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**Carbon dioxide capture, transportation  
and geological storage — Vocabulary  
— Cross cutting terms**

*Captage, transport et stockage géologique du dioxyde de carbone —  
Vocabulaire — Termes transversaux*

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## Foreword

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## Introduction

The objectives of the document are the following:

- to provide a comprehensive list of terms and their definitions for carbon dioxide capture, transportation and geological storage including through EOR operation in order to facilitate communication among:
  - experts involved in the development of ISO standards on carbon dioxide capture, transportation and geological storage;
  - other carbon dioxide capture, transportation and geological storage stakeholders;
- to provide the basis for common understanding for all future ISO standards for carbon dioxide capture, transportation and geological storage.

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# Carbon dioxide capture, transportation and geological storage — Vocabulary — Cross cutting terms

## 1 Scope

This document defines a list of cross-cutting terms commonly used in the field of carbon dioxide capture, transportation and geological sub-surface storage including through storage in association with enhanced oil recovery (EOR) operations.

This document only deals with CO<sub>2</sub> geological sub-surface storage.

The terms are classified as follows:

- general terms and definitions relating to carbon dioxide;
- general terms and definitions relating to carbon dioxide capture, transportation and storage;
- general terms and definitions relating to monitoring and measuring performance in carbon dioxide capture, transportation and geological storage;
- general terms and definitions relating to risk;
- general terms and definitions relating to relationships with stakeholders;

A list of the main acronyms used is given in [Annex A](#).

## 2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

### 3.1 General terms and definitions relating to carbon dioxide capture, transportation and storage

#### 3.1.1

#### carbon dioxide capture and storage

#### CCS

process consisting of the separation of CO<sub>2</sub> from industrial and energy-related sources, transportation and injection into a geological formation, resulting in long term isolation from the atmosphere

Note 1 to entry: CCS is often referred to as Carbon Capture and Storage. This terminology is not encouraged because it is inaccurate: the objective is the capture of carbon dioxide and not the capture of carbon. Tree plantation is another form of carbon capture that does not describe precisely the physical process of removing CO<sub>2</sub> from industrial emission sources.

Note 2 to entry: The term "sequestration" is also used alternatively to "storage". The term "storage" is preferred since "sequestration" is more generic and can also refer to biological processes (absorption of carbon by living organisms).

Note 3 to entry: Long term means the minimum period necessary for geological storage of CO<sub>2</sub> to be considered an effective and environmentally safe climate change mitigation option.

Note 4 to entry: The term Carbon dioxide Capture, Utilization (or use) and Storage (CCUS) includes the concept that isolation from the atmosphere could be associated with a beneficial outcome. CCUS is embodied within the definition of CCS to the extent that long term isolation of the CO<sub>2</sub> occurs through storage within geological formations. CCU is Carbon Capture and Utilization (or use) without storage within geological formations.

Note 5 to entry: CCS should also ensure long term isolation of CO<sub>2</sub> from oceans, lakes, potable water supplies and other natural resources.

### 3.1.2

#### **CCS project life cycle**

entirety of phases of a CCS project from concept through to post-closure

Note 1 to entry: The CCS project life cycle includes mainly concept, design, obtaining permit, construction, operation, monitoring, measurement and verification, decommissioning, closure and post-closure (see [Annex B](#)).

### 3.1.3

#### **life cycle assessment**

##### **LCA**

compilation and evaluation of the inputs, outputs and the potential environmental and health impacts of a CCS project or a component part throughout its life cycle

[SOURCE: ISO 14040:2006, 3.2 modified — "and health" and "a CCS project or a component part" have been added and "of a product system" has been deleted. The Note 1 to entry has been added.]

Note 1 to entry: Boundaries of the assessment include all equipment and processes necessary to evaluate a CCS project or component part. The main input and output flows may include raw materials, process gases, electricity, fossil fuels, water, CO<sub>2</sub>, emission in air and water, solid and liquid waste, co-products, etc.

### 3.1.4

#### **value chain**

entire sequence of activities or parties that provide or receive value in the form of [products](#) or [services](#)

[SOURCE: ISO 26000:2010, 2.25]

### 3.1.5

#### **CCS energy consumption**

total energy used within defined boundaries of a CCS project

Note 1 to entry: It could be expressed in gigajoules.

### 3.1.6

#### **intermittency**

lack of continuity in operation, as measured by the frequency or extent to which a process or installation is stopped or unavailable

Note 1 to entry: Intermittency includes variable CO<sub>2</sub> flows among project components.

