NACCSA
North American Carbon Capture & Storage Association

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POLICY STATEMENT ON CCS AS A CO_2 MITIGATION TECHNOLOGY

Introduction

As legislative and regulatory efforts to address climate change accelerate, it is critical that policymakers continue to recognize the critical role that carbon capture and storage ("CCS") can play as a potential mitigation tool. CCS holds the promise of storing large volumes of carbon dioxide in geologic formations such as deep saline formations, depleting and depleted oil & natural gas reservoirs, unmineable coal seams and similar geologic structures. Because CCS has the potential to be applied in a wide range of fossil fuel production processes, the North American Carbon Capture & Storage Association ("NACCSA") believes that CCS should be recognized as an emissions mitigation measure under any climate regime.

NACCSA members view carbon dioxide as a critical component in the enhanced recovery of oil and natural gas and recognize that it is capable of being responsibly stored as part of this process.

This policy statement focuses on the potential use and treatment of CCS as a CO_2 mitigation technology.

Policy Statement on CCS as a CO_2 Mitigation Technology

NACCSA supports recognition and inclusion of CCS as a carbon mitigation technique in existing and future schemes that contemplate voluntary or mandatory reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, for the following reasons:

- CCS avoids atmospheric emissions of CO_2: By capturing CO_2 and injecting it for permanent geologic storage, CCS projects will prevent emissions of CO_2 from occurring in the first instance. Professor Socolow of Princeton University has identified CCS as an important – and necessary – climate change mitigation technique.[1]

- CCS presents an enormous potential for CO_2 emissions avoidance/reduction: A 2005 IEA Assessment estimated that 3,800+ $GtCO_2$ of geologic storage capacity exists in the U.S. and Canada, with the bulk of that coming from deep saline storage.

- CCS can bring success in achieving desired emissions' reduction results: According to the 2005 IPCC Special Report on CCS, properly selected and managed storage projects are very likely to retain more than 99% of injected CO_2 over 100 years and likely to retain more than 99% of injected CO_2 over 1000 years.

[1] http://carbonsequestration.us/Papers-presentations/htm/Pacala-Socolow-ScienceMag-Aug2004.pdf.

About NACCSA

NACCSA is a non-profit organization of companies united to: (i) educate policymakers and the public about the CCS industry; (ii) encourage and support business interests and developments in the area; (iii) inform our members about policy, legal, regulatory and technical developments related to CCS through information sharing and analysis; and (iv) develop and be an advocate for CCS policy that incorporates a comprehensive business perspective.

NACCSA believes that the development of clear, defensible legislative and regulatory frameworks for CCS projects is necessary for the successful commercial deployment of CCS technology.