

January 31, 2022

VIA E-MAIL

U.S. Department of Energy 1000 Independence Ave. SW, Mailstop OE-20 Washington, DC 20585 Attn: Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management

RE: Request for Information: DE-FOA-0002660 / 000001

Dear Sir or Madam:

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management on the U.S. Department of Energy's request for Information titled "Deployment and Demonstration Opportunities for Carbon Reduction and Removal Technologies."

The Carbon Neutral Coalition (CNC) is a Texas organization dedicated to shaping the future of fossil fuels. Founded by Corbin J. Robertson Jr., Chairman and CEO of Natural Resource Partners, and Susan Combs, former Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget at the U.S. Department of Interior, CNC's objective is to help Texas achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 while also preserving affordable, reliable energy, creating jobs, and maintaining a strong economy.

Fossil fuels are without question a vital industry to the state and nation, and Texas is the current leader in energy production and economic activity. The fossil fuel industry generated \$422 billion of Texas economic activity alone in 2019; it also makes Texas the number one U.S. CO2 emitter. To that end, CNC is currently working with institutions, business leaders and government officials to support initiatives and policies that will drive carbon neutrality in a way that creates jobs and continues to provide reliable, affordable energy. As energy demand continues to grow, CNC believes that supporting and growing the carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS) industry will allow the fossil fuel industry to meet increasing energy demand while simultaneously reducing carbon emissions.

Commercial Development

CCUS should be considered the first order enabler or "lynchpin" for the energy transition. CCUS at scale will be necessary to decarbonize existing industries and to enable system-wide carbon management and emissions reduction in the focus areas. If supported, Texas will be strategically enabled by the state's industry clusters, abundance of pipeline and



infrastructure, and the proximal geology for storage in both EOR and saline formations unmatched in the world. Support on the federal and state level for the legal, regulatory and economic framework for CCUS would serve to advance the CCUS industry, which needs tax policies, access to low-cost loans or classes of bonds, and incentives to promote transformative economic growth AND emissions reductions.

Community Benefits

The education and skills development of the workforce of the future underpins all of these objectives of an energy transition. Automation and robotics, data and analytics, artificial intelligence, and advanced technologies all require education of the existing and future workforce. Jobs, economic growth and our quality of life depend upon a skilled workforce equipped to succeed in the carbon neutral energy future right here in Texas. Texas has the ability to lead the world in these transformative areas, to retain and grow our workforce, and create a global competitive advantage in not just the industries and marketplace, but in the intellectual knowledge and knowhow to lead and thrive globally.

CNC, along with our Advisory Board¹, believes that the developing a viable CCUS industry could enable Texas, thereby the nation, to reach three objectives: (1) become carbon neutral by 2050; (2) maintain a robust economy that provides a good standard of living and affordable energy, products and services; and (3) lead the way toward carbon neutrality, create jobs, increase efforts to reduce carbon emissions and continue to provide reliable, affordable energy to power our lives.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the CCUS industry.

Sincerely,

Corby Robertson, Jr.

Corby Robertson

Susan Combs

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¹ See attached.



CNC Advisory Board

Susan Combs, *Austin, Texas (Chairperson):* Fellow at the University of Texas Center for Identity, Former Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, and Former Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, and Chief Financial Officer at the United States Department of Interior.

Thurmon Andress, Houston, Texas: President of Andress Oil & Gas LP.

Mike Belenkie, *Calgary*, *Alberta*, Canada: President and Chief Operating Officer of Advantage Energy Ltd.

Sarah Biller, *Boston, Massachusetts*: Executive Director of Vantage Ventures and Co-Founder of the FinTech Sandbox.

Jim Blackburn, *Houston, Texas:* Professor of Environmental Law at Rice University and Faculty Scholar at the Baker Institute.

Tina Yturria Buford, *Harlingen, Texas*: Director of Education for the East Foundation, Former Board President of Texan by Nature, and Former Board President of the Texas Wildlife Association.

Tom Carter, *Houston, Texas*: Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the General Partner of Blackstone Minerals.

Dan E. Cole, *Frisco, Texas:* Vice President of Commercial Development and Governmental Relations for Denbury Inc.

James H. Clement, Jr., *Dallas, Texas*: Houston Trust Company and former Chairman of King Ranch, Inc.

Elizabeth Coleman, Rosedale, Mississippi: Partner at EnergyNorthAmerica, LLC, Former Texas State Representative, and Former Texas Railroad Commissioner.

Jack Coleman, *Rosedale, Mississippi:* Founder and Managing Partner of EnergyNorthAmerica, LLC.

Robert Eckels, *Houston, Texas:* Founder and Director of Texas Central Railway, Former Texas State Representative, and Former Harris County Judge.



Don Evans, *Midland, Texas:* Chairman of the Permian Strategic Partnership, Former United States Secretary of Commerce under President George W. Bush, and Former Chairman of Energy Future Holdings.

Scott Frazier, Chapman Ranch, Texas: Texas Farm Bureau Board Member, District 13.

Kinnan Golemon, *Austin, Texas*: President and Founder of KG Strategies, Founder and former Chair of State Bar of Texas Environmental and Natural Resources Law Section

Maynard Holt, *Houston, Texas:* Chief Executive Officer of Tudor, Pickering, Holt & Co.

Devin Hotzel, *Houston*, *Texas:* Government Relations at Enbridge

Jodie Jiles, *Houston, Texas:* Director of Business Development for Transwestern Commercial Services and Regent on the University of Texas System Board.

Tom Luce, *Dallas*, *Texas*: Founder and Managing Partner of the Hughes and Luce Law Firm and Former United States Assistant Secretary for Education under President George W. Bush.

Tim Matthews, *The Woodlands, Texas:* Chief Executive Officer of Cozairo Corporation.

Dave Marchese, Houston, Texas: CEO of Caliche Storage

Charles McConnell, *Houston, Texas:* Executive Director for Carbon Management and Energy Sustainability at the University of Houston and Former Assistant Secretary of Energy at the United States Department of Energy under President Obama.

Kenneth Medlock, *Houston, Texas:* James A. Baker, III, and Susan G. Baker Fellow in Energy and Resource Economics at the Baker Institute and Senior Director of the Center for Energy Studies at Rice University.

Reed Morian, *Houston, Texas:* Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, and President of DX Holding Company Inc. and DX Service Company Inc. and Former Chairman of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission.

Harriet O'Neill, *Austin, Texas:* Founder of the Law Office of Harriet O'Neill, PC and Former Texas Supreme Court Justice.



Julie Parsley, Johnson City, Texas: Chief Executive Officer at Pedernales Electric Cooperative, Former Texas Solicitor General, and Former Public Utility Commissioner of Texas.

Carl Ray Polk, *Lufkin, Texas:* Partner at Corner Capital Advisors and Former President and CEO of Polk Oil Co., Inc.

Beth Robertson, *Houston*, *Texas*: Managing Partner of Bald Cypress LLC and Chair of the Cullen Foundation.

Ron Simmons, *Dallas, Texas:* Founder of Retirement Advisors of America and Former Texas State Representative.

Sean Strawbridge, *Corpus Christi, Texas:* CEO of the Port of Corpus Christi and Chair of the Education Task Force for the Texas Railroad Commission

Cliff Thomas, Victoria, Texas: Co-owner and Chairman of the Board of Managers of Pilot Thomas Logistics, Owner and Founder of Speedy Stop Food Stores and C.L. Thomas Inc., and Regent on the Texas A&M System Board.

Bobby Tudor, *Houston*, *Texas*: *Chairman* of Tudor, Pickering, Holt & Co.