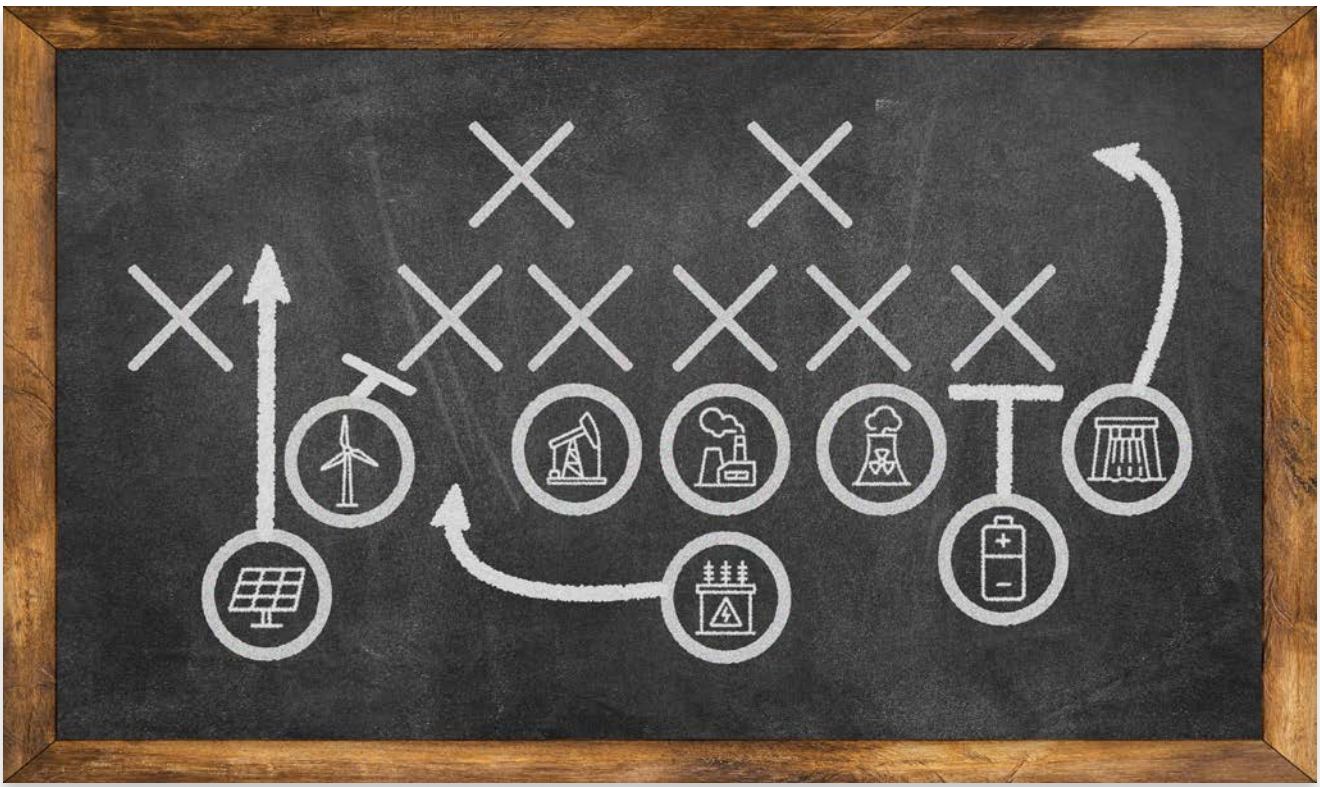
SOUTHERN STATES ENERGY BOARD

Transcending Boundaries

ENERGY IN THE SOUTH: **IT JUST MEANS MORE**



2025 Annual Report

MISSION STATEMENT

Through innovations in energy and environmental policies, programs, and technologies, the **Southern States Energy Board** enhances economic development and the quality of life in the South.

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Celebrating **65** Years

Honoring the Past
Powering the Future

Chairman's Message

Gov. Kay Ivey
Chairman

America is a nation blessed by an abundance of natural and environmental resources. We are a Republic of industrious people with a penchant toward leadership in technology development, manufacturing, job creation, industrialization, and economic growth. Led by the need to form a cooperative working relationship to secure the ENERGY necessary to build a robust regional economy across State lines, our predecessor governors collaborated over 65 years ago to create an interstate compact that has become a powerful tool in shaping economic growth and the development and use of indigenous energy resources and fuels across our Southern region.

As Governor of Alabama and Chair of the Southern States Energy Board (SSEB), it is a privilege to introduce our 2025 annual report; it's an important reflection of the collective leadership, innovation, and resolve that defines the 16 States and two Territories who make up our Southern energy landscape.

Across the world, and during a time when energy security is the lifeblood of nation states, energy policy and production are undergoing profound transformation. Yet even amid these changes, the South remains the foundation of America's energy security and economic competitiveness. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), the 18 States and Territories represented by SSEB continue to lead the country in total energy production—accounting for over 50 percent of U.S. crude oil and natural gas output and nearly 60 percent of the nation's nuclear generation. Coal production and use is making a resurgence due to Federal policy changes. The region also is home to some of the largest carbon capture projects, critical mineral resources, and hydrogen infrastructure under development.

In Alabama, we have embraced this momentum through an all-of-the-above energy strategy that prioritizes reliability, affordability, and innovation. As of 2024, our electricity generation is powered by a balanced mix of natural gas (approximately 40 percent), nuclear (31 percent), hydroelectric (6 percent), and a growing share of solar power. Our State ranks in the top five nationally in net electricity exports and is a leader in nuclear generation capacity. We also remain deeply committed to developing clean energy technologies and building resilient infrastructure to support future demand.

This energy diversity supports more than just the grid—it supports Alabama's economy. Through forward-thinking policy and public-private partnerships, we have attracted record-setting investments in advanced manufacturing, automotive, aerospace, and chemical industries. In 2023 alone, Alabama secured over $6 billion in new capital investment across

energy-adjacent sectors, creating thousands of high-paying jobs and strengthening our State's role as a leader in the global energy economy. We surpassed our 2023 investments in 2024 by securing over $7 billion in capital investments across 224 projects and generating more than 8,500 new career opportunities.

On May 14, 2025, I signed into law comprehensive legislation designed to solidify Alabama's energy dominance, accelerate economic development, and address potential critical energy infrastructure supply chain vulnerabilities. Alabama's "Powering Growth" plan includes the establishment of the Alabama Energy Infrastructure Bank, a strategic initiative to mitigate long lead times for the delivery of crucial energy equipment and requiring streamlined permitting processes mirroring recent Federal initiatives signed by the President to support economic development projects.

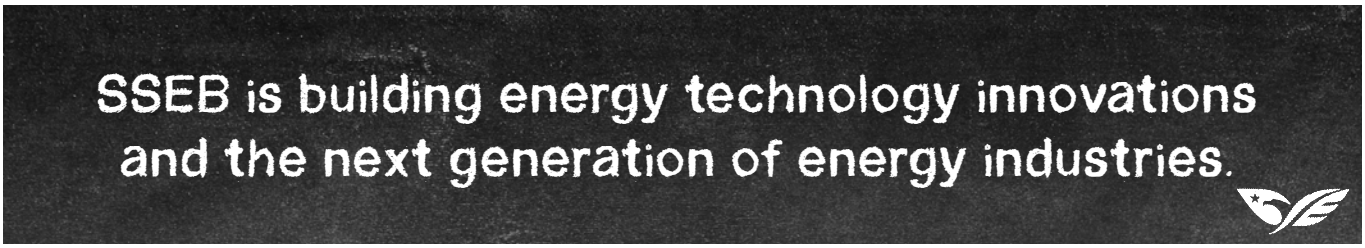
Governor Kay Ivey Signs "Powering Growth" Plan into Law to Secure Energy Dominance for Future Growth on May 14, 2025. Credit: Office of the Governor

The Southern States Energy Board has been a critical partner in these efforts with three projects currently in Alabama. Over six decades, SSEB has convened the governors, State legislatures, and energy industry leaders to advance policies, technologies, and projects that reflect the South's unique strengths and shared challenges. Today, the Board is leading some of the most consequential energy projects in the nation.

Through the U.S. Department of Energy's Carbon Storage Assurance Facility Enterprise (CarbonSAFE) and Southeast Direct Air Capture (SEDAC) Hubs programs, SSEB and its partners are advancing technologies for geologic CO_2 storage projects across Alabama, Mississippi, Texas, Louisiana, Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. These efforts reduce emissions from power generation and heavy industry while preserving jobs and economic growth in key communities. Collaborating with over 80 of America's largest domestic and international oil and gas companies, the Board also leads ten carbon capture, utilization, and storage projects. Notably, the Board's SECARB-USA and the Strategic Energy Innovation Consortium projects are bridging the gap between research and commercial deployment through our vast network of subject matter experts and a robust knowledge sharing emphasis.

SSEB continues to address pipelines and permitting, advanced nuclear deployment, and grid modernization in State legislatures—working to ensure that our region remains competitive in the face of Federal incentives and global market shifts.

The Board's three Nuclear Transportation Programs ensure Southern State input and decision-making on the movement of high-level, low-level, and transuranic wastes from Federal facilities throughout the Nation. Through these programs, our States are directly engaged in emergency response training and planning for a response to any incidents involving nuclear materials.



A unique aspect of the Board's successful public/private collaboration is SSEB's Associate Members program with 62 active energy industry members. Established in 1981, members serve in an advisory capacity to the Board, providing critical insights on the impacts of Federal and State policies and regulations and collaborating on Board technical initiatives that transcend diverse industry and academic priorities.