### 3.1.7

#### **closure period**

period between the cessation of CO<sub>2</sub> injection and the demonstration of compliance with the criteria for site closure



**3.1.8****post-closure period**

period that begins after the demonstration of compliance with the criteria for site closure

Note 1 to entry: In some countries, demonstration of compliance may need approval from a third party.

**3.1.9****geological storage complex**

subsurface geological system extending vertically to comprise storage unit(s) and primary and secondary seals, and extending laterally to the defined limits of the CO<sub>2</sub> storage project

Note 1 to entry: Limits can be defined by natural geological boundaries, regulation or legal rights.

**3.2 General terms and definitions relating to CO<sub>2</sub>****3.2.1****supercritical CO<sub>2</sub>**

CO<sub>2</sub> at pressures and temperatures above both the critical pressure and critical temperature

**3.2.2****dense phase CO<sub>2</sub>**

CO<sub>2</sub> in its liquid or supercritical phases

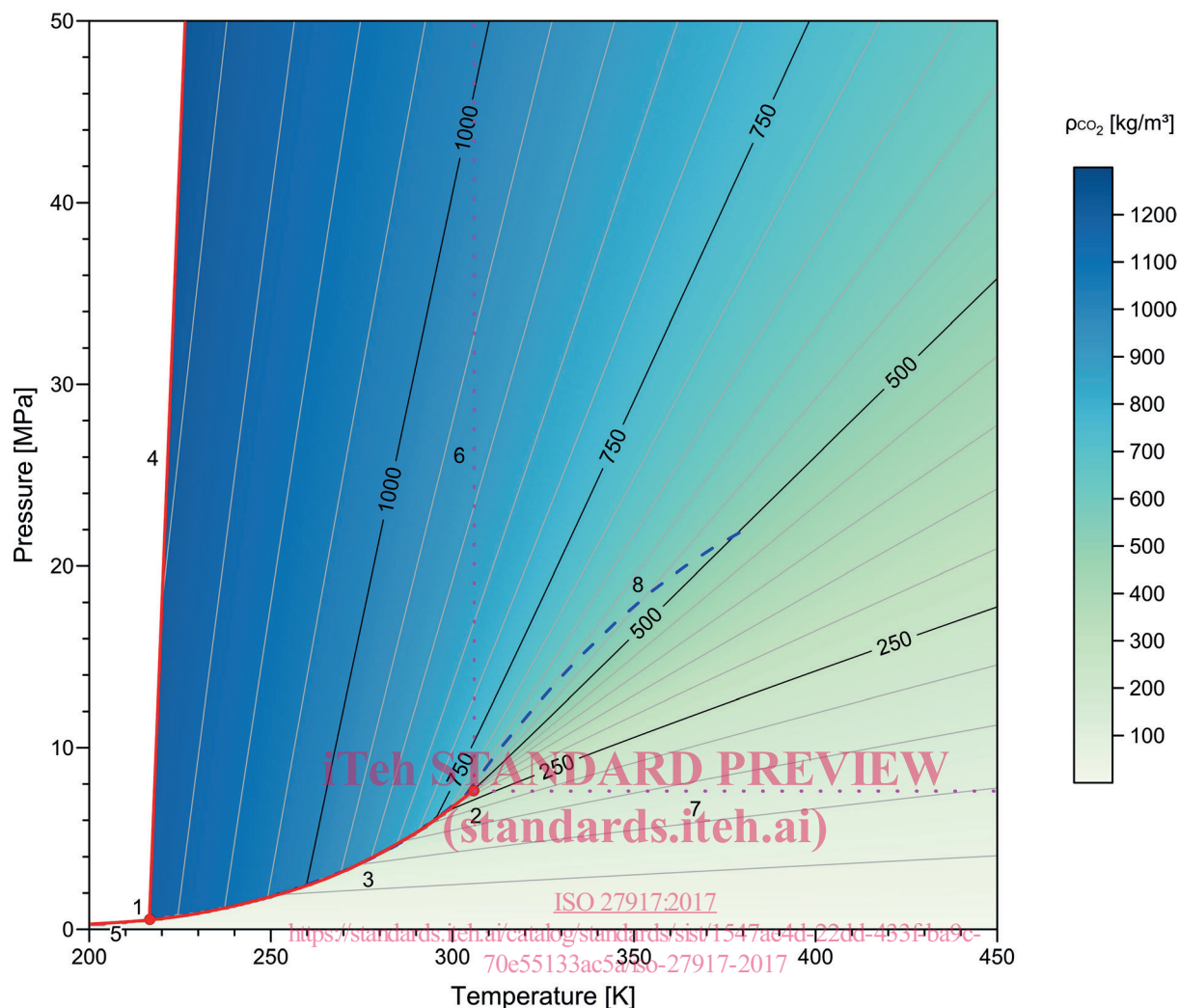
Note 1 to entry: Compression and transport of dense phase CO<sub>2</sub> are commonly achieved using pumps. Compression and transport at lower densities are commonly achieved with turbo-compressors.

