

**PRESS RELEASE****COAL2GAS 3<sup>rd</sup> project meeting****27-28 October, Tg.Jiu – Romania**

***All project partners attended, either in person or by video conference, the 3<sup>rd</sup> COAL2GAS meeting hosted by Societatea Complexul Energetic Oltenia – Sucursala Divizia Miniera (CEO-SDM) at their premises in Tg. Jiu – Romania and the mining perimeter of interest for developing a future UCG project, on October 27-28, 2015.***

The event was organized by CEO-SDM and was held in the first day at their headquarters' in Tg.Jiu (Mining Division Branch offices) and, the second day, at Urdari mining site.

The first day was dedicated to discussions on the progress of project activities between representatives of the partner's organisations'.

The event started with a welcome address delivered by dr. Daniel Antonie, Mining Division Branch Director, CEO-SDM, followed by an overview of Oltenia coal basin; status of mining perimeters in operation and of closed mines.

Ms. Camelia Vasile, ISPE, delivered an overall project update and underlined all administrative issues.

The work progress within COAL2GAS main tasks and planning activities for the next six months were presented by each work package leaders and/or contributors, covering the followings:

- ✓ Status of deliverables;
- ✓ Planning and distribution of work till next project meeting (2<sup>nd</sup> trimester 2016);
- ✓ Any other relevant information.

The main topics of this meeting were: the declassification of the geological data for the analysed mining perimeters inside Oltenia coal basin; site specific technology selection criteria; large scale gasification tests results for Oltenia and Velenje lignite and the final decision regarding the selected site - the future UCG pilot, for preparing the test drillings.

The afternoon meeting was dedicated to WP4 - panel and well design and engineering; WP5 - risk analysis and environmental issues; WP6 - monitoring techniques and monitoring plans, and the last but not least the preparation work for delivering, in due time, of an outstanding Mid-term Report. Based on the analyses of the collected data and the selection criteria in terms of technological, environmental and legislative issues, the future UCG pilot project's site was proposed to be located in Urdari – Valea cu apă mining perimeter.

To this aim the second day included a visit to the Urdari mining perimeter, where the future drillings will be performed. Here, after a thorough analysis of the administrative precinct of the "under conservation" Urdari underground mine, the locations for the future exploration boreholes have been marked on the field.

Considering that the geological, hydrogeological, coal and mining parameters in the Oltenia coal basin were released, the main concluding remarks, within this 3<sup>rd</sup> project meeting, were related to:

- the possibility to start the data analyses, including setting-up the input data for rolling-out 2D and 3D models;
- the need to prepare the necessary documentation in order to issue the exploration permit by the Romanian UCG test site owner (CEO-SDM) and perform the research drillings in Urdari mine precinct; 6 boreholes have to be executed, tested and analysed for improving the site specific data base and acquiring specific samples for further lab testing.

The next consortium meeting will take place in May/June 2016 and the proposed meeting place is Essen, Germany.