



March 22, 2018

The Honorable John Barrasso
U.S. Senate
307 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse
U.S. Senate
530 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Barrasso and Whitehouse:

On behalf of Basin Electric Power Cooperative, I write in support of the "Utilizing Significant Emissions with Innovative Technologies" (USEIT) Act. Thank you for your leadership in authoring this legislation.

Basin Electric is a generation and transmission cooperative based in Bismarck, North Dakota, serving approximately three million consumers through 141 rural electric cooperatives across nine states. 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 this legislation because it will help leverage the resources of states, industry, universities, and the Federal Government, and build on these efforts to develop cost-effective carbon capture utilization and storage (CCUS).

In addition to technical and financial assistance to support research, your legislation would establish interagency guidance and a task force to facilitate CCUS infrastructure. Basin Electric supports these provisions as well given the new infrastructure that will need to be developed on a considerable scale to deploy CCUS technology.

The USEIT Act is important legislation to advance the development of CCUS technology. Basin Electric again thanks you for your efforts to support commonsense solutions for electric power generation. We hope that this legislation can receive prompt consideration by the Senate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Sukut", written over a horizontal line.

Paul M. Sukut
CEO & General Manager