Perhaps most importantly, the Board serves as a forum for dialogue and collaboration, enabling States to align key priorities, speak with a unified voice in Washington, and ensure that Federal programs are designed with State realities in mind.

As we look ahead, the need for pragmatic, regionally tailored energy policy based on indigenous energy resources has never been more important. The Southern States Energy Board continues to serve as a model for how collaboration can advance innovation, protect our communities, and build lasting economic opportunities.

I am proud to serve alongside my fellow governors and legislative leaders in this important mission. Together, we will continue to chart a course toward a future that is energy-rich and economically strong, environmentally sound, and uniquely Southern.

Kay Ivey

Governor of Alabama
Chairman, Southern States Energy Board

Programs & Projects

Geoscience and Engineering Programs

Fossil Energy Policies, Technologies, and Mineral Resources

Leveraging the South's unmatched oil, natural gas, coal, and critical mineral resources, the Board's **Enhancing U.S. Leadership in Fossil Energy Policies, Technologies, and Mineral Resources** project strengthens U.S. energy independence, secures domestic supply chains, and drives economic growth through job creation, reshoring, and industrial expansion. In partnership with the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM), the initiative advances U.S. energy security, bolsters domestic capabilities, and reinforces America's strategic advantage in key energy and mineral sectors.

Project Objectives

- Promote long-term investments in new baseload power generation from coal and natural gas, extend the life of existing facilities, and deploy efficiency-enhancing technologies.
- Provide strategic data for enhanced hydrocarbon recovery and innovative production; expand fossil fuel production, transport, and export; and increase recovery of critical minerals (CM), materials, and rare earth elements (REE) to reduce foreign dependence.
- Identify and develop Southern CM/REE reserves, support domestic mining, processing, and refining, and advance recycling and innovative extraction technologies to secure stable supply chains for defense, energy, and manufacturing.
- Promote U.S. fossil energy technologies and exports that generate capital, create jobs, strengthen the industrial base, and sustain America's competitive technological edge.

Fossil Energy Policies and Technologies Committee

The Fossil Energy Policies and Technologies Committee serves as a key resource for FECM and the region, providing expertise on policy, regulatory, workforce, and technology issues related to fossil energy and critical minerals. Its membership includes our Board Members, Associate Members, the Strategic Energy Innovation Consortium (SEIC), academic partners, and industry leaders. Through stakeholder discussions, policy analysis, and outreach, the Committee fosters collaboration to address emerging challenges, support energy planning, and promote innovative technologies critical to U.S. economic growth and energy security.

Strategic Energy Innovation Consortium (SEIC)

Launched in 2020 during the Trump Administration through a partnership between our organization and the University of Houston, SEIC unites leading energy firms and organizations from across the country to accelerate technology deployment and strengthen energy policy and regulatory frameworks. With 81 active members, SEIC focuses on advancing solutions for fossil energy use, enhanced hydrocarbon recovery, and CM/REE extraction and processing, which are key priorities for FECM. The Board contributes subject matter expertise to support commercialization, while SEIC members provide policy and technical insights to guide deployment. Together, this partnership expands confidence in U.S. energy technologies, strengthens infrastructure, and advances American energy leadership. Partners are listed below.

By integrating advanced technologies, extending resource life, and minimizing environmental impacts, this initiative reinforces the South's role as the nation's energy engine. The region's abundant fossil energy and CM/REE resources, robust industrial base, ports, pipelines, and skilled workforce provide a near-term advantage in securing domestic supply chains for batteries, defense, and manufacturing. This project ensures that the South remains central to America's energy independence and long-term economic prosperity.

Joseph Giove, III, U.S. Department of Energy's Fossil Energy and Carbon Management, hosts Nebraska's Governor Jim Pillen at the department's exhibit at our 2024 Annual Meeting.

Longleaf CCS Hub (Longleaf Project)

The Longleaf Project seeks to develop a CO_2 storage facility near Bucks, Alabama, that builds on the successful SECARB Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership's (RCSP) CO_2 injection demonstration at the Anthropogenic Test Site, conducted at nearby Citronelle, Alabama.

The Longleaf CCS Hub serves as a ready resource to the many industrial facilities that are currently located in Mobile County as well as those that have planned new facilities for the region. By establishing a CO_2 management network with the required infrastructure, additional use cases are being explored like the development of alternative fuels and the revitalization of local depleted oil fields through CO_2-enhanced oil recovery.

The Longleaf Project includes seven objectives:

- Rigorously characterize the subsurface for large-scale storage;
- Obtain Class VI UIC permits;
- Demonstrate a mature understanding of CO_2 sources in the region;
- Understand pipeline transportation options;
- Develop a storage field development plan;
- Manage project risks; and
- Complete the NEPA EIV process.

To date, the Longleaf CCS Hub commercial developer, Tenaska, has acquired over 15,000 acres of pore space and continues to advance its UIC Class VI permit application in collaboration with EPA Region 4 and the Alabama Oil and Gas Board. The project team has achieved several technical milestones, including the successful acquisition of 25 linear miles of new 2D seismic data. Demonstrating the project's viability, an open house event was held that included local leaders and industry partners. The event provided an opportunity for participants to learn more about the data acquisition process and the project objectives more broadly.

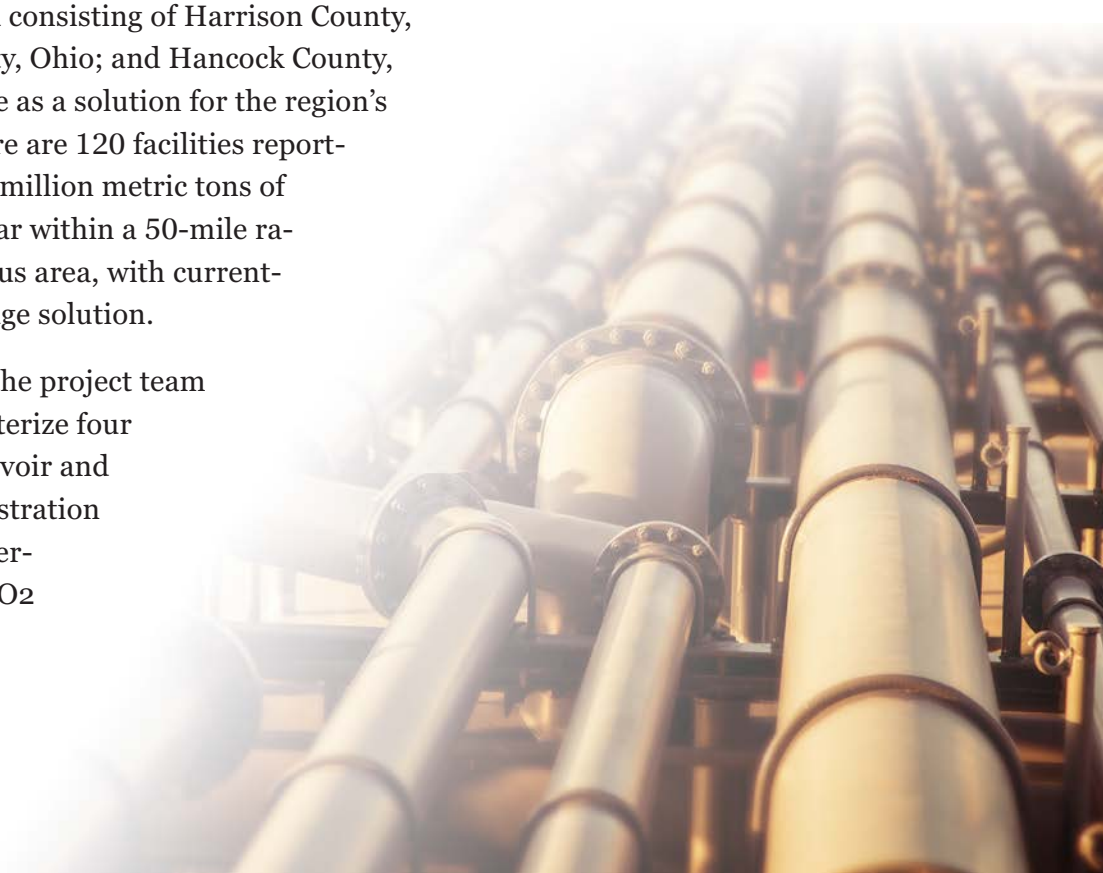
Upon the U.S. Department of Energy's approval of the project's Phase 2 scope, budget, and schedule, the team will drill a deep stratigraphic test well. The data collected will be used to augment the existing UIC Class VI permit application. It is anticipated that the UIC Class VI Permit to Construct will be received and that the injection of CO_2 will begin as early as 2027.

The Longleaf Project is managed by the Board, and the project team consists of Tenaska Sequestration Services, LLC (Tenaska | Host Site), Advanced Resources International, Inc., Crescent Resource Innovation, Inc., ENTECH Strategies, LLC, the Geological Survey of Alabama, the University of South Alabama, and Williams.

Tri-State CCS Hub

The Tri-State CCS Hub will significantly reduce CO_2 emissions in an industrial region of eastern Ohio, the adjacent northern panhandle of West Virginia, and western Pennsylvania. The project focuses on establishing a CO_2 storage hub in a three-county area consisting of Harrison County, Ohio; Jefferson County, Ohio; and Hancock County, West Virginia, to serve as a solution for the region's emitters. In total, there are 120 facilities reporting approximately 37 million metric tons of CO_2 emissions per year within a 50-mile radius of the project focus area, with currently no viable CO_2 storage solution.

