



April 10, 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 the Energy & Environmental Research Center (EERC) at the University of North Dakota, I write in support of the “Utilizing Significant Emissions with Innovative Technologies” (USEIT) Act. Thank you for your leadership in authoring this legislation.

The EERC is a unique organization dedicated to providing practical, pioneering solutions to the world’s energy and environmental challenges. The EERC has a rich history of dynamic working relationships with industry, government, and research entities throughout the world. Since 2003, the EERC has worked with those partners to develop solutions to carbon management issues, with an emphasis on developing value-added carbon dioxide (CO₂) utilization options that will enable continued use of affordable and abundant fossil fuels.

The EERC currently manages the Plains CO₂ Reduction (PCOR) Partnership, a multiyear, multimillion-dollar collaboration of over 100 stakeholders that has laid the groundwork for practical and environmentally sound CO₂ utilization and associated storage projects in the heartland of North America. The PCOR Partnership membership includes stakeholders representing a diverse cross section of CO₂ producers, end users, environmental groups, and regulators. The EERC strongly 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. The EERC supports these provisions as well, given the new infrastructure that will need to be developed on a considerable scale to commercially deploy CCUS technology at a meaningful scale.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Erickson".

Thomas A. Erickson
CEO

TAE/rss