

PRESS RELEASE

COAL2GAS 1st project workshop

11th of May, Liège – Belgium

All partners' countries attended the 1st COAL2GAS workshop hosted by Most Coal Engineering SPRL - MCE its Liège office (13, rue Wiertz), Belgium on May 11, 2015. The workshop was part of Work Package 4, Task 4.2 and addressed the following topic: "Definition of the optimum UCG configuration, selection of process operations and monitoring techniques for the pre-selected site(s) in Oltenia coalfield"

The event was organized by MCE at its headquarter and was chaired by dr. Marc Mostade, from MCE. WP4 entitled "Panel and Well Design & Engineering for Integrity and Safety / Surface Plant Assessment" is coordinated by MCE. Task 4.2: Selection of suitable process operation and monitoring techniques (MCE) includes this first project event.

The event started with a welcome address delivered by dr. Marc Mostade, MCE, followed by five technical sessions and a final concluding discussion.

During Session 1: UCG configuration and process operations, coordinated by MCE, Belgium, all attendees agreed upon: the guidelines for the definition of the optimum UCG configuration, the selection of process operations and the monitoring techniques for the pre-selected site(s) in the Oltenia coalfield.

Partners from Poland – GIG coordinated the Session 2: Lab works, experimentation conditions and monitoring. Comments and remarks were made at the end of GIG presentation regarding the 1st UCG experiment performed using Premogovnik Valenje lignite at atmospheric pressure.

Session 3: Lab works and coal/rocks properties characterization – coordinated by CERTH, Greece underlined the need for receiving a.s.a.p. Oltenia lignite samples, which will be selected from different targeted coal layers. Further considerations were made related to the research facility which will perform the analysis of the rock properties of the under-burden and over-burden.

The afternoon agenda included the last two technical sessions and conclusion:

- Session 4: In-situ monitoring techniques, coordinated by DMT from Germany, reviewed the potential UCG monitoring instrumentation;
- Session 5: THMC Modelling, coordinated by TNO from The Netherlands, covered issues related to the modelling input parameters, in order to simulate different UCG processes inside Oltenia coalfield; TNO will cooperate with CERTH also for the geo-mechanical modelling

Next steps for 2015 within COAL2GAS will be a site visit hosted by CEO, Romania in Oltenia coalfield where DMT, Germany and ISPE, Romania will attend; 3rd project meeting to be organised by CEO in Tg.Jiu, Romania, including a site visit at the same coalfield.

2016 will start with the next project workshop, as part of Task 4.3 "Well design & engineering for integrity and safety" within the same WP4 – for the first day, and the second day issues related to Tasks 5.4 & 5.5, within WP5 "Risk Analysis, Environmental Issues and Legislative Background". The event was decided to be hosted by TNO, leader of the work package in The Netherlands.