



CARBON CAPTURE COALITION

Election Talking Points for Carbon Capture Coalition

Talking Points

Carbon management technologies have broad support. Political, business, economic, and environmental leaders representing diverse interests and perspectives agree that they are needed as part of the larger mix.

- Carbon Capture Coalition membership spans companies, non-profits, and labor unions. Specifically, the Coalition membership boasts:
 - **Eighty-three business and industry members.** Business members span various sectors and technology providers and include heavy industry, power producers, ethanol, ammonia and fertilizer, industrial gases, oil and gas, DAC and reuse companies, and carbon management project developers.
 - **Eight industrial, energy, and construction labor union members** representing significant diversity within the organizations that build, construct, and operate these projects.
 - **Seventeen non-profit institutions and institutions of higher education,** representing a broad cross-section of academic and national non-profits working across environmental, conservation, and energy issues.

Carbon management technologies are non-partisan: people and organizations representing a broad range of views can and do agree on the need for technologies designed to address carbon emissions at the source and in the air.

For Climate and Air Quality:

- Large-scale deployment of carbon capture across emitting sectors is essential to achieving the economywide decarbonization required to meet midcentury climate goals.
- Communities that host these carbon capture projects can benefit; projects can result in improving air quality by reducing conventional pollutant emissions emitted to the air.
- Direct air capture (DAC) technology removes carbon emissions directly from the atmosphere. According to international scientific bodies, net-negative emissions to reduce atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide will play an important role in meeting midcentury climate goals.

For Jobs. Domestic Manufacturing and Energy Production:

- Carbon capture is an essential emissions reduction tool for major industrial sectors that produce the goods and materials modern society relies upon.

- Tens of millions of Americans work in industries that unavoidably produce emissions. By capturing the carbon they produce, these industries can continue to thrive if we invest in carbon management to help reduce their emissions.
- The effective deployment of carbon management projects economywide has the potential for creating tens of thousands and hundreds of thousands of jobs from carbon capture and direct air capture deployment, respectively, if those technologies are deployed at levels needed to help meet midcentury climate goals.

Policies supportive of carbon management technologies have been endorsed and enacted into law by Democratic and Republican presidents and widely supported in both chambers of Congress.

- Carbon management has historically been supported by a wide range of political leaders from both parties.
- Carbon management is one of few domestic climate and energy policies that can and has continued to bridge the gap between Democrats and Republicans:
 - [FUTURE Act](#) signed into law in 2018 by President Trump and made the 45Q tax credit available to a broader number of sectors. It was incorporated into an end-of-the-year funding package but taken from a broadly bipartisan marker bill.
 - [USE IT Act](#) signed into law in 2019 as part of the FY2020 National Defense Authorization Act; a vehicle that typically carries broadly supported legislative provisions.
 - [Inflation Reduction Act](#) (IRA) and [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#) (BIL) enacted in 2022 and 2021 respectively; all carbon management policies included in these packages were taken from broadly bipartisan, widely supported marker bills introduced throughout the 117th Congress.
 - The investments from BIL and IRA are just beginning to take hold, but both laws contain carbon management policies and investments that are being seen and felt across the American economy and in diverse regions of the US.
 - While the IRA was passed in a partisan manner, [Republicans recognize](#) that energy tax credits, including 45Q, are driving investment and jobs creation in their districts.
 - During the debt ceiling debate in Spring 2023 which saw the first attempt at a full repeal of the IRA, a robust contingency of House Republicans defended enhancements to the 45Q tax credit, recognizing 45Q as good policy.
- [Captured Carbon Utilization Parity Act](#) (S.542/H.R.1262); bipartisan, bicameral standalone bill to modify the tax credit level for the utilization pathway under the 45Q tax credit

Key Question: What could a Harris or Trump presidency mean for carbon management policy?

Harris

- The Biden-Harris Administration throughout their tenure, has recognized carbon management technologies as a valuable component of a multifaceted strategy to combat global climate change.
- Vice President Harris, throughout her time in the Senate, and as Vice President has been an intense advocate for strong climate action and has supported various pathways for realizing greenhouse gas emissions reduction.
- Vice President Harris is an advocate for robust environmental justice policies:
 - By capturing carbon emissions from industrial sources and power plants, carbon management technologies can help lower the levels of harmful air pollutants regulated by the EPA, including sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x). Reducing these air pollutants can improve air quality and public health.
 - Reducing carbon emissions and removing carbon directly from the atmosphere will contribute to our efforts to combat climate change. Our changing climate change is already causing extreme weather events, sea level rise, and other climate-related impacts that disproportionately impact low-income communities and communities of color.

Trump

- During his administration, President Donald Trump touted carbon management policies as an important strategy that allows the US to maintain technology innovation leadership while addressing greenhouse gas emissions [Energy Week, 2017].
- During his tenure in the White House, President Trump signed two substantial pieces of carbon management policy into law:
 - FUTURE Act signed into law in 2018; incorporated into an end-of-the-year funding package [Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018] but taken from a broadly bipartisan marker bill.
 - USE IT Act signed into law in 2019 as part of the FY2020 National Defense Authorization Act; a vehicle which typically carries broadly supported legislative provisions.
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Talking to Republicans about Carbon Management Technologies

- Global energy demand has significantly increased over the past several decades, reinforcing the need and urgency for a comprehensive, robust strategy to address

planet-warming emissions while maintaining affordable, reliable sources of energy. Carbon management technologies will play an essential role in this transition.

- In providing cost-effective solutions for heavy-emitting sectors on which our modern world depends, carbon management plays a vital role in meeting global energy demand in a responsible and sustainable manner.
- Carbon management technologies are essential to maintaining domestic energy and manufacturing production, protecting and creating family-sustaining jobs that local economies depend on while maintaining America's place on the world stage as a technology innovation leader.

Talking to Democrats about Carbon Management Technologies

- Even with aggressive and sustained deployment of clean energy technologies, including energy efficiency and renewable energy, deployment of carbon management technologies is critical to reach net zero emissions by 2050, which is in keeping with a 1.5 °C temperature scenario.
- The scientific community has continued to emphasize that to achieve our collective midcentury climate ambitions, carbon management technologies **must** be an available tool, among a broad range of solutions, to combat the worst impacts of climate change.
- Carbon management can help clean the air not just from carbon but other pollutants that often disproportionately affect low-income or communities of color where many industrial facilities are located.