# Carbon Tracker Report Raises Concerns Over Blue Hydrogen and Gas-CCS Climate Impact in the UK and EU



A recent report by Carbon Tracker highlights significant concerns regarding the climate impact of blue hydrogen and Gas-CCS (carbon capture and storage) projects in the UK and EU. The report reveals that CO2 emissions from these projects could be two to three times higher than reported, once upstream emissions from gas extraction, processing, and transport are considered.

The analysis examines the implications of relying on these technologies as part of decarbonization strategies. Notably, the UK has increasingly turned to imported liquefied natural gas (LNG), particularly from the USA, following the 2022-23 energy crisis. The report warns that this reliance could disrupt the UK’s net zero targets if the true carbon intensity of imported LNG is not accurately accounted for.

Carbon Tracker's report indicates that underestimations of upstream emissions could consume up to 64% of the UK’s sixth carbon budget. For blue hydrogen, which is produced using natural gas with carbon capture, and gas-CCS plants, these high upstream emissions could raise the carbon intensity beyond UK and EU low-carbon standards.

The report assessed specific projects like BP’s H2Teesside blue hydrogen facility and the BP and Equinor-led NZT Power gas-CCS plant. Findings suggest that the lifetime CO2 emissions from these could be significantly higher than currently reported, potentially up to three times more.

Recommendations from Carbon Tracker include stricter monitoring and reporting standards for imported fossil fuels, prioritizing green hydrogen (produced using renewable electricity), and updating project approval processes to mitigate risks from high carbon-intensive gas supplies.