

**Ervia's cover letter for the
Evaluation of the Guidelines
on State Aid for
Environmental Protection and
Energy 2014-2020**

19/07/2019

Ervia

Introduction

Ervia welcomes the opportunity to make submissions in the consultation on the Guidelines on State aid for Environmental Protection and Energy 2014-2020. Ervia's online response is a targeted submission focussed on Carbon Capture and Storage under State Aid Guidelines and does not intend to cover other sectors.

Ervia

Ervia is the Irish commercial semi-state multi-utility company responsible for the delivery of Ireland's national gas and water infrastructure and services. Given its expertise in gas infrastructure, Ervia intends to develop carbon capture and storage ("CCS") technology in Ireland to work towards meeting Ireland's climate change targets. In order to do so, Ervia anticipates that it will require significant amounts of aid (which it hopes to secure from the Irish Government and from the EU), in line with experiences in the Netherlands and the UK to date.

Ervia's submission to this consultation is limited to the interaction between the State aid regime and CCS projects in Europe.

Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS)

CCS technology is a key element of the European Union's climate and energy policy framework, having been acknowledged as such in both the Commission's proposal and the Council's conclusions. CCS is also increasingly featuring in EU energy regulation, in particular, with the enactment of the CCS Directive in 2009, the specific requirement at Article 36 of the Industrial Emissions Directive that geological storage of carbon dioxide must be assessed for all new combustion plants with a rated electrical output of 300 megawatts or more, and the pro-CCS aspects of the NER300 programme and the Directive to improve and extend the greenhouse gas emission allowance trading scheme of the Community. CCS is clearly acknowledged to be a key part of the future of the energy industry in Europe and central to the fight against climate change.

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