

The Storing CO₂ and Lowering Emissions (SCALE) Act

The Federal Role in Facilitating the Buildout of CO₂ Transport and Storage Capacity:

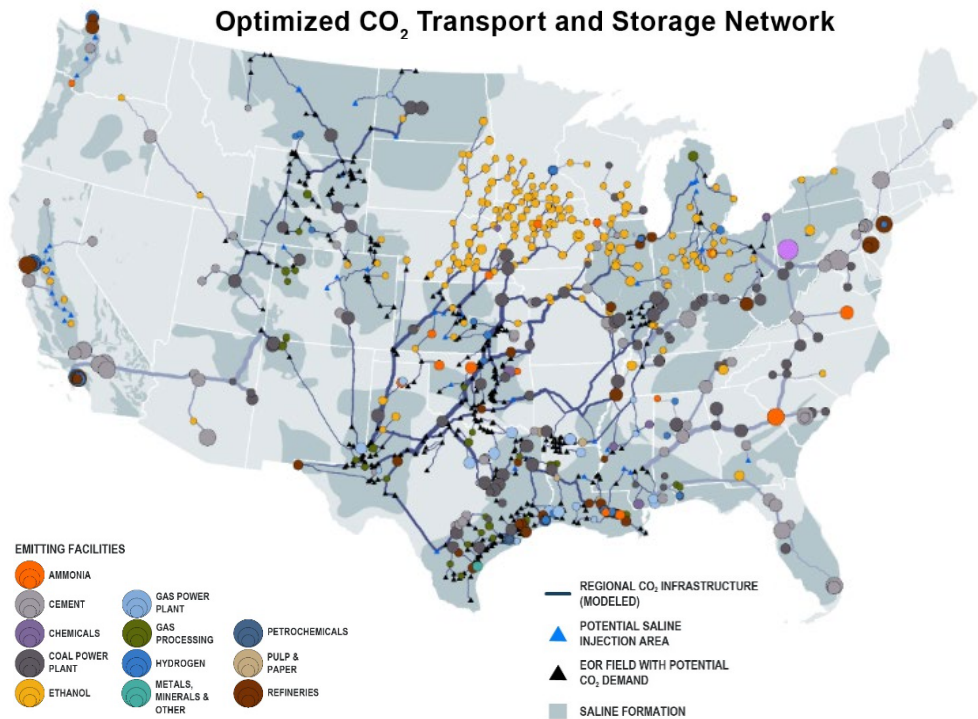
- Similar to the buildout of other forms of infrastructure to support deployment of low- and zero-carbon technologies over the next 30 years, scaling a national CO₂ transport and storage system is a necessary component to meeting midcentury climate goals. Planning and investing in this infrastructure today will reduce costs and land-use impacts, while realizing needed economies of scale.
- The bipartisan SCALE Act prioritizes key policy measures needed to enable and expand commercial deployment of carbon capture, direct air capture and carbon utilization. Much like the development of other infrastructure systems, the SCALE Act would position the federal government to partner with private capital to invest in both regional and national CO₂ transport and storage infrastructure networks.
- The need for enabling government policy support for CO₂ transport and storage infrastructure is being increasingly recognized and acted upon by governments around the world. The U.S. does not currently have any equivalent policy in place – the SCALE Act aims to meet this urgent need.

If enacted, the SCALE Act would:

- Establish a CO₂ Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (CIFIA) program at the Department of Energy (DOE), a financing mechanism which would provide flexible, low-interest grants and loans to cover a portion of the cost of common carrier CO₂ transport infrastructure development, lowering the risk of private sector investment.
- Establish a Secure Geologic Storage Infrastructure Development Program at DOE to provide cost-share for the development of saline geologic storage projects, with an emphasis on large-scale commercial projects serving as regional storage hubs for multiple capture facilities across industries.
- Increase funding to support the permitting of dedicated CO₂ storage wells (Class VI wells) at the Environmental Protection Agency and provide grants to states to help establish their own Class VI permitting programs.
- Provide grants for states and local governments to procure low and zero-carbon products sourced from captured carbon emissions for use in infrastructure projects.

The Jobs Impact:

- Building out an interconnected CO₂ transport and storage infrastructure network will preserve and enhance existing jobs and create new, highly-skilled jobs that pay above prevailing wages.
- The [Decarb America Research Initiative](#) found that the **SCALE Act would create approximately 13,000 direct and indirect jobs per year through the bill's five-year authorization.**
- The [Rhodium Group](#) found that **the buildout of a carbon capture industry across a 21-state region has the potential to create 70,000 to 100,000 jobs per year over the next 15 years**, including the buildout of a regional and national network of CO₂ transport and storage infrastructure. A separate [Rhodium Group](#) analysis found the buildout of the direct air capture industry would create hundreds of thousands of new direct and indirect jobs by 2050.



Optimized CO₂ transport and storage modeling from the [Great Plains Institute](#) finds that, under the federal 45Q tax credit, a shared, interconnected CO₂ transport and storage system could capture, transport and store 300 million metric tons of CO₂ per year by 2035 from industrial facilities and power plants.