To support this goal, the project team will rigorously characterize four stacked geologic reservoir and caprock carbon sequestration systems to better understand suitability for CO_2 storage and caprock competence.



The project team has developed an Environmental Information Volume and plans to characterize the target formations through seismic methods. In addition, the team has developed a broad engagement effort to promote collaboration among State agencies in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia, with the goal of facilitating large scale deployment of CCS technologies in the region. Further, the team is submitting necessary documentation for five UIC Class VI permit applications. The project team is awaiting approvals to complete three deep characterization wells from which whole/sidewall core, geophysical well logs, and well tests will be collected and conducted. Plans for Storage Site Operations, Financial Plans and Arrangements, and Commercialization will be completed. Thus far, interest from industrial emitters exceeds the potential storage capacity of current geologic intervals of interest. Indeed, current interest in the Tri-State CCS Hub indicates strong commercial viability with the potential to generate millions of dollars in tax revenue. Finally, the documentation for the required NEPA class of action (Categorical Exclusion, Environmental Assessment, or Environmental Impact Statement) has been submitted and the project team expects to receive a Categorical Exclusion determination for both seismic and stratigraphic test well activities.

The Board leads the project in collaboration with Tenaska Sequestration Services, LLC (TSS | Site Host), Projeo Corporation, Ohio State University, West Virginia Geological and Economic Survey, and West Virginia University (WVU). Also included are a number of local economic development organizations, elected officials, and other regional stakeholders.

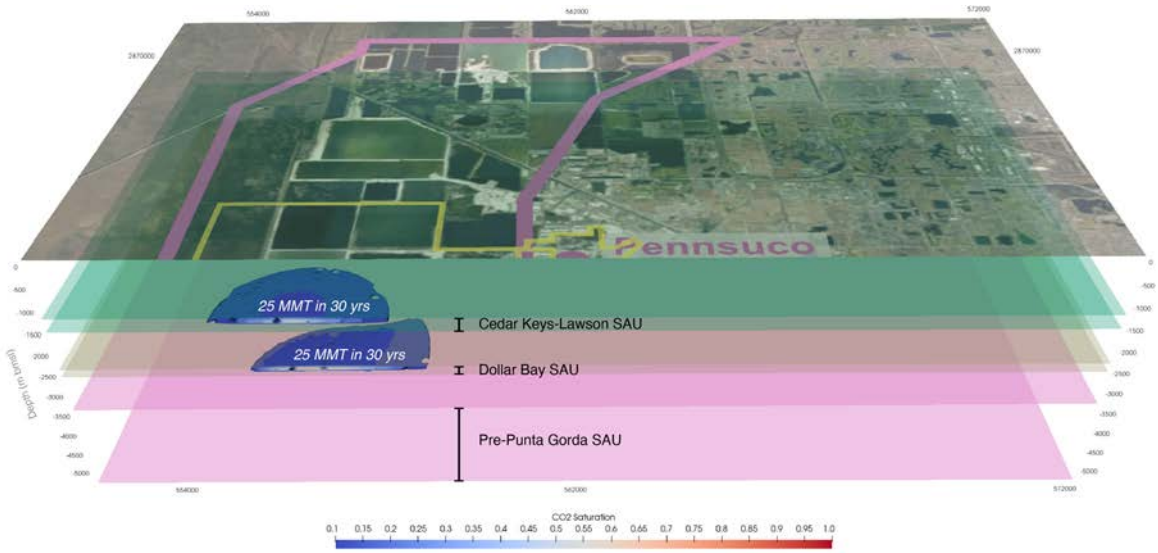
Atlantic Coast CO2 Emissions Storage Sink (Project ACCESS)

The Lake Belt Mining District in Miami-Dade County, Florida, is home to several facilities that emit CO2, including cement, waste management, and electric generating plants. These facilities release approximately 7.5 million metric tons per year (MMmt/yr) of CO2. If capture and storage measures are implemented (90 percent deployment), more than 6.6 MMmt/yr could be removed from the atmosphere. Project ACCESS has sufficient nearby sources of CO2 to meet the CarbonSAFE requirements, with multiple point sources supporting the project. To demonstrate the storage potential, seismic methods and a stratigraphic test well will be used to gather site-specific geological information. This data, obtained through core samples, geophysical logs, and well testing, will be incorporated into numerical models to confirm the suitability of the storage site. Successful reservoir characterization will establish a commercially viable opportunity for CO2 storage in the carbonate-rich geology of south Florida. The field activities, including both the 2D seismic acquisition and the stratigraphic test wells, are expected to begin in Fall 2025.

The region's limestone mining and cement manufacturing sector will benefit from the project by improving the marketability of their products. Establishing a carbon capture and storage (CCS) hub at a facility like Titan America's Pennsuco Plant can serve as a blueprint for other

cement plants worldwide. The local community, in collaboration with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, will be actively engaged to ensure environmental compliance and address community concerns. Simultaneously, the project will utilize the collected geological information to create plans for infrastructure, commercial development, monitoring, risk assessment, and outreach tailored to the site. Gaps in the data are being identified and prioritized for future collection to achieve compliance with UIC Class VI permitting requirements. Additionally, the project is sharing these datasets, along with data from other projects, to promote workforce and core capacity development in engineering design and geological assessment of CO_2 storage hubs.

Project ACCESS is led by the Board in collaboration with site host and project partner Titan America. Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University leads the subsurface data acquisition and characterization effort. Beyond this, the project team includes personnel from Advanced Resources International, Crescent Resource Innovation, Florida International University, and the U.S. Geological Survey. Elected officials, regional emitters, local economic development organizations, and other key stakeholders also are participating in the project. Project ACCESS will occur over a 24-month period and is expected to lay the groundwork necessary to support subsequent project phases (i.e., CarbonSAFE Phase III).

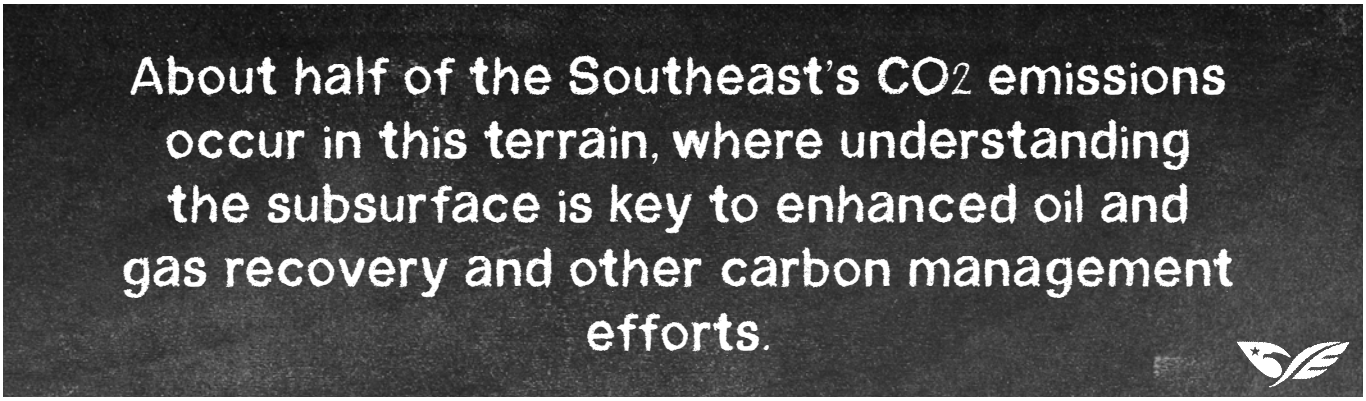


Preliminary model of the Project ACCESS CO_2 Plume after a 30-year injection period. Image courtesy of Virginia Tech.

Optimizing Alabama's CO_2 Storage in Shelby County (Project OASIS)

Project OASIS supports the U.S. Department of Energy's CarbonSAFE Phase II Program. Importantly, this project offers technical insights to industry located in similar terrain, such as the Appalachian corridor, where many electricity generating and heavy industrial

facilities are located and storage opportunities are less understood or perceived as less certain. Bringing more storage resources into commercial classifications that support business and financial decisions, Project OASIS is encouraging more rapid growth of a vibrant, geographically widespread industry for geologic carbon storage.



The goal is to establish the foundation for a commercial-scale geologic storage complex for CO2 captured from Plant Gaston and surrounding industrial sources of CO2 located in Shelby County, Alabama. Currently, these plants have no economically viable option for geological storage of CO2 in the area. The team established seven objectives to achieve its goal:

- Demonstrate that the subsurface saline formations at the storage complex can store commercial volumes of CO2 safely and permanently;
- Initiate a Stakeholder Outreach Plan;
- Develop the infrastructure framework for a CO2 storage hub;
- Prepare a rigorous risk registry and conduct a comprehensive risk assessment;
- Create a monitoring plan;
- Develop a comprehensive site characterization plan to support an Underground Injection Control Class VI Permit in Phase III; and
- Evaluate project commerciality.

To date, the project successfully drilled a deep well to characterize the subsurface, developed a robust risk assessment, and evaluated a variety of commercial scenarios that include detailed cash flow models. Knowledge gained through these efforts are being shared broadly within the scientific community through open houses, presentations, and publications. Due to the project's proximity to Plant Gaston and the National Carbon Capture Center (separately co-funded by DOE, Southern Company, and other partners), industry and students frequently visited all three sites during the drilling and data collection period for knowledge sharing. More recently,

Project OASIS insights were shared as part of the SSEB-led Alabama CCS Workshop that was held in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

Work on this project is conducted under our purview with Advanced Resources International, Inc., Alabama A&M University, Auburn University, Crescent Resource Innovation, Oklahoma State University, Southern Company and Alabama Power Company, Westervelt, and Baker Hughes.

