

UTILIZING SIGNIFICANT EMISSIONS WITH INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES (USE IT) ACT

SUPPORT S. 383

The Utilizing Significant Emissions with Innovative Technologies (USE IT) Act was introduced by Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY) to incentivize carbon capture technology development and deployment. Current Cosponsors include: *Whitehouse (D-RI)*, *Cramer (R-ND)*, *Capito (R-WV)*, *Smith (D-MN)*, *Duckworth (D-IL)*, *Enzi (R-WY)*, *Manchin (D-WV)*, *Carper (D-DE)*, *Schatz (D-HI)*, *Rounds (R-SD)*, *Inhofe (R-OK)*, *Van Hollen (D-MD)*, *Coons D-DE*.

The USE IT Act would improve existing grant programs and regulatory processes for the deployment of carbon capture projects and related infrastructure. Specifically, the USE IT Act:

- Narrowly amends the Clean Air Act to direct the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to use its existing authority to support carbon utilization and direct air capture research;
- Clarifies that carbon capture utilization and storage (CCUS) projects and CO₂ pipelines are eligible for the permitting review process established by the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act;
- Directs the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) to establish guidance to assist project developers and operators of CCUS facilities and CO₂ pipelines;
- Establishes task forces to hear input from affected stakeholders for updating and improving guidance over time; and
- Builds on the Further carbon capture, Utilization, Technology, Underground storage, and Reduced Emissions (FUTURE) Act, bipartisan legislation – now signed into law – introduced by Heitkamp, Capito, Whitehouse, and Barasso to extend and expand the 45Q tax credit to provide certainty to utilities and other industrial sources and incentivize the build-out of CCUS projects.

Basin Electric has long sought solutions to the carbon question, and continues to explore options to allow utilization of affordable and abundant fossil fuels for electric power generation in a carbon constrained future. The Great Plains Synfuels Plant, operated by Basin Electric subsidiary Dakota Gasification Company, is currently the largest carbon sequestration project in the world. The facility has captured and transported nearly 35 million tons of carbon dioxide for sequestration since 2000.

More recently, Basin Electric has expanded its interest in developing carbon capture solutions through its partnership with the Integrated Test Center, located at Basin Electric's Dry Fork Station outside of Gillette, Wyoming. Using flue gas provided by the Dry Fork Station, this test facility will provide space for researchers to explore new and innovative solutions to turn carbon dioxide into a marketable commodity. The State of Wyoming invested in design and construction of this facility, and will oversee its operation. Basin Electric supports the USE IT Act because it will help leverage the resources of states, industry, universities, and the federal government, and build on these efforts to develop cost-effective CCUS. Basin Electric also supports provisions to establish interagency guidance and a task force to facilitate CCUS infrastructure.