

The Failed Europeanisation of Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS)

A Comparative Analysis of the Impact of Domestic Factors on Six CCS Demonstration Projects

Publication

Document

Citation

Mulligan, Jack (2020): The Failed Europeanisation of Carbon Capture and Storage: A Comparative Analysis of the Impact of Domestic Factors on Six CCS Demonstration Projects. Freie Universität Berlin.

This paper aims to explain to the failure of six carbon capture and storage (CCS) demonstration projects installed at coal power plants within the European Union. The projects were funded across six different members with varying suitability to coal-based CCS, which raises the question of whether common domestic factors can be identified that explain the failure of all projects. The perspective of Europeanisation is adopted to examine this question.

While coal is decreasingly relevant in the European context, it continues to be used as a fuel source in the Global South. Analysing this episode could thus help better support implementation of CCS elsewhere. Moreover, coal-based CCS is but just one example of a negative emissions technology. Explaining the failure of coal-based CCS could thus help to prevent the failure of upcoming negative technologies such as direct air capture.

The paper is available for download.

Language

English

Authorship

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Year

2020

Dimension

20 pp.

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Keywords

Energy EU Evaluation Carbon capture and storage, European Union, EU Europe, Germany, Spain, United Kingdom, Italy, Poland, the Netherlands

Source URL: *https://www.ecologic.eu/*17445