Louisiana Offshore CO_2 Hub Repurposing Infrastructure to Decrease Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Project Lochridge)

Project Lochridge, the first CarbonSAFE Phase II project in U.S. Federal waters, is reducing risks and costs for future CCUS development in the offshore environment. This project takes advantage of the vast subsurface data available in the U.S. Gulf of America attributed to a long history of oil and gas exploration and production in the region.

The project will achieve five key objectives to establish an offshore Storage Complex, including: 1) demonstrate that the subsurface saline formations at the Storage Complex can store at least 50 million metric tons of captured CO_2 safely and permanently over a 30-year period; 2) conduct stakeholder outreach and educational activities to inform project planning and design and seek opportunities for economic revitalization and job creation; 3) identify commercial project risks and develop a comprehensive mitigation strategy; 4) complete a technical and economic feasibility assessment for commercialization; and 5) develop a plan for subsequent detailed site characterization to support the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) permit readiness.

The team is utilizing existing public and proprietary data to further characterize approximately 5,000 acres in the Federal waters of the U.S. Gulf of America. Static capacity estimates and preliminary seismic interpretations suggest that the region can store commercial volumes of CO_2 safely and permanently. Therefore, Project Lochridge has a high likelihood of becoming a commercial OCS Storage Complex to support the decarbonization of the Louisiana industrial corridor, situated along the Mississippi River, which emits more than 90 million metric tons of CO_2 annually.

We lead the project team, which includes Natural Resources Worldwide, Carbon-Zero, Crescent Resource Innovation, Louisiana State University, Repsol E&P USA LLC, and Southern University at Shreveport with technical performance from the Southern University and A&M College campuses.

Establishing an Early CO_2 Storage Complex in Kemper County, Mississippi (Project ECO2S)

Establishing an Early CO_2 Storage Complex in Kemper County, Mississippi (Project ECO2S), was an "early mover" project within the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and National Energy Technology Laboratory's Carbon Storage Assurance Facility Enterprise, or CarbonSAFE, initiative. Phase III of Project ECO2S advanced the foundational work of Phase II, which successfully demonstrated that the subsurface adjacent to the Mississippi Power Company's (MPC) Kemper County Energy Facility has the potential to store commercial volumes of CO_2 safely, permanently, and economically within a regionally significant saline reservoir system. The Phase III program's primary goal was completing the site characterization to obtain an Underground Injection Control (UIC) Class VI Permit to Construct from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. To meet this goal, the partners fully characterized the geologic storage and injection sites.

Data collected from the characterization efforts was synthesized and incorporated into geologic and numerical flow models to assess the Area of Review (AoR) for a variety of business models and as a basis for the UIC Class VI Permit Application. Results from risk analysis workshops and National Risk Assessment Program tool modeling efforts were leveraged to develop key operational plans, such as the monitoring plan, AoR and corrective action plan, remedial response plan, and post-injection site care and site closure plans, in support of the UIC Class VI Permit to Construct application.

In parallel, pre-feasibility studies for CO_2 capture from two power plant sources were completed to identify suitable technologies as well as potential CO_2 capture volumes, achievable CO_2 purity, and delivery pressures. Tying it all together and feeding back into the UIC Class VI Permit to Construct application, injection simulation studies were carried out to define the project's potential AoR for the development scenario. Key accomplishments included:

- Drilling three characterization wells and collecting geophysical logs and 290 feet of core through confining and injection intervals;
- Acquiring a modern, multi-2D/pseudo-3D 92-mile seismic survey;
- Establishing the plan for a system of monitoring wells for in-zone, above-zone, and deep and shallow aquifers was adequate to continually observe plume and pressure front development versus repetitive, high-cost, 3D seismic surveys;
- Developing a comprehensive monitoring and risk management plan;
- Performing preliminary assessments of CO_2 capture and transport options;
- Distributing over a dozen publications as a result of the work conducted;

- Supporting multiple MS and PhD graduate students to fulfill future workforce development goals;
- Plugging and abandoning five wells during project closeout in accordance with MSOGB and MSDEQ requirements; and
- Verifying that the Kemper County Storage Complex can store more than 50 MMT of CO_2 within the prescribed CarbonSAFE timeline of 30 years.

The project team established a world-class gigatonne CO_2 Storage Complex.

The results showcase an optimal business development opportunity for CCUS deployment at scale, which could be coupled with revenue generating offtake agreements for enhanced hydrocarbon recovery and other utilization options to amplify its commercial and economic viability in the region.

Despite these achievements, evolving regulatory requirements and strategic decisions by MPC led to the withdrawal of the UIC Class VI Permit to Construct application in March 2024. Subsequent efforts to reconfigure the project without MPC's involvement explored alternative pathways but ultimately concluded in the formal decision to close the project in March 2025.

The extensive data collection, modeling, and planning work completed during Phase III has produced valuable insights and technical resources. The results contained in this final report and its appendices contribute to the broader field of CCUS knowledge and provide a strong foundation for commercial business development of CCUS technologies in the region and beyond.

The Board was the recipient and provided technical direction and financial oversight and direction. The Project ECO2S team of technical experts included Advanced Resources International, Inc., Battelle Memorial Institute, Christiansen CCS Consult, The International Carbon Capture Knowledge Centre, Crescent Resource Innovation, Geological Survey of Alabama, IOM Law, Oklahoma State University, SAS Institute, Inc., Southern Company Services, Trimeric Corporation, U.S. Geological Survey, University of Alabama at Birmingham, and University of Wyoming's Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute. Schlumberger also supported the project as a cost-share partner.

Southeast Regional CO2 Utilization and Storage Acceleration Partnership (SECARB-USA)

The Board is leading a coalition of technical experts to identify and address regional onshore storage and transportation challenges facing commercial deployment of CO2 capture, utilization, and storage technologies. The project team includes experts from Advanced Resources International, Inc., Auburn University, The University of Texas at Austin's Bureau of Economic Geology, Crescent Resource Innovation, Environmental Defense Fund, Geological Survey of Alabama, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Oklahoma State University, SAS, and the Virginia Center for Coal and Energy Research. Industry participants include The Clean Air Task Force, Denbury Resources, Inc., Marathon Petroleum Corporation, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries of America, Inc., SAS Institute, Inc., Southern Company, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and Titan America.

The project is funded by DOE and project partners. SECARB-USA encompasses the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia as well as portions of Kentucky, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas, and West Virginia.

In continuing its regional studies, the project is evaluating potential opportunities for long-term CO2 storage near cement manufacturing facilities in collaboration with Virginia Tech and Titan America. This effort focuses on the Valley and Ridge province of southwestern Virginia, an area that lacks historical data from oil and gas exploration. The project aims to assess geologic formations in regions that have not traditionally been studied for storage potential. In parallel, the team has conducted assessments of potential CO2 storage sites in eastern and central Tennessee. These regions present unique challenges due to complex geological structures. However, further west in the Cumberland Plateau, the rock layers are more favorable for CO2 storage because of their stable, undisturbed nature at depths exceeding 2,400 feet, conditions suitable for storing CO2. Other efforts have focused on the continued understanding of CO2 storage opportunities in areas where significant adoption of carbon reduction strategies is expected, such as Oklahoma (Oklahoma State University) and Texas (The University of Texas at Austin). Importantly, basin-focused efforts have recently focused on understanding opportunities for enhanced oil and gas recovery in the SECARB-USA region. Beyond this, the team continued efforts simulating potential pipeline infrastructure scenarios across the region in collaboration with Los Alamos National Lab. This simulation is vital for understanding how CO2 emissions from areas with less established storage geology can be managed and provides insight to capital requirements for these projects. Associated business models and considerations such as workforce development and stakeholder engagement are being developed in parallel with this effort.

In addition to the execution of its technical scope, the SECARB-USA team continues its role as a source of knowledge for the region. In total, the SECARB-USA team also has participated in over 640 separate engagements with industry, State legislative leaders, and regulators. Notable examples include (1) the 2022 Gulf States Regulator Workshop in New Orleans, LA, (2) 2024 GA Subcommittee on Energy and Environment Workshop which was held at the University of Georgia, (3) the 2025 Georgia CCS Summit which was held at the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia, and (4) the Alabama CCS Workshop which was held at the Bryant Conference Center in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. In all cases, these engagements are focused on (1) building capacities around CCUS, (2) de-risking CCUS investments, and (3) ensuring that the necessary legislative and regulatory frameworks are in place to support regional CCUS build out.

Group photo of the Georgia CCS Summit at the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia, January 2025.

Southeast Direct Air Capture (SEDAC) Hub

The U.S. is a global leader in direct air capture (DAC) technology development and demonstration. The SEDAC Hub is designed to catalyze the U.S. DAC industry in Mobile County, Alabama. DAC is a process designed to reduce CO_2 levels in the atmosphere by capturing CO_2 directly from the air near major industrial facilities and complexes. This work expands beyond carbon storage to support other pathways important to the region such as CO_2-enhanced oil recovery and the manufacturing of alternative fuels.

Mobile County is an ideal location to support the initial phases of a DAC hub as it is home to many industrial facilities, large tracts of available land, and appropriate subsurface geology to support the creation of a sustainable CO_2-based economy. In addition, numerous opportunities exist to employ the region's skilled workforce in pursuit of a variety of CO_2 use cases beyond permanent storage in subsurface reservoirs (e.g., CO_2 to fuels). Because of these attributes, the SEDAC Hub will not only abate local emissions but also lead to the development of a carbon reduction ecosystem working in concert with large industrial facilities and complexes in the Gulf South area.

