

The Current and Future of Clean Coal and Carbon Technologies

Presented By:

Commissioner Jeremy Oden
Alabama Public Service Commission



From Legislator to Regulator

- **Began political career by serving 16 years in the Alabama House of Representatives**
- **Represented rural, northern Alabama district**
- **Appointed to PSC in 2012 by Governor Robert Bentley**
- **Won statewide reelection for a four-year term in 2014**



What Is The PSC?

- A body charged by the Legislature to ensure a regulatory balance between companies and consumers in order to provide consumers with safe, adequate and reliable services at rates that are equitable and economical
- Areas of responsibility include regulating: Alabama Power, Alabama Gas, Mobile Gas, some telephone and privately-owned water companies
- Regulated transportation aspects include: railroad track safety, buses, trucking, moving vans, taxis and others



National Involvement

- **Southern States Energy Board (SSEB)**
- **Honored to have previously addressed SSEB's Committee on Clean Coal Energy Policies and Technologies**

- **Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition (NWSC)**
- **Advocates for long term spent fuel storage as mandated by Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982**
- **SSEB member states have paid over \$9.2B into Federal fund but government has not taken any action**



National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC)

- Represents State public service commissions who regulate essential services such as energy, telecomm, power, water, and transportation.
- Serving on the Electricity Committee.
- Recently selected to head Clean Coal & Carbon Mgmt. Cmte.
- Chosen as 2nd VP of regional equivalent, SEARUC



Clean Coal and Carbon Management Committee

- **The Clean Coal & Carbon Management Committee (CC&CM) explores ways to promote the use of lower-emission coal, as coal continues to be the nation's most plentiful fuel source.**
- **This Committee helps educate NARUC members on the issues surrounding coal usage as well as new developments for carbon sequestration, storage, and commercialization.**



Congressional Crystal Ball

- ▶ **President Trump has recently presented his budget to Congress**
- ▶ **Similar to previous Heritage Foundation and Republican Study Committee caucus proposals**
- ▶ **Seeks a \$54B increase in defense spending while proposing deep cuts at various agencies**
- ▶ **EPA, DOE, NOAA and many others are currently looking at ways to decrease costs while fulfilling legally required duties**



Future Funding Implications

- **SECARB and the CC&CM Committee both rely on DOE's funding to progress clean coal technologies and development of a viable carbon market**
- **DOE's Office of Fossil Energy has been imperative in advancing clean coal technologies as well as carbon capture, storage, and utilization.**
- **Through continued R&D, efficiencies increase, costs decline, and clean coal technologies become deployable**



Future Funding Implications

- For the 2016 fiscal year, DOE spent more than \$600 million in the Office of Fossil Energy, around \$1 billion on nuclear research, and \$2 billion on efficiency and renewables
- Proposed budget would eliminate both the Office of Fossil Energy and the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
- Nuclear Research funding would recede to 2008 levels as proposed



America First Energy Plan

- President Trump has already taken action to stop some regulations and is expected to continue to review and eliminate regulations
- Lifting these regulations is predicted to increase wages by \$30B over the next 7 years
- “The Trump Administration is also committed to clean coal technology, and to reviving America’s coal industry, which has been hurting for too long.” (www.whitehouse.gov/america-first-energy)



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