



Legislative Work Group Meeting  
Wednesday - April 3, 2024

**Summary:**

The meeting featured special guest speaker Aaron Goldner, who serves as a professional staff member for the Senate Appropriations Committee. Aaron discussed the positive momentum in carbon management, though emphasized the need for continued efforts from coalitions like the CCC on next-generation policies. Suggested efforts mentioned by Goldner included exploring new legislative ideas, including those specific to CO<sub>2</sub> transportation infrastructure, supporting critical policies and programs like the Class VI injection well program, procurement, and addressing funding concerns post-2025. The discussion also touched on the need for continued education for congressional staff and the importance of identifying permitting hurdles for complex CO<sub>2</sub> infrastructure. The Q&A highlighted strategies for influencing agencies, the significance of relationships, and updates on FY25 appropriations outlook. Following Goldner's remarks, staff provided updates on Coalition FY25 appropriations submissions, a recent congressional letter to the EPA on Class VI permitting, and plans for the 2024 Capitol Hill Day, which will focus on the Coalition's tax priorities.

**Important Documents:**

- Meeting Slide Deck (attached)
- [Registration Link – CCC May Hill Day](#)
- [Letter to EPA on Class VI Permitting Process](#)
- FY25 [PBR Topline Summary](#)
- FY 25 Appropriations Requests:
  - E&W Appropriations [Requests](#)
  - Interior & Environment Appropriations [Requests](#)
  - LCA Preapproval [Request](#)
- FY25 Appropriations [One Pager](#)

**Meeting Notes:**

Special Guest Speaker: Aaron Goldner, professional staff member, Senate Appropriations Cmte

- Remarks
  - It has been a good 3-4 years for carbon management; we've seen incredible investments from Congress.
    - A lot to be excited about, but still a lot of work ahead, including in implementation and further progress needed on legislative efforts.
  - Treasury still needs to provide updated 45Q guidance and we know from 2018 updates to the credit that it took several years to get right; requires tremendous effort to get right.
  - Exciting things happening at DOE, as well.
  - What's next?
    - Congress has and will continue to change; need to be pushing next bold new ideas.

- Support for Class VI, procurement, base R&D
  - IIJA funding is not infinite; there will be a big cliff at end of 2025/2026, things will need revisiting.
  - Efforts already underway to think of what next policies are, but as this group is moving forward there's a big space within Energy Act 2.0/202X to think of big ideas to push forward.
  - Conversations on permitting underway, a lot still being discussed and negotiated; Increasing interest on both sides of the aisle to figure out what permitting looks like.
    - It seems that many carbon capture groups are a bit behind on what ask is in terms of CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines and general ask on carbon management permitting; could be an area the Coalition can continue to carve out a lane in.
    - Staff turnover continues to be high; education for new group of staffers increasingly important, particularly on the House side.
    - Need to figure out pathway for these projects in terms of permitting complex infrastructure.
  - Big investments at DOE are coming up against authorization limits; big question remains about the future of OCED.
  - Keeping Congress interested and outside of a "we've done enough" mindset important; that mindset prevalent in Congress, largely led to funding decreases seen at FECM.
- Q&A
  - Q: Does it remain true that at least for FY25 flat funding should be seen as a 'win' and that we should lean on report language?
    - A: Thinking a lot about "non-funding wins", still within FRA caps but other ways to interact with agencies. 2025 funding cycle likely to feel similar to FY24, need to be prepared for **no** large increases; requires more creative report language and other ways to impact agencies.
  - Q: Need to educate and raise knowledge level with turnover on Hill... I'm assuming that 1:1 meetings and office meetings are helpful, but how do staff feel about big briefings? Are those useful?
    - A: Taken a while to get bearings post-COVID, but very active again. Both 1:1s and briefings are important and extremely useful. Getting back to the basics of relationship building is proving to be extremely important.
  - Q: BETO office important for some organization's work in this space, any thoughts on their funding cuts? Senate side funded more than House, but far below President's requests. Any conversations on next cycle happening?
    - A: Almost all programs were funding below the FY24 PBR; the marker was more previous fiscal year budget. Wouldn't read a cut from the PBR as a negative interaction with that office with regard to Senate funding bills; can't speak to thoughts of those on the House side. Important to flag for this group we included language to get funding in secretary's office to coordinate carbon management issues across DOE.

### Update: FY25 Appropriations

- Outlook for FY25
  - Waiting on subcommittees to release their deadlines; from a Coalition standpoint, have been working hard to get submissions in.

- Hearing early May is likely the timeframe for subcommittee deadlines.
  - On House side, waiting to see who takes over for Rep. Granger; Rep. Cole seems to have inside track.
  - Election year politics has additional constraints in terms of bipartisan appropriations process.
- Coalition Submissions
  - Deadlines
    - Please keep checking back with offices you plan to submit requests to for their individual deadlines.
  - CCC staff and consultants conducting follow-up meetings with offices and appropriations staff.
    - Submitted our 3 requests to more than 40 offices thus far, primarily to members of the three target subcommittees, Energy & Water, Interior-Environment, and Financial Services.
    - Madelyn and KDCR conducting follow-up meetings with staff of appropriators, as well as congressional champions who may not be on committee to also help carry the water on our requests.

### Letter to EPA on Class VI Permitting Process

- Letter from Bipartisan House Climate Solutions Caucus
  - Led by Co-Chairs Reps. Garbarino and Houlihan and signed by five other caucus members.
- Letter sent to EPA Administrator Regan on permitting process for Class VI well applications and primacy program applications.
  - Included a series of questions aimed at identifying potential bottlenecks to the review process including:
    - Staffing shortages
    - Resources
    - And frequent requests for additional information that EPA returns to applicants, among other things
- Coalition staff will stay in touch with Caucus co-chairs on EPA's progress in responding to that letter and keep the work group updated.

### 2024 CCC Capitol Hill Day – May 15

- Overview of anticipated schedule
  - Like last year will start with breakfast prep session at the Monocle.
    - Opportunity to meet group members, plot out meeting roles, and receive hard copy materials and leave behinds.
    - Scheduling meetings throughout the day between around 9:30 and 4:30.
      - Focused on general carbon management/Coalition education and on Coalition tax priorities with 2025 as next opportunity for large tax vehicle.
      - Targeting Senate Finance Committee members and House Ways & Means Committee members primarily, as well as leadership offices and some congressional champions.
    - Following our Hill meetings, we'll all come together for an early evening networking reception in a House Office Committee room.
      - Intend for this to include some invited congressional staff and hopefully a Member of Congress to kick-off reception.
      - Please sign up for the event **by Wednesday, May 8.**