A front-end engineering and design (FEED) study is underway to inform final investment decisions on the construction and operation of a DAC Hub with an initial capture capacity of 100,000 net metric tons of CO_2 (the equivalent of permanently removing nearly 22,000 internal combustion cars from the road). The project team will complete a balance of plant FEED study for infrastructure assessing the feasibility of low-carbon intensity energy sources and evaluating the availability and suitability of existing infrastructure for reuse. The Board and its partners are working closely with regional storage field developers to identify a CO_2 storage solution and submit a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Information Volume (EIV) based on the integrated DAC Hub.

The SEDAC Hub is led by the Southern States Energy Board. The project team includes Aircapture, Crescent Resource Innovation, ENTECH Strategies, Georgia Institute of Technology, Mitternight, RTI International, the University of Alabama, and the University of South Alabama. Stakeholders include Southern Company and its Alabama Power Company subsidiary, Tenaska Sequestration Solutions, and the Mobile Chamber of Commerce, among many others.

SECARB: Offshore Partnership

With more than 540 CO_2-emitting point sources within 50 miles of the Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, and Mississippi coast, the State and Federal waters of the Gulf of America (GOA) may provide a unique opportunity to permanently store the CO_2 emissions from the region's many industries. This evaluation focuses on active and depleted oil and gas fields and potentially associated CO_2-enhanced oil recovery (CO_2-EOR) as well as deep saline storage resources in the Federal and State waters along the eastern Gulf Coast.

We are facilitating offshore geologic storage of CO_2 in the GOA through a government-industry partnership focused on assembling the knowledge base required for secure, long-term, large-scale CO_2 storage. The following organizations contribute their expertise to the project: Advanced Resources International, Battelle Memorial Institute, Crescent Resource Innovation, Geological Survey of Alabama, Louisiana State University, Oklahoma State University, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, the Energy Institute of Alabama, Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission, the Mississippi Energy Institute, and SAS.

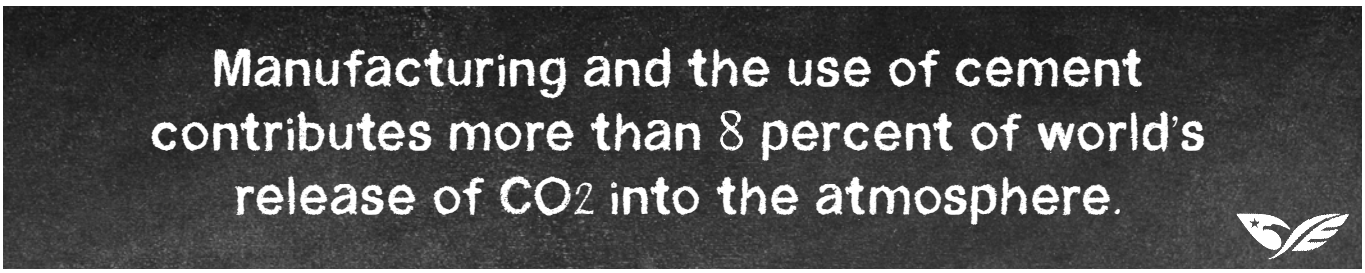
Building on previous activities, the project team evaluates storage opportunities in the offshore environment, ascertains reservoir properties that influence CO_2, and examines the legal and regulatory requirements for offshore commercial CO_2 storage

operations. Although CO_2 storage capacity estimates continue to evolve as information becomes available, recent calculations suggest that the study area is capable of storing hundreds of years of annual U.S. CO_2 emissions. Moreover, the project team has determined that some existing oil and natural gas infrastructure within the U.S. Gulf of America may be suitable for reuse, reducing capital costs for project developers. Recent estimates indicate as much as 15 billion tons of CO_2 storage potential exists in depleted oil and gas fields, or the equivalent of removing emissions from all cars globally for two years. While the legal and regulatory framework required for storing CO_2 in Federal waters is being developed by the U.S. Department of Interior, several States have begun the process of developing the requisite rules to support this burgeoning industry. Louisiana and Texas have established leasing and fee structures for their State waters and are expected to continue their leadership in this area.

Over the last year, the SECARB: Offshore team has continued to evaluate the necessary information for conducting commercial CCUS operations in offshore settings. This involves ongoing scrutiny of prospects for CO_2 storage, risk analysis for commercial ventures, and an examination of pertinent legal and regulatory factors.

Cement Plant Carbon Capture and Storage FEED

A front-end engineering and design (FEED) study is underway to develop an integrated carbon capture and storage (CCS) solution to reduce CO_2 emissions from cement manufacturing and advance sustainability in the region.



The team will utilize Air Liquide's proprietary technology as the basis for a post-combustion CO_2 capture and processing system. The technology being implemented is environmentally sustainable as it only requires electricity without significant heat requirements, does not use any chemicals or flammables, and can manage impurities such as nitrogen and sulfur oxides, mercury, and particulate matter. A permanent site for this project is under review.

In parallel, a stratigraphic test well will be drilled to support development and submission of a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Underground Injection Control Class VI Permit for the permanent storage of CO_2. The project also includes a life cycle analysis informed by the CCS FEED assessment, the pipeline FEED assessment, the storage field development plan, and the preparation of a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental information volume.

Led by the Board, the study began on January 1, 2024, and is expected to span 36 months. The overall budget is $15.2 million, equally cost-shared between industry and Federal partners. The project team consists of Advanced Resources International, Inc., Air Liquide (technology provider) and Crescent Resource Innovation. Environmental Resource Management and Sargent & Lundy will participate in the project as vendors.

Nuclear Programs

National Transportation Stakeholders Forum

The National Transportation Stakeholders Forum (NTSF) is the mechanism through which DOE communicates at a national level with States, Tribes, other Federal agencies, and interested stakeholders about DOE's shipments of radioactive waste and materials, as well as occasional high-visibility shipments that are non-radioactive.

The purpose of the NTSF is to help ensure transparency, openness, and accountability for DOE's offsite transportation activities and facilitate collaboration between DOE and State and Tribal governments and other Federal agencies. The 2025 NTSF Annual Meeting was held in Las Vegas, Nevada, on May 19-22.

During the meeting, a training video debuted which involved a collaboration between the Board and DOE's Office of Environmental Management (DOE-EM) Transportation Emergency Preparedness Program. This video is specifically designed for law enforcement officers responding to incidents involving radioactive materials, providing crucial guidance on how to safely remove clothing and sensitive items, such as encrypted radios, badges, and firearms. It outlines step-by-step procedures for handling these items during decontamination, including securing them in bags, maintaining proper chain of custody, and using an equipment custodian if necessary. The video emphasizes the importance of carefully removing contaminated clothing, including outer shirts, pants, boots, and gloves, while minimizing cross-contamination. Officers can follow these protocols to ensure both personal safety and the integrity of sensitive law enforcement equipment.

Scan the QR code to view the Emergency Preparedness video.

The Board serves as the lead organization for the planning and hosting of the 2026 National Transportation Stakeholders Forum in Austin, Texas, on June 22–25.

Radioactive Materials Transportation

A renewed global interest in nuclear power is driving an era of exploration of advanced reactors, extending the lifecycle of the current fleet and in a few cases restarting once

shuttered plants. However, in order for the renaissance to take full effect there has to be focus on the back end of the fuel cycle. Our Radioactive Materials Transportation Committee continues to aid this endeavor through its work with the DOE Office of Nuclear Energy's Office of Storage and Transportation. In addition to creating a framework for the safe and efficient transportation of spent nuclear fuel, the Committee comprised of radiological health professionals, emergency managers, and law enforcement employs a comprehensive approach addressing all issues related to the development of a national transportation program.

In 2014, DOE started a research project at the North Anna Power Station in Virginia to determine whether higher burnup nuclear fuels (fuels that stay in the reactor core for a longer period of time to extract more energy) behave similarly to lower burnup fuels once they are removed from the reactor and placed in a cask for dry storage. Specialized science facilities, like those available at DOE's national laboratories, are needed to open the cask and examine the fuel rods. Therefore, DOE is currently developing plans and environmental information to support a shipment to relocate the high burnup research cask from North Anna to the Idaho National Laboratory. The cask will travel by train on DOE's Atlas railcar, a 12-axle railcar specially designed to safely transport spent nuclear fuel.

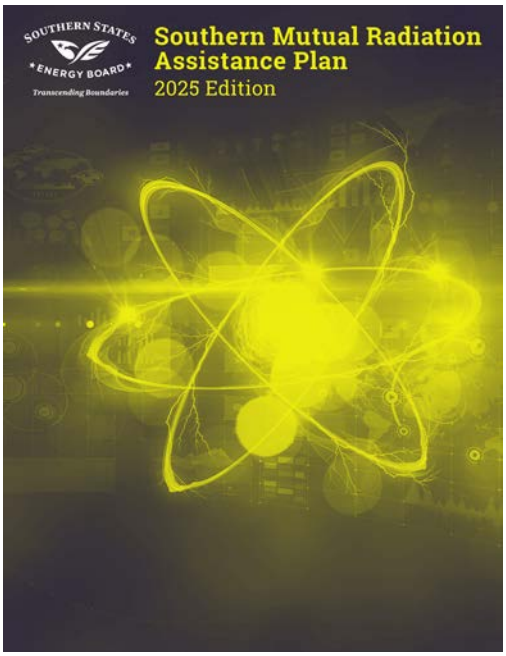
Since the campaign will move from Virginia to Idaho, many of the Board's members could be a part of the potential transportation corridor for the DOE's High Burnup Research Cask (HBURC) shipment scheduled to occur in 2027. To make adequate preparations, Radioactive Materials Transportation Committee representatives from Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia have been solicited for participation in a HBURC Shipment Ad Hoc Working Group. The group will hold monthly meetings virtually with occasional in person meetings, possibly quarterly.

