

PRESS RELEASE

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Interest confirmed for CO₂ transport infrastructure in Hauts-de-France, Grand Est, Normandy and Ile-de-France

French national gas transmission operator NaTran is pleased to announce the successful outcome of its call for expressions of interest (CEI) for the inter-regional CO₂ transport infrastructure project covering the Hauts-de-France, Grand Est, Normandy and Île-de-France regions. A diverse range of stakeholders, from CO₂ producers to CO₂ conversion initiatives, demonstrated strong interest in the CEI, reflecting confidence in the developing French CO₂ market. The CEI identified a total volume of 16.7 million tonnes of CO₂, approximately 27% of emissions generated by the French manufacturing industry, available for capture and transport for subsequent conversion or permanent storage. These findings underscore the demand for a large-scale infrastructure project that will support decarbonisation targets while boosting economic attractiveness at the regional level.

NaTran has received over 200 submissions from stakeholders across Hauts-de-France, Grand Est, Normandy and Ile-de-France, representing every segment of the CO₂ value chain:

- Nearly 90 industry players, including manufacturing sites, waste management companies, biomass plant and incinerator operators;
- Over 100 methanisation facilities looking to convert their biogenic CO₂;
- Five CO₂ volume aggregators which, by sharing injection points, can integrate small-scale CO₂ producers and optimise CO₂ transport at the regional level;
- A sovereign storage project in the Paris region.

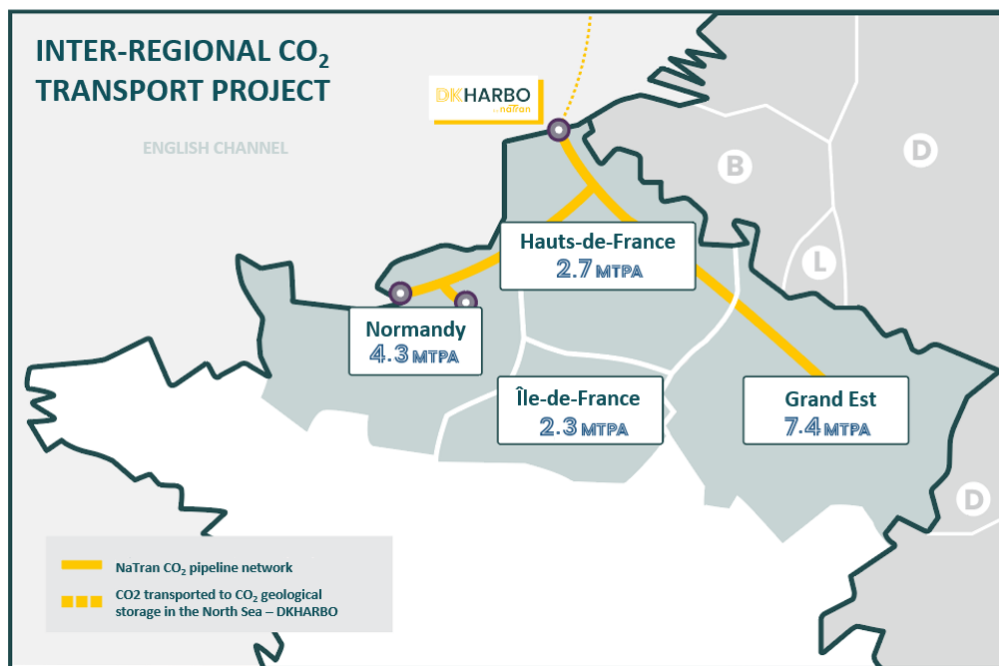
Additionally, the CEI singled out CO₂ export projects via maritime terminals or deep-sea pipelines to permanent storage sites in geological formations, as well as CO₂ capture site (primarily for e-fuel production), thereby supporting the development of a circular carbon economy in France.

