when the CCS market finally comes about; but unfortunately he didn't specify a date!

The discussion that followed focused on what more is needed to stimulate a market for CCS in Europe and clearly a significantly increased ETS price over the current price was central to most peoples' thinking

The third part on Norwegian Perspectives was chaired by Bjorn Erik Haugen, CEO Gassnova and covered the following:

- An update on the Mongstad test centre
- A view of the potential for CCS on the Norwegian Continental Shelf
- A presentation on the Norwegian CCS Atlas, details of which can be found at [www.npd.no](http://www.npd.no)



Norway has significant potential for CO<sub>2</sub> storage in deep saline formations. Early studies on CO<sub>2</sub>-EOR did not show promise although with the oil price at \$100 a barrel then CO<sub>2</sub>-EOR opportunities were being reevaluated. Early issues were that the rigs were not CO<sub>2</sub> ready, the availability of CO<sub>2</sub> was limited and the costs were high. To make it work would need a collection grid from the UK or Northern Europe. The Troll field has high oil reserves and was being looked at as a CO<sub>2</sub>-EOR pilot.

The session closed with an assessment that Norway was CCS ready, but it need a market stimulus and some champions to take things forward in Norway.

The conferences presentations were videoed and can be found at [www.ONS.no](http://www.ONS.no) under the Centre Court banner for Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August. There were several other sessions on the centre court that might also prove interesting to members. One that followed the CCS session that proved interesting was: Offshore Wind - Challenges and opportunities regarding technology, financing and markets.

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