Shipment preparations will include many activities, such as:

- Coordinating technical assistance, public information, and emergency response training needs with Tribal and State governments along the transport route;
- Developing plans and protocols for shipment operations, security, and notifications to Tribes and States; and
- Planning for information-sharing engagements with communities at the origin and destination sites and along the transport route.

Successful completion of this project will not only yield the results of the scientific study but also demonstrate spent fuel can be safely transported across the country.

Southern Emergency Response Council (SERC)



Positive public perception of nuclear power is vital to wider adoption. As a result, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) require nuclear plant operators to conduct exercises to ensure readiness for onsite and offsite emergencies. This year, the Board participated in four evaluated exercises and served as the regional coordinator simulating activation of the Southern Mutual Radiation Assistance Plan (SMRAP) during state drills. Two signatory states incorporated our organization into their graded exercises. North Carolina invoked SMRAP at the Brunswick Nuclear Plant, and Alabama included the Board in three drills from October 2024 through August 2025 at the Farley and Browns Ferry plants. The Alabama Department of Public Health requested personnel and subject matter expertise, including field teams, lab analysts, and dose projectionists, from neighboring states. Drills followed NRC emergency classifications, which increase in severity from Notification of Unusual Event, to Alert, Site Area Emergency, and General Emergency.

The Southern Emergency Response Council (SERC) administers the mutual aid agreement, formalized in 1972, among 14 Southern states to support one another during radiological incidents at nuclear plants. The Council's authority is documented in SMRAP, which outlines how protocols are implemented in an emergency. Created as a blueprint for coordinating radiological assistance across the region, SMRAP is reviewed, revised, and administered annually to reflect changes in state response capabilities and equipment.

To maintain preparedness, SERC meets annually with the Organization of Agreement States. At the most recent meeting on August 11, 2025, in Washington, D.C., members ratified the latest SMRAP, discussed schedules for upcoming graded exercises, and emphasized how revisions help identify state inventories and resources.

Transuranic Waste Transportation

The U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management is tasked with the safe cleanup of environmental legacy resulting from decades of nuclear weapons development and government-sponsored nuclear energy research within the United States. Two of

the sites are located in the southern region: Savannah River Site in South Carolina and Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee. Our TRU Waste Transportation Working Group continues to establish policy and implement protocols to help DOE-EM reduce their footprint by supporting transuranic (TRU) waste shipments destined for disposition at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in Carlsbad, New Mexico.

Most recently, the Board successfully negotiated a new five-year agreement (FY26 through FY30 work plans and budgets) with the U.S. Department of Energy's Carlsbad Field Office (DOE-CBFO) on behalf of their impacted member States, to acquire funding for planning and other preparedness activities within each corridor State to support the TRU shipments. The annual funding, which averages approximately $2.5 million, is administered via a cooperative agreement to the WIPP corridor State subgrantees. Additionally, SSEB continues to host a series of virtual meetings with the subgrantees at the beginning of each year to discuss the technical and financial considerations of each State's work plan and budget.

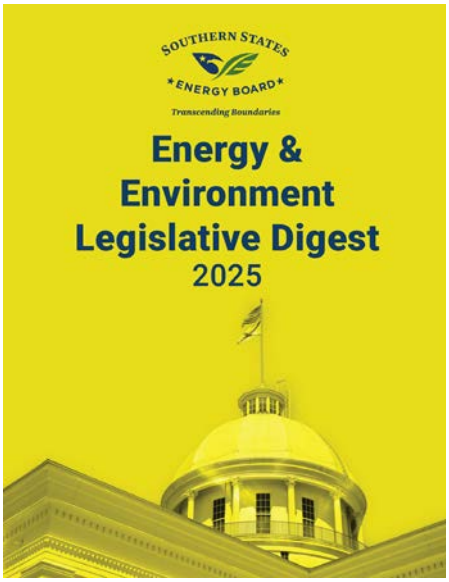
Our TRU Waste transportation corridor consists of seven States along Interstate 20 from South Carolina to New Mexico (with the inclusion of Tennessee). The States are constantly maintaining a level of preparedness and therefore conduct training, tabletops and full-scale exercises such as the WIPPTREX. WIPPTREX is major planning effort which creates realistic transportation accident scenarios along the WIPP routes and involves emergency responses from DOE, State and local agencies, and first responders. Because the WIPPTREX can take a year or longer to coordinate, the TRU Working Group has partnered with DOE-CBFO to demo a curtailed method of the exercise.

Thomson, Georgia, was the first location in our region to debut the new ROAD-TREX training format. The ROAD-TREX, employing a WIPP-focused small scale rodeo style structure of teaching for emergency responders, will meet the needs of states unable to commit time and resources to hosting a full-scale WIPPTREX. Since opening in 1999, the WIPP facility has processed over 14,500 shipments. Southern sites have comprised more than 2,000 of those shipments (ORNL – 300 / SRS – 1,850) and represent over 3.1 million miles of highway transport.

TRU waste, which is generated from the production of nuclear weapons, mainly consists of solid items such as protective clothing and gloves, rags, lab instruments and equipment, as well as other items that have become contaminated by transuranic isotopes.

Legislative Monitoring

Energy & Environment (E&E) Legislative Digest



The E&E Legislative Digest, a longstanding publication spanning over four decades, stands as a comprehensive reflection of legislative trends in its member states. It serves as a vital resource for legislators, policymakers, industry stakeholders, and the general public by providing valuable insights into the ever-evolving realm of E&E legislation, regulations, and resolutions.

This year, the Digest contains nearly 500 bills. It offers a consolidated view of the region's energy priorities and environmental strategies. For those who prefer a digital experience, the bills can be explored through interactive categories and maps on our website (sseb.org/publications/interactive-digest).

The Digest highlights notable legislative trends across the membership. This past year, our members advanced a broad mix of energy and environmental priorities. Policies governing utilities and inland water quality dominated the agenda, with states refining rate design, grid reliability, and water management standards. At the same time, legislatures are modernizing cybersecurity and digital oversight, updating fossil energy and mining programs, advancing carbon capture and storage frameworks, and expanding commitments to nuclear and renewable resources. Collectively, these measures reflect a regional strategy that balances energy reliability and affordability with environmental stewardship and long-term decarbonization.

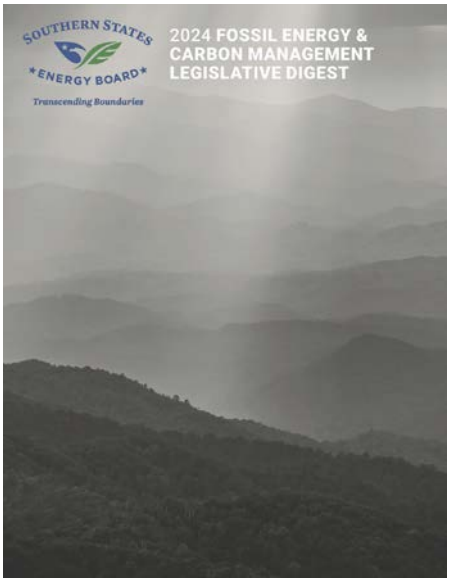
The latest version of the printed Digest is current as of September 1, 2025. The interactive Digest receives continuous updates as bills are filed and adopted within our membership region.

Fossil Energy & Carbon Management (FECM) Digest

Our FECM Digest is an extension of our longstanding Energy & Environment Legislative Digest, created to focus specifically on fossil energy and carbon management legislation across the nation.

By zeroing in on these issues, it offers policymakers, industry leaders, and stakeholders a dedicated resource for navigating one of the most dynamic areas of energy policy. As states work to balance economic growth with environmental responsibility, understanding the legislative

framework around fossil fuels and carbon management is more important than ever. The Digest delivers that understanding through in-depth analysis of bills, regulations, and initiatives that directly shape energy production, sustainability, and carbon reduction.



This publication is more than a record of activity. By tracking trends and highlighting best practices, the FECM Digest helps member states align strategies, collaborate on shared challenges, and strengthen their collective progress toward energy security, prosperity, and preserving natural heritage.

The forthcoming November release will place added emphasis on critical minerals and rare earth elements, continuing our targeted exploration of how State-level decisions influence the nation's energy future.

Partnerships

The Board has many collaborative efforts underway and through these robust partnerships with government, business, industry, and academia, our member States and Territories benefit from the work of energy and environmental experts throughout the country.

Educating and Engaging Stakeholders

Southern States Energy Board prioritizes outreach and education through a variety of venues including summits, conferences and workshops, keynote presentations, panel discussions, exhibits, and myriad activities meant to engage public officials and other stakeholders. SSEB strives to enhance and improve understanding and awareness of domestic energy development, energy and environmental policies, and clean energy technologies and their importance in the region.

We were honored to take part in two Governor-led initiatives during this year. At the request of Governor Tate Reeves, SSEB participated in the **Mississippi Power Play** Summit on May 1, 2025, in Jackson, Mississippi. The Summit convened energy industry leaders and government partners from around Mississippi and the nation to strategize how the State can eliminate red tape, stimulate private sector engagement, and make Mississippi a model State for energy policy and investment.

