

Communities Work Group: Background Summary

Prior Coalition Consensus Positions

- **Work with Stakeholders**
 - Develop stakeholder engagement best practices, data and analysis to support planning, siting, and transparent reporting mechanisms to create direct community benefits and minimize potential project deployment risks.
 - The scale and timing of CCUS buildout warrants careful consideration of the footprint and location of this network to minimize potential impacts to local communities and ecosystems.
 - Because of differences in local conditions, developers cannot take a one-size fits all approach to community engagement.
 - It is critical to understand community values and address the societal impacts of these projects.
 - Prior to siting projects, stakeholders should work alongside community advocates to effectively understand their interests and concerns including potential impacts to land use, habitats, and local communities.

- **Ensure Benefits Flow to Affected Communities**
 - Ensure that benefits—in jobs, economic development, as well as potential co-benefits of project development—flow to the communities and workers that will host and build carbon capture projects.
 - Carbon capture retrofits at industry and power facilities should prioritize reducing not only greenhouse gases but also these harmful criteria air pollutants to provide tangible air quality benefits to communities in close proximity to these existing facilities.
 - Treasury should finalize clear and workable guidance for prevailing wage and apprenticeship requirements for project developers wishing to access the full value of the 45Q tax credit.
 - Developers should look to leverage existing federal apprenticeship and skill-training programs to expand support for job training undertaken in partnership with community colleges, trade unions, and other local institutions.

- **Improve Inter-Agency Coordination**
 - Increase transparency/coordination between government, communities, stakeholders, and developers.
 - A portfolio of best practices for community engagement developed and disseminated by relevant DOE offices through federal funding opportunities will be broadly beneficial to the entire carbon management industry.

- **Framing Questions for Discussion**

- What recommendations, if any, can the Coalition make to the federal government in its remit to provide developers with best practices in drafting community engagement and considerations (for efforts including Community Benefits Plans (CBPs)?
- How can the federal government better synergize community benefits considerations across government agencies?
- What role is there for third party verification of project benefits for host communities?
- How can we build on the results of preliminary co-benefits studies to inform our recommendations?
- How could DOE improve its work to help inform communities on CCUS projects?
- What are some policy mechanisms federal agencies could incorporate into federal funding application requirements to ensure job and economic benefits flow to affected communities?
 - Examples:
 - EPA and Class VI Wells
 - DOE and CBPs
 - Forest Service and CO2 storage in pore space overlaid by federal lands
 - Offshore storage concerns for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

- **New Topics for Discussion**

- Transparency and third-party involvement in verifying potential benefits to communities from proposed projects
- Best practices for community engagement (including CBPs)
- Environmental and co-benefits of carbon capture retrofits
- Developer responsibilities vis-a-vis host communities
- How to meaningfully engage community leaders
- Environmental justice concerns for communities traditionally underserved or who have previously been negatively impacted by project development
- How to ensure economic prospects are presented realistically

- **Sources**

- [2023 Policy Blueprint](#)
- [Carbon Capture Co-Benefits](#), Great Plains Institute, August 2023

- [Carbon Capture and Storage Workforce Development: State-by-State](#), Rhodium Group, December 2023
- [Carbon Capture Coalition response to DOE Responsible Carbon Management Deployment Initiative](#), September 2023
- [Carbon Capture Coalition Permitting Principles](#), November 2023