The total transportation demand identified reached 16.7 million tonnes of CO₂ annually, representing approximately 27% of French manufacturing emissions and 4.5% of national CO₂ emissions.

These findings confirm the significant availability of biogenic CO₂¹, amounting to 6.4 million tonnes per year out of the total 16.7 million tonnes. Substantial demand has also been identified for the conversion of this CO₂, totalling 2 million tonnes annually.

The largest volumes have been identified in the Grand Est and Normandy regions. CO₂ producers from Luxembourg, Germany, and Switzerland have also shown interest in NaTran, adding a cross-border dimension to the project.

¹ Biogenic CO₂: CO₂ produced from biomass, which consists of recent and renewable organic matter (plants, organic waste, agricultural or forestry residues). Unlike fossil-derived CO₂, biogenic CO₂ is part of the natural carbon cycle, as it originates from carbon captured by plants during their growth phase. As a result, its re-emission or conversion has a neutral impact on the climate.



NaTran will leverage these insights to initiate a feasibility study in collaboration with all stakeholders and public decarbonisation initiatives.

A decarbonisation project for northern France

The NaTran-led project is set to become a major CO₂ transport backbone project stretching approximately 1,000 kilometres across four French regions (Grand Est, Hauts-de-France, Normandy, Île-de-France). This extensive network will link carbon capture and utilisation projects, primarily situated in key industrial hubs such as the Seine Valley and Dunkirk Port. Underpinned by the CCUS (Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage) technology framework, the project aims to transport captured CO₂ emissions to conversion or storage sites, notably through interconnections with the DKHARBO project in Dunkirk. Developed by NaTran in partnership with Norwegian energy company Equinor, DKHARBO is designed to connect Dunkirk Port with permanent geological storage facilities located in the North Sea. The integration with Dunkirk and the DKHARBO project, which serves as a CO₂ export hub, thus enhances large-scale transport capacity.

“The NaTran-led project addresses a genuine demand from economic stakeholders and regional authorities pursuing decarbonisation initiatives and the development of emerging e-fuel sectors. We already acknowledge the positive impact of CCUS technology, and this CEI further strengthens our commitment to advancing this innovative solution intended to support the energy transition and industrial sovereignty,” said **Anthony Mazzenga**, Development Director at NaTran.

The inter-regional CO₂ transport project, covering the broad north-eastern quarter of France, fully aligns with NaTran’s 2030 corporate strategy, which aims to develop 1,000 kilometres of hydrogen and CO₂ networks by 2030. In addition to this inter-regional transport venture and the DKHARBO initiative, NaTran is also advancing a CO₂ transport project in the Grand Ouest region, known as GOCO₂. Collectively, these projects represent the first phase in the phased deployment of a nationwide, interconnected CO₂ transport network.



About NaTran

NaTran embarked on a new chapter in its history in 2025, rebranding from GRTgaz and updating its corporate project NaTran2030, focused on the energy transition and achieving carbon neutrality by 2050. The company has committed to allocating more than 50% of its annual investments to the energy transition by 2030. To achieve its strategic goals, the company is adapting its networks and practices to address ecological, economic, and digital challenges. It provides infrastructure and logistics solutions tailored to gases that contribute to the energy transition (biomethane, hydrogen and CO₂). NaTran is the second-largest gas transmission operator in Europe. The Group has two subsidiaries: Elengy (Europe's leading LNG terminal operator) and NaTran Deutschland (operator of the MEGAL network). NaTran undertakes public service missions aimed at ensuring safe gas transport for its customers. The NaTran R&I research center (formerly RICE) is an international benchmark in research and innovation applied to the energy transition. NaTran Group key figures: 33,791 km of pipelines, 623 TWh of gas transported, 3,671 employees, and €2.5 billion in revenue in 2024. To find out more about NaTran and its initiatives, visit [NaTrangroupe.com](https://natrangroupe.com), [X](#), [LinkedIn](#) or [Instagram](#).

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