Governor Tate Reeves hosted the Mississippi Power Play Summit in Jackson, Mississippi, and SSEB's Secretary, Ken Nemeth, joined in discussions of energy security through diversification, infrastructure, innovation, and smart regulation.

On September 10-12, 2025, the Board co-sponsored and participated in Governor Patrick Morrisey's West Virginia Energy Educational Forum and Tours. The event was hosted by Governor Morrisey and the West Virginia Energy Office and assembled State legislative leaders from the states of Florida, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, and West Virginia, all of which directly benefit from West Virginia's energy production. Attendees toured Alliance Coal's

Tunnel Bridge Mine and American Electric Power's Mitchell Power Station, a coal-fueled facility. During the event, Governor Morrisey unveiled the State's first long-term comprehensive energy policy, which includes the Governor's **50 by 50 Generation Plan** to increase the State's energy capacity from 15 to 50 gigawatts by 2050.

West Virginia's Governor Patrick Morrisey announces his 50 by 50 Generation Plan.

Notable Outreach

The following represents a mix of in-person and virtual events that establish our communications and outreach efforts as robust and wide-ranging:

- Briefings to Board Members | Host and Presenters
- Associate Member Meetings | Host and Presenters
- Board Member Briefings and Visits in Alabama, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, Tennessee, and West Virginia
- Mississippi Power Play Summit, an Initiative by Governor Tate Reeves | Participant
- West Virginia Energy Educational Forum and Tours | Co-sponsor, Coordination Support, and Presenter
- State Energy Offices, Briefings on Board Programs and Activities | Presenters
- Participation in Energy and Environment Legislative Sub-Committee Meetings | Presenters
- Project Briefings to State Regulators in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and West Virginia | Presenters
- National Association of State Energy Officials Southeast Section Meeting | Participant
- 2024 Georgia General Assembly's Subcommittee on Energy and Environment Workshop in Athens, Georgia | Presenters
- SECARB-USA CCS Summit in Athens, Georgia | Co-Host and Presenters
- SECARB-USA Project Meetings and Annual Review Meeting | Host and Presenters
- SECARB-USA Project Final Meeting | Presenters

- SECARB-USA CCS Workshop in Tuscaloosa, Alabama | Co-Host and Presenters
- Project ECO2S Phase III Team Final Meeting | Presenters
- Project OASIS Events at the National Carbon Capture Center in Wilsonville, AL | Presenters
- Project OASIS Student Engagement Event | Presenter
- Project OASIS Final Meeting | Presenters
- Project Longleaf Kickoff Meeting in Morgantown, WV | Presenters
- Project Longleaf Media Availability in Mobile County, AL | Presenters
- Project Longleaf Student Engagement Event and Seismic Acquisition in Mobile County, AL | Presenters
- Project ACCESS DOE-NETL CCUS Annual Review Meeting | Presenters
- Tri-State CCS Hub DOE-NETL CCUS Annual Review Meeting | Presenters
- Project Lochridge DOE-NETL CCUS Annual Review Meeting | Presenters
- EUCI CCUS 101 Workshop | Presenters
- DOE and EPA Meeting on Public Perception and Novel Applications for Text Analytics to Understand Public Responses to Permitting | Presenter
- Strategic Energy Innovation Consortium Leadership Team Meetings | Host and Presenters
- Annual CO2 Conference in Midland, Texas | Presenter
- Western Interstate Energy Board High-Level Radioactive Waste Committee and WIPP Technical Advisory Group Meeting | Presenter
- Council of State Governments Northeast High-Level Radioactive Waste Transportation Task Force | Presenter
- Council of State Governments Midwestern Office Radioactive Materials Transportation Committee Meeting | Presenter
- Transportation Emergency Preparedness Program Ad Hoc Working Group | Chairman
- Tribal Radioactive Materials Transportation Committee Meeting | Presenter
- High Burnup Research Cask Shipment Ad Hoc Working Group | Member
- Section 180(c) Ad Hoc Working Group | Member
- National Transportation Stakeholder Forum | Planning Committee Lead
- Department of Energy Office of Nuclear Energy Transportation Core Group | Member
- Southern Emergency Response Council Meeting | Host

Associate Members Program

The SSEB Associate Members program was founded in 1981 by Kentucky Governor John Y. Brown during his chairmanship. The members represent both regional and national energy providers, resource companies, educational institutions, trade associations, and technology developers. The Associate Members act in an advisory capacity to the Board. With increasing interest from the region's prominent energy industries and organizations, SSEB gains a broad depth of knowledge and diverse perspectives on the impact of energy and environmental policies and regulations on the region's economy.

2025 Officers

Chair
Zach Monroe
Ameren Missouri

Vice Chair
Lavelle Edmondson
Marathon

Immediate Past Chair
John Eick
AFPM

Members

Sources of Support

The Southern States Energy Board's primary source of funding is its annual appropriations from the 18 member States and Territories. Each member's share is computed by a formula written into the original compact. This formula is composed of an equal share, per capita income, and population. The Board has not requested an increase in annual appropriations since 1987. The compact authorizes the Board to accept funds from any State, Federal Agency, Interstate Agency, institution, person, firm, or corporation provided those funds are used for the Board's purposes and functions. This year, additional support was received for research projects from cooperative agreements from the U.S. Department of Energy through many different funding agencies as well as the U.S. Department of Defense.

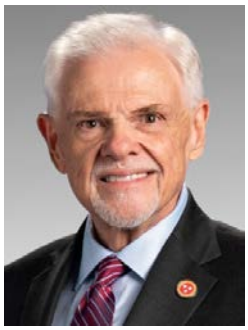
Additionally, SSEB continues to lead an Associate Members program composed of industry partners who provide an annual contribution to the Board. Membership includes organizations from the nongovernmental sector, corporations, universities, trade associations, and public advocacy groups. The Associate Members program provides an opportunity for public officials and industry representatives to exchange ideas, define objectives, and advance energy and environmental planning to improve and enhance the South's economic and environmental well-being.

In addition, the SSEB carbon management program's industry associates and partners provide monetary sponsorships to complement the Board's CCUS projects and activities and assist with cost share needs on our Federal projects. SSEB also receives corporate sponsorships, registration fees, as well as other in-kind contributions to support the expenses associated with the SSEB annual meeting and other events. SSEB State appropriations are as follows:

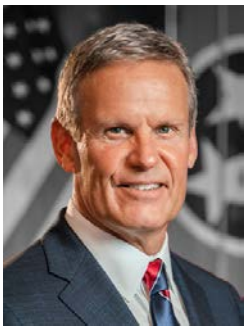
Alabama $32,572	Maryland $37,192	South Carolina $31,372
Arkansas..... $31,027	Mississippi $29,077	Tennessee..... $34,267
Florida..... $47,212	Missouri $36,247	Texas $55,402
Georgia..... $35,782	North Carolina $37,042	U.S. Virgin Islands .. $25,297
Kentucky $32,197	Oklahoma..... $32,512	Virginia..... $38,362
Louisiana..... $33,817	Puerto Rico..... $25,597	West Virginia..... $28,732

Executive Committee

Chairman
Gov. Kay Ivey
Alabama



Treasurer
Sen. Ken Yager
Tennessee



Gov. Bill Lee
Tennessee

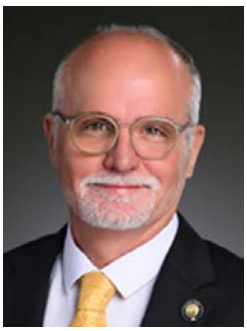
Gov. Henry McMaster
South Carolina

Rep. Lynn Smith
Georgia

Del. Will Morefield
Virginia

Sen. Brandon Smith
Kentucky

Sen. Bryan Hughes
Texas



Chair, SLC E&E Cmte.
Sen. Bob Hensgens
Louisiana

Secretary
Kenneth Nemeth

Board Members

Alabama

Gov. Kay Ivey
Sen. Chris Elliott
Rep. Chip Brown
Rep. Parker Moore (Alt.)
Mr. Brooks McClendon (Gov. Alt.)

Arkansas

Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders
Sen. Matt McKee
Rep. Rick Beck
Sec. Shane Khoury (Gov. Alt.)

Florida

Gov. Ron DeSantis
Sen. Ed Hooper
Rep. Mike Giallombardo
Ms. Brooks Rumenik (Ag. Commissioner's Appointee)
Mr. Cody Farrill (Gov. Alt.)

Georgia

Gov. Brian Kemp
Sen. Chuck Payne
Rep. Lynn Smith
Rep. Chuck Martin (Alt.)
Dir. Hunter Hill (Gov. Alt.)

Kentucky

Gov. Andy Beshear
Sen. Brandon Smith
Rep. Jim Gooch, Jr.
Mr. Rocky Adkins (Gov. Alt.)

Louisiana

Gov. Jeff Landry
Sen. Jeremy Stine
Sen. Patrick McMath (Alt.)
Rep. Neil Riser

Maryland
Gov. Wes Moore
Sen. Brian Feldman
Sen. Stephen Hershey (Alt.)
Del. Lorig Charkoudian
Del. Brian Crosby (Alt.)

Mississippi
Gov. Tate Reeves
Sen. Joel Carter, Jr.
Sen. Dennis DeBar, Jr. (Alt.)
Rep. Brent Powell
Rep. Angela Cockerham (Alt.)
Ms. Anne Brashier (Gov. Alt.)

