Workshop in the European Parliament hosted by MEP Ondrej Knotek

Brussels, 23rd May 2023 (17:00 – 19:00)
Room: Spinelli 7F387

Draft Agenda

17.00 Welcoming remarks:

MEP Ondrej Knotek, Renew Europe Group

17.05 Keynote addresses:

Mr. Marc Lemaître, Director-General for Research and Innovation 10’ video message

Dr. Tomasz Rogala, President of EURACOAL and Chairman of the Board, Polska Grupa Górnictza S.A. (PGG – Polish Mining Group), Transformational Projects for a New Era 10’ presentation

17.25 Part 1: Tangible methane mitigation strategies for EUROPE

10’ presentation + 15’ discussion/interventions

REM: A “big-ticket” RFCS project on the reduction of methane emissions from post-mining goafs. The aim is to minimise methane inflow into ventilation air by the intelligent management of greenhouse gases (GHG) in coal mines. In line with the European Green Deal, this sustainable technology is also of critical importance to minimise the costs of mine closure plans and mitigate the emissions of coal mine methane to atmosphere.

Speakers:

Mr. Artur Badylak, Director – Demethanisation and Energy Management Office, JSW – Jastrzębska Spółka Węglowa S.A., REM Project in Pniówek Coal Mine 4’

Dr. Jacek Skiba, REM Project Coordinator, GIG – Główny Instytut Górnictwa (Central Mining Institute), Ventilation air methane emissions reduction – challenges for the mining industry 6’

17.50 Part 2: From POTENTIALS to GreenJOBS: how accompanying measures project ideas can support development of green business models for coal regions

6’ presentation + 20’ interventions by different countries + 15’ discussion

POTENTIALS (https://potentialsproject.eu): Examines the unique aspects of end-of-life coal mine sites and coal-fired power plants, along with closely related neighbouring industries, taking advantage of their joint potential to stimulate new economic activities, developing jobs and economic value in the coal regions in transition. Makes recommendations in line with Territorial Just Transition Plans and proposals of relevance to EU support available to coal regions under the Just Transition Fund.
GreenJOBS (https://greenjobsproject.uniovi.es/): Focuses on the repurposing of end-of-life underground coal mines by deploying emerging renewable energy and circular economy technologies to promote sustainable local economic growth and maximise the number of green, quality jobs.

Speakers:

POLAND: Prof. Alicja Krzemień, Head of Laboratory for Risk Assessment and Industrial Safety, GIG – Główny Instytut Górnictwa (Central Mining Institute) 6’

Lessons learned from the project development and feedback from regional transition in different coal regions

Updating of Territorial Just Transition Plans:

SPAIN: Prof. Pedro Riesgo Fernandez, University of Oviedo (UNIOVI), The Case of Asturias (Spain) 2’

GREECE: Dr. Nikolaos Koukouzas, Centre for Research and Technology Hellas (CERTH), Social Impact Assessment 2’

GERMANY: Dr. Stefan Möllerherm, Technische Hochschule Georg Agricola (THGA), Territorial Impact Assessment 2’

Feedback from industry on Just Transition:

SLOVENIA: Mag. Matjaz Kamenik, Project Manager, Premogovnik Velenje, d.o.o. (Coal Mine Velenje) 2’

SPAIN: Dr. Noel Canto Toimil, Head of Innovation Department, Hulleras del Norte, S.A. (HUNOSA) 2’

GERMANY: Dipl.-Ing. Sven Göhring, Advisor – Environment and Maintenance, VGB Energy e.V. (vgbe) 2’

CZECH REPUBLIC: Dr. Jiří Štěrba, Deputy Director of the Department of Strategy and Development, SUAS Group 3’

POLAND: Prof. Stanisław Prusik, Director of GIG – Główny Instytut Górnictwa (Central Mining Institute) 2’

REA: Dr. Sebastiano Fumero, Head of Unit REA.B1 – Future Low Emission Industries, European Research Executive Agency (REA), The new objectives and calls of the RFCS: opportunities to support the transition of coal regions

19.00 Cocktail reception

Total expected time: 110 minutes