

April 24, 2018

Honorable John Barrasso
Chairman
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
456 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

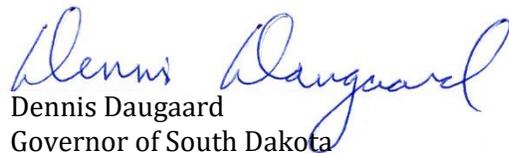
The U.S. is the global leader in carbon dioxide (CO₂) capture, utilization and sequestration (CCUS) research, development and deployment. Given the appropriate resources and regulatory environment, we will advance our technologies so that we can continue to use our abundant resources while minimizing our carbon footprint. Western Governors support the bipartisan Utilizing Significant Emissions with Innovative Technologies (USE IT) Act ([S. 2602](#)), which will facilitate development and deployment of CCUS infrastructure.

Western Governors have long supported advancement of carbon capture technology due to its environmental and economic benefits. S. 2602 directs the Environmental Protection Agency to support research on direct air capture and CO₂ utilization, with a focus on technologies that transform CO₂ into a product or product input with commercial value. The bill also clarifies that carbon capture and utilization projects and pipelines are eligible for the streamlined permitting process under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act and directs the Council on Environmental Quality to develop guidance on reviews of CCUS projects and CO₂ pipelines.

Furthermore, WGA Policy Resolution [2017-01](#), *Building a Stronger State-Federal Relationship*, advocates for greater state representation on committees and panels advising federal agencies on scientific, technological, social, and economic issues. We are pleased that this bill requires the task force to include states (at their request) and to provide models for, and technical assistance to, states for CCUS projects and CO₂ pipeline regulation.

Thank you for your leadership in this area of crucial importance to our nation's economy, energy, and environment, as well as for your recognition that states have a critical role in promoting the development and utilization of carbon capture technologies. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Dennis Daugaard
Governor of South Dakota
Chair, WGA



David Ige
Governor of Hawaii
Vice Chair, WGA