

# Low carbon mine site energy initiatives



## PROJECT DETAILS

Funding Programme:

Research Fund of Coal and Steel (RFCS)

Sub-Programme:

Coal Research

Funding Scheme:

Research Project

Project Reference:

00004;

UE-10-RFCR-CT-2010-00004

Project Duration:

36 Months (from 2010-07-01 to 2013-06-30)

Total Project Value:

€ 2.326.014

EU Grant-Aid:

€ 2.326.014

Funding to UniOvi:

€ 339.708

Website:

<http://www.lowcarbonmining.eu/>

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

LOWCARB sets out to turn around the net effect of coal mining on the planet's climate. Coal has powered the industrialization of nations and continues to do so in the developing world but of all energy "sources", coal delivers the largest amount of greenhouse gas per unit energy released. Economic pressures will mean that coal continues to be used extensively for several decades and although the technology of carbon capture and storage will dramatically reduce the total CO<sub>2</sub> released from coal consumption in new-build generating stations from around 2020, coal will continue to cause serious climate issues for several decades. Overall, LOWCARB aims to develop measures at coal mine sites which reduce the carbon footprint of coal.

Specifically, LOWCARB will:

- Exploit all resources naturally present at both working and non-producing coal mine sites to facilitate and to deliver directly low- or zero- carbon energy or energy-resultants. (Cooling services provided to nearby facilities is an example of an energy-resultant).
- Re-examine the operation of working coal mines such that the net CO<sub>2</sub> production arising from the use of energy in this operation is minimized.
- Minimize the direct release of methane from mines into the atmosphere.

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