

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 14, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Orrin Hatch
Chairman
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ron Wyden
Ranking Member
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Democratic Leader Schumer, Chairman Hatch, and Ranking Member Wyden:

We write to request that the Senate include S. 1535, the FUTURE (Furthering carbon capture, Utilization, Technology, Underground storage, and Reduced Emissions) Act of 2018 in a yearend tax extenders package. The support for this critical energy policy is unprecedented and spans the spectrum from coal state to climate-hawk Senators. S.1535 is currently cosponsored by one quarter of the United States Senate and a House companion bill – H.R. 3761, sponsored by Congressman Mike Conaway (R-TX) – enjoys similarly broad, bipartisan support with 44 cosponsors.

As the four principal sponsors of the FUTURE Act, we share a bipartisan concern that carbon capture, utilization, and storage be incentivized to encourage technological innovation that supports domestic energy production, protects and creates high-paying American jobs, and reduces carbon emissions in the U.S. and globally. Our bill would extend and reform the 45Q tax credit, which will help the U.S. maintain a diverse energy mix including the capture of carbon dioxide from coal facilities, encourage innovation in nascent direct-air capture projects, and benefit a wide range of other U.S. energy sectors. The bill will also encourage development and deployment of carbon capture technologies that would transform carbon emissions into useful and profitable products.

Due to long lead times for construction of carbon capture projects, the Section 45Q credit has, for practical purposes, already expired; the lack of financial certainty regarding future availability of credits is deterring private investment in new commercial projects. Key provisions of the FUTURE Act would provide needed certainty for power generators and other industrial facilities to invest in the buildout of carbon capture projects that utilize carbon dioxide (CO₂).