Missouri
Gov. Mike Kehoe
Sen. Mike Cierpiot
Sen. Jason Bean (Alt.)
Rep. Bob Bromley
Rep. Mike Costlow (Alt.)
Rep. Del Taylor (Alt.)
Ms. Emily Wilbur (Gov. Alt.)

North Carolina
Gov. Josh Stein
Sen. Buck Newton
Sen. Timothy Moffitt (Alt.)
Rep. Dean Arp
Rep. Kyle Hall (Alt.)
Rep. Matthew Winslow (Alt.)

Oklahoma
Gov. Kevin Stitt
Sen. Casey Murdock (Alt.)
Rep. Brad Boles (Alt.)
Sec. Jeff Starling (Gov. Alt.)

Puerto Rico
Gov. Jenniffer González Colón
Rep. Victor Parés Otero

South Carolina
Gov. Henry McMaster
Sen. Thomas Alexander
Sen. Lawrence Grooms (Alt.)
Rep. William Herbkersman
Rep. Gil Gatch (Alt.)
Mr. Sym Singh (Gov. Alt.)

Tennessee
Gov. Bill Lee
Sen. Ken Yager
Rep. Clark Boyd
Comm. David Salyers (Gov. Alt.)

Texas
Gov. Greg Abbott
Sen. Bryan Hughes
Rep. Drew Darby
Comm. Christi Craddick (Gov. Alt.)

U.S. Virgin Islands
Gov. Albert Bryan

Virginia
Gov. Glenn Youngkin
Sen. Bill DeSteph
Sen. Ryan McDougle (Alt.)
Sen. Aaron Rouse (Alt.)
Del. Michael Jones
Del. Will Morefield
Del. Irene Shin
Dir. Glenn Davis (Gov. Alt.)

West Virginia
Gov. Patrick Morrisey
Sen. Chris Rose
Sen. Rupie Phillips (Alt.)
Dir. Nicholas Preservati (Gov. Alt.)

In Memoriam

The Southern States Energy Board recognizes with deep respect the lives and service of three esteemed colleagues whose leadership and contributions strengthened our organization and advanced its mission. The Board extends its deepest condolences to their families and acknowledges with gratitude their many contributions to the Southern States Energy Board and to the region it serves.

The Honorable George Nigh, Governor of Oklahoma

Governor George Patterson Nigh (1927–2025) served as a valued member of the Southern States Energy Board from 1981 to 1987, including five years on the Executive Committee. As the only person to serve twice as both Governor and Lieutenant Governor of Oklahoma, he made history as the first governor to be re-elected and the first to carry all 77 counties in the State. His leadership was marked by vision, pragmatism, and an unwavering commitment to the people of Oklahoma.

Beyond his public service, Governor Nigh later served as President of the University of Central Oklahoma, where he advanced opportunities for students and strengthened the institution's role in the community. Governor Nigh's wisdom, dedication, and good humor leave a lasting legacy at the Board and across the South.

Governor George Nigh, Oklahoma, presides over SSEB's U.S./European Coal Dialogue, New Orleans, February 6, 1986.

Senator Gary Stubblefield, Arkansas

Senator Gary Stubblefield

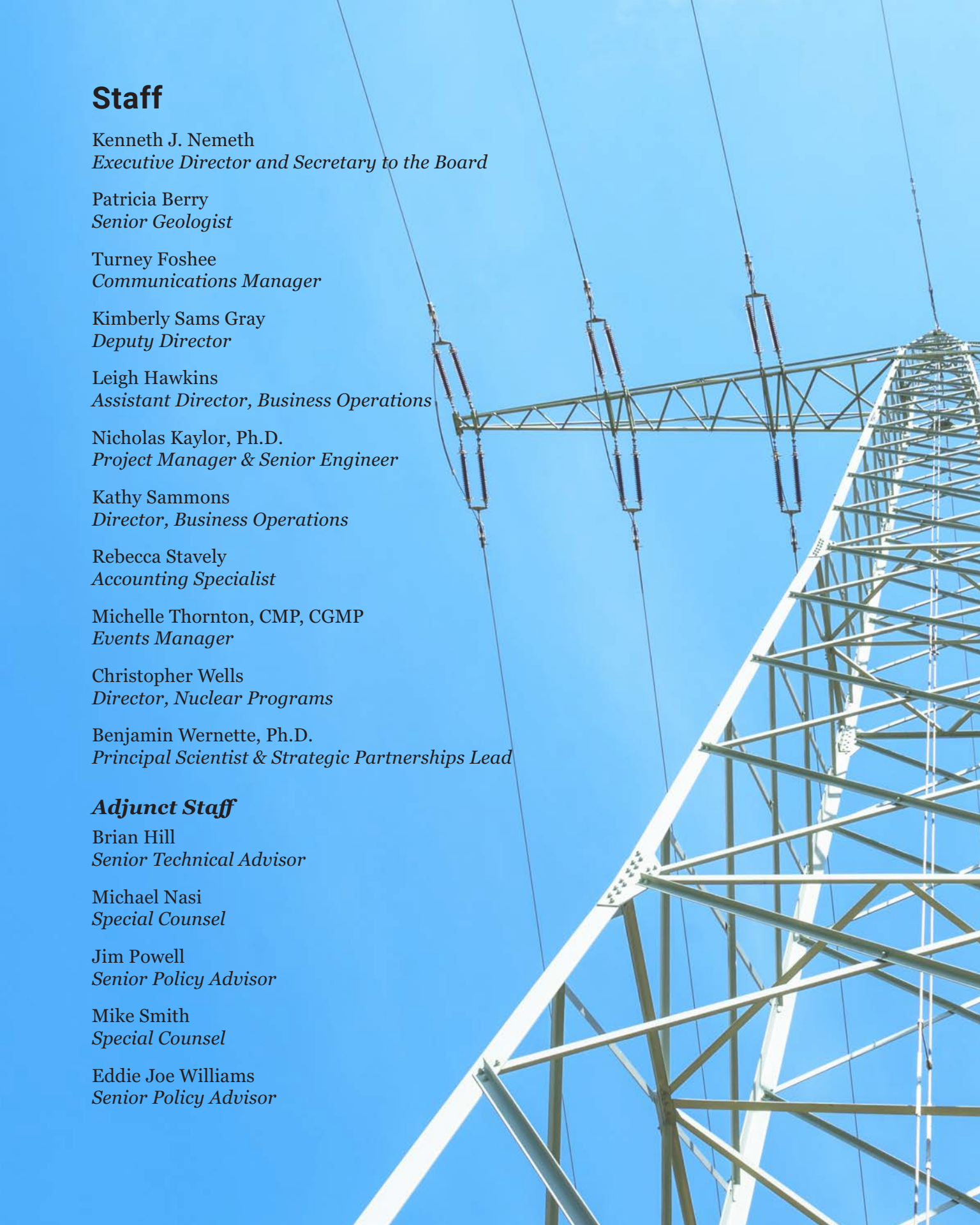
Senator Gary Stubblefield (1951–2025) was appointed to the Southern States Energy Board in 2018 and served with distinction until his passing on September 2, 2025. A committed public servant, he advanced sound energy policy, fostered regional collaboration, and represented Arkansas with integrity.

Known for his strong work ethic and good humor, Senator Stubblefield was always eager to assist SSEB staff, approaching every task with a big smile and a spirit of encouragement. His steadfast support and warmth left a lasting impression on the Board and all who had the privilege of working alongside him.

Gregory F. Martin

Gregory F. Martin (1968-2025) served as the Board's Data Systems Specialist from 1987 to 1999, guiding the development of our publications, reports, and outreach materials. Greg led the Board into the Digital (Information) Age, using digital, print, and audiovisual technologies in innovative ways that elevated the Board's work and ensured its mission was communicated with clarity and impact. He later founded Technology Management Services, continuing to support SSEB through 2007. Greg was a mix of good-hearted mischief, warmth, and style. He had a way of turning ordinary moments into memorable ones, and his presence enriched the lives of all who knew him.

Gregory F. Martin celebrates a successful event with his co-workers.



Staff

Kenneth J. Nemeth
Executive Director and Secretary to the Board

Patricia Berry
Senior Geologist

Turney Foshee
Communications Manager

Kimberly Sams Gray
Deputy Director

Leigh Hawkins
Assistant Director, Business Operations

Nicholas Kaylor, Ph.D.
Project Manager & Senior Engineer

Kathy Sammons
Director, Business Operations

Rebecca Stavely
Accounting Specialist

Michelle Thornton, CMP, CGMP
Events Manager

Christopher Wells
Director, Nuclear Programs

Benjamin Wernette, Ph.D.
Principal Scientist & Strategic Partnerships Lead

Adjunct Staff

Brian Hill
Senior Technical Advisor

Michael Nasi
Special Counsel

Jim Powell
Senior Policy Advisor

Mike Smith
Special Counsel

Eddie Joe Williams
Senior Policy Advisor

Board Overview

The Southern States Energy Board (SSEB) is a non-profit interstate compact organization created in 1960 under Public Laws 87-563 and 92-440. The Board's mission is to enhance economic development and the quality of life in the South through innovations in energy and environmental policies, programs, and technologies. Sixteen southern States and two Territories comprise the membership of SSEB.

SSEB was created by State law and consented to by Congress with a broad mandate to contribute to the economic and community well-being of the southern region. The Board exercises this mandate through the creation of programs in the fields of energy and environmental policy research, development and implementation, science and technology exploration, and related areas of concern. SSEB serves its members directly by providing timely assistance designed to develop effective energy and environmental policies and programs and represents its members before governmental agencies at all levels.

Connect Online

BUILDING A WINNING COALITION,
ONE POWER PLAY AT A TIME.

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