

## PRESS RELEASE

# NorFraKalk and Ocean GeoLoop secure Enova support for groundbreaking carbon capture project

**(Verdal, Norway, 25 January 2024) NorFraKalk and Ocean GeoLoop are taking the first step towards large-scale CO<sub>2</sub> capture with the ambition to make NorFraKalk climate neutral. The Enova-supported project, based in Trøndelag, puts Norway at the forefront of cutting emissions from quicklime production.**

The lime and cement industry accounts for just under a tenth of the world's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and is one of the industries where CO<sub>2</sub> capture is necessary to reach climate goals. This challenge is now addressed by the project.

"We are delighted to announce one of the most exciting carbon capture projects in Europe, taking the first steps towards our vision of being climate neutral by 2050. There is no off-the-shelf technology for efficient capture of CO<sub>2</sub> from quicklime production, but through our collaboration with Ocean GeoLoop we strongly believe that we have found a solution to cut emissions," says Hanne Markussen Eek, Chairman of the Board of NorFraKalk.

The first phase of the collaboration is to investigate a pilot plant for carbon capture at NorFraKalk's lime kiln in Verdal Industrial Park. The plant currently emits around 200,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year. The pilot project, which will now be assessed, will capture 10,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>, to prove that the solution works in quicklime production.

"Our technology has broad applications, also in industries that cannot use existing capture technologies. In collaboration with NorFraKalk and Franzefoss Minerals, we will showcase how the innovative technology from our founder Hans Gude Gudesen can make carbon capture effective, clean and energy efficient. With the support from Enova, we can commercialize the technology even faster," says Odd-Geir Lademo, CEO of Ocean GeoLoop.

In recent years, NorFraKalk has, through participation in several different SINTEF-led studies, investigated the possible use of different technologies for CO<sub>2</sub> capture from lime kilns. One of the main obstacles to many capture technologies is the lack of excess heat to power the process. Ocean GeoLoop uses an all-electric pressure swing process for CO<sub>2</sub> capture, which is not dependent on excess heat. Throughout 2022 and 2023, the technology has undergone successful testing at the industrial pilot plant at Norske Skog Skogn, in parallel with an extensive test and documentation programme at SINTEF's carbon capture lab in Trondheim.

"Carbon capture has great potential in the climate transition, and can contribute to significant emission reductions and be an important contribution to reaching Norway's climate goals. We are in dialogue with several players who are assessing and planning for this at their facilities, including industry and waste incineration. Enova's policy instruments will provide risk relief for those who are the first to explore opportunities for investing in carbon capture. NorFraKalk's project could be an important contribution to emission cuts, says Enova CEO Nils Kristian Nakstad.

"Carbon capture could contribute to significant emission reductions. But we need technology development to enable carbon capture to be deployed faster, cheaper and in more sectors. Enova's support will provide important risk relief for these actors who wish to develop new and better capture technology," says Minister of Climate and Environment Andreas Bjelland Eriksen.

**For further information, please contact:**

- Hanne Markussen Eek, Chairman of NorFraKalk, CEO Franzefoss Minerals AS, phone: +47 976 11 505
- Glenn Håkon Bekkelid Managing Director NorFraKalk, phone: +47 990 17 305
- Odd-Geir Lademo, CEO Ocean GeoLoop, phone: +47 92 05 29 01
- Anders Onarheim, Chairman of the Board Ocean GeoLoop, phone: +47 97 40 15 11
- Ståle Kvernør, senior adviser Enova SF, phone: +47 90 84 29 32

ENDS

**About NorFraKalk | [www.kalk.no](http://www.kalk.no)**

*NorFraKalk produces and sells quicklime and associated products from its own plant at Ørin industrial area in Verdal. The main product is lime, which is used as a filler in paper production and other types of industry in Northern Europe. The limestone in Tromsdalen is a unique raw material for paper pigment due to its whiteness, purity and reactivity. The products are transported from the Port of Verdal. NorFraKalk was founded in 2004 and is owned by Franzefoss Minerals AS (50%) and the Finnish company Nordkalk Oy Ab (50%).*

**About Ocean GeoLoop | [www.oceangeoloop.com](http://www.oceangeoloop.com)**

*Ocean GeoLoop AS uses nature's own way to solve the challenges of our time in a circular way. The company has introduced GeoLoop CC technology that captures CO2 from point source emissions using natural and harmless processes. Ocean GeoLoop will help companies and countries achieve their goals of reduced emissions and access to renewable electricity for the green transition. The company is listed on the Oslo Stock Exchange Euronext Growth under the ticker OCEAN.*

**About Enova | [www.enova.no](http://www.enova.no)**

*Enova is working to promote Norway's transition to a low-emission society. The transition requires us to cut greenhouse gas emissions, contribute to technology development and innovation, and create new values. Thus, Enova is working to ensure that new energy and climate technology is developed and adopted in the market.*