Dear Chairmen Smith and Inhofe and Ranking Members Thornberry and Reed:

As you finalize the Fiscal Year 2021 National Defense Authorization Act (“FY21 NDAA”), we urge you to include provisions in the final bill that would support the development and demonstration of vital carbon capture and removal technologies.

The House- and Senate-passed FY21 NDAA bills again recognize that the United States must guard itself from those national security risks otherwise related to changes to the global climate landscape. Investments in carbon capture, utilization, and storage (“CCUS”) and direct air capture (“DAC”) technologies would manage these risks, while fostering new industries and creating important domestic jobs as the United States emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The USE IT Act, included in the Senate-passed version of the FY21 NDAA, would do just that, and represents an important step towards addressing those risks by incentivizing the development of CCUS and DAC technologies, and the increased beneficial use of captured carbon.

It is imperative that you maintain the USE IT Act language contained in the Senate-passed bill in order to address not only immediate national security risks, but also the broader issues of energy security, economic vitality, environmental sustainability, and America’s leadership at the forefront of CCUS technologies.
We thank you for considering our request and look forward to working with you on this important issue.

Sincerely,

David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress

Scott Peters
Member of Congress

John Barrasso, M.D.
United States Senator

Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator

Members of the U.S. House of Representatives

David Schweikert
Member of Congress

Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress

Brian Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress

Susan Wild
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Jaime Herrera Beutler
Member of Congress

Jim Costa
Member of Congress
Kelly Armstrong  
Member of Congress

Kathleen M. Rice  
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Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress

Members of the United States Senate

Shelley Moore Capito  
United States Senator

Thomas R. Carper  
United States Senator

Kevin Cramer  
United States Senator

Joe Manchin  
United States Senator

M. Michael Rounds  
United States Senator

Christopher A. Coons  
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Steve Daines
United States Senator

Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator

Michael B. Enzi
United States Senator

Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator

Tina Smith
United States Senator

/s/ Chris Van Hollen
Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator

Brian Schatz
United States Senator

CC: Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi
House Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy
Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell
Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer