

The Case for CCS as a Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)

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The Carbon Capture & Sequestration (CCS) marketplace is lacking standardization and therefore the ability to allow CCS projects to be considered as Clean Development Mechanisms. There is an international push to change this and recognize CCS. This recognition will allow for standardized and ultimately address a much needed CDM option and international standardization.

This process is beginning with a bi-national effort between the United States and Canada. CSA Standards, a leading developer of standards, codes and personnel certification programs, and the International Performance Assessment Centre for Geologic Storage of Carbon Dioxide (IPAC-CO2 Research Inc.) have partnered to develop a bi-national American-Canadian carbon capture and storage (CCS) standard for the geologic storage of carbon dioxide (GSC).

The GSC standard will be developed by leading North American experts and, upon completion, will be the world's first formally recognized CCS standard in this area.

It is intended that the new standard will be used as a basis for the promotion of international standards through the International Organization for Standardization.

The standard is expected to be completed by the end of 2011.

CSA Standards will manage the standards development process through the establishment of a Technical Committee (Committee) that shall be responsible for developing and maintaining the standard. A seed document based on existing industry guidelines, related standards, and IPAC-CO2 expertise has been prepared and will be presented to the Committee for consideration. The Committee, with process and editorial support from CSA Standards, will be completely responsible for the content of the final standard. Membership of the Committee will be drawn from experts with full GSC project life cycle knowledge and experience and will represent a balance of stakeholder needs.

The bi-national American-Canada Consensus Standard will address the full geological carbon dioxide storage project life cycle including: site selection, operation, closure, and post-closure stewardship. It is expected that ISO standardization and certification will follow.