



Adopted on September 17, 2018

Resolution sponsored by: Senator Terry Burton, Mississippi*
Representative Howard Sanderford, Alabama
Senator Ken Yager, Tennessee

4.2018 | Supporting Transformational Science and Technology Innovation to Advance U.S. National Security and Economic Growth

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Energy Office of Fossil Energy (DOE-FE) Fossil Energy Research and Development (FER&D) program advances transformative science and innovative technologies that enable the reliable, efficient, affordable, and environmentally sound use of fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, FER&D conducts research and development on advanced carbon dioxide (CO₂) capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) technologies, advanced fossil energy systems, and crosscutting fossil energy research; and

WHEREAS, DOE-FE Carbon Storage/Storage Infrastructure program has two flagship programs focused on advancing the wide-scale deployment of CO₂ capture and storage (CCS) and CCUS technologies, including the Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnerships (RCSPs) and the Carbon Storage Assurance Facility Enterprise (CarbonSAFE) programs; and

WHEREAS, DOE-FE established a nationwide network of seven RCSPs in 2003 that serve as developmental centers for CCS/CCUS excellence and collectively include the technical expertise of over 450 partners linking industry, research, and governmental organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Southern States Energy Board manages the RCSP for the southern region, the Southeast Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership, that currently is in its third phase and has successfully completed six field demonstrations of CCS and CCUS technologies, two of which are large commercial-scale operations in Alabama and Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, the RCSPs have an unrivaled track record of large scale CO₂ injection with industry collaboration and have enabled key strategic projects, such as NRG Energy's Petra Nova commercial CCUS facility that includes a scale up of the Southern Company's CO₂ capture unit demonstrated by SECARB in Alabama and also uses the business model established for SECARB's fully integrated CO₂ capture, transportation, injection, monitoring, and storage project; and

WHEREAS, the seven RCSP projects are nearing close-out at the end of Phase III in the 2018-2020 timeframe, with SECARB currently ending on June 30, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the DOE-FE CarbonSAFE program was initiated in 2016 to "build on the lessons learned from the Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnerships' large-scale field projects and next set of technical challenges for carbon storage" in four distinct phases, including: 1) Integrated CCS Pre-Feasibility; 2) Storage Complex Feasibility; 3) Site Characterization; and 4) Permitting and Construction; and



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WHEREAS, DOE-FE issued a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for CarbonSAFE Phases I and II but has not issued the FOA for Phases III and IV, and the existing CarbonSAFE Phase II projects will end in early 2019 with no future phases currently slated by DOE-FE to be supported in the near future leaving many goals of the program unachieved; and

WHEREAS, the Southern States Energy Board manages a Phase II CarbonSAFE project near Meridian, Mississippi, that hold tremendous promise for a future large-scale CO₂ geologic storage facility; and

WHEREAS, significant gaps in knowledge exist that prevent the wide-scale commercial deployment of CCUS technologies, gaps that can be filled by continuing the RCSP and CarbonSAFE public-private programs with partners who are committed, technically and financially, to their success.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Southern States Energy Board supports the DOE-FE FER&D program's focus on transformational science and technology innovation to advance U.S. national security and economic growth; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Southern States Energy Board encourages members of Congress to direct DOE to fulfill prior commitments to the RCSPs; fund them beyond the current phase through multiyear, competitively-selected partnerships so they may focus on infrastructure development strategies to expand regional geological characterization, to reduce uncertainties, collect and analyze data, and facilitate and inform regional permitting and policy challenges; and provide not less than \$20 million for the competitive continuation of the RCSPs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Southern States Energy Board encourages members of Congress to direct DOE to continue the four-phase CarbonSAFE initiative by releasing the FOA for Phases III and IV in a timely manner to maintain the momentum of existing projects to retain private investment in future phases and to appropriate not less than \$30 million to continue the four-phase program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Southern States Energy Board communicates this resolution to congressional delegations in the SSEB region, the Secretary of Energy, and DOE's Assistant Secretary of Fossil Energy.