Note 2 to entry: Not all supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> is in a dense phase and not all dense phase CO<sub>2</sub> is supercritical.

Note 3 to entry: [Figure 1](#) illustrates pure CO<sub>2</sub> phase diagram and density plots, calculated according to Reference [16], and plotted as a function of temperature and pressure.

[ISO 27917:2017](#)

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### Key

- 1 triple point
- 2 critical point
- 3 liquid-gas phase boundary
- 4 solid-(dense) fluid phase boundary
- 5 solid-(gaseous) fluid phase boundary
- 6 critical temperature
- 7 critical pressure
- 8 lower operation limit for radial pumps

**Figure 1 — Pure CO<sub>2</sub> phase diagram and density plots**

Note 4 to entry: The curve defined by Key number 8 is shown as an example illustrating typical operation limits specific to individual pumps, according to Reference [17].

- Fluid CO<sub>2</sub> in the p-T-range between lines 3, 4 and 6 is often named liquid CO<sub>2</sub>.
- Fluid CO<sub>2</sub> in the p-T-range between lines 3, 5 and 7 is often named gaseous CO<sub>2</sub>.
- Fluid CO<sub>2</sub> in the p-T-range between lines 6 and 7 is often named supercritical CO<sub>2</sub>.
- Solid CO<sub>2</sub> in the p-T-range between lines 4 and 5 is often named dry ice.
- Fluid CO<sub>2</sub> in the p-T-range above lines 3 and 8 is often named dense phase CO<sub>2</sub>.

Note 5 to entry: In thermodynamic equilibrium, liquid and gaseous CO<sub>2</sub> do only coexist at p-T-values specified by line 3 between points 1 and 2.

### 3.2.3

#### **critical point**

highest temperature and pressure at which a pure substance (e.g. CO<sub>2</sub>) can exist as a gas and a liquid in equilibrium

Note 1 to entry: For a multicomponent fluid mixture of a given composition, the critical point is the intersection of the bubble and the dew point curves.

### 3.2.4

#### **critical pressure**

vapour pressure at the critical temperature

Note 1 to entry: According to Reference [16], the critical pressure for pure CO<sub>2</sub> is expressed in absolute pressure as 7,3773 MPa (gauge pressure 7,28 MPag).

### 3.2.5

#### **critical temperature**

temperature above which liquid cannot be formed simply by increasing the pressure

Note 1 to entry: According to Reference [16], the critical temperature for pure CO<sub>2</sub> is 304,1282 K.

### 3.2.6

#### **CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent**

unit for comparing the radiative forcing of a GHG to carbon dioxide

Note 1 to entry: The carbon dioxide equivalent is calculated using the mass of a given GHG multiplied by its global warming potential.

[SOURCE: ISO 14064-2:2006, 2.21]

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### 3.2.7

#### **global warming potential**

#### **GWP**

factor describing the radiative forcing impact of one mass-based unit of a given greenhouse gas relative to an equivalent unit of carbon dioxide over a specified period of time

[SOURCE: adapted from ISO 14064-2:2006, 2.20]

### 3.2.8

#### **CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction**

calculated net decrease of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions between a baseline scenario and the CCS project output

Note 1 to entry: In most cases, a CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction may be referred to as “CO<sub>2</sub> avoided”. CO<sub>2</sub> avoided may also refer to CO<sub>2</sub> removals from the atmosphere.

[SOURCE: ISO 14064-2:2006, 2.7 modified — “greenhouse gas” and “GHG” have been replaced by “CO<sub>2</sub>” in the term and the definition. “project” has been replaced by “CCS project output”.]

### 3.2.9

#### **abatement**

reduction in the amount, degree or intensity of emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> or other pollutants

[SOURCE: IPCC:2005 modified]

### 3.2.10

#### **CO<sub>2</sub> stream**

stream consisting overwhelmingly of carbon dioxide

Note 1 to entry: the CO<sub>2</sub> stream typically includes impurities and may include substances added to the stream to improve performance of CCS and/or to enable CO<sub>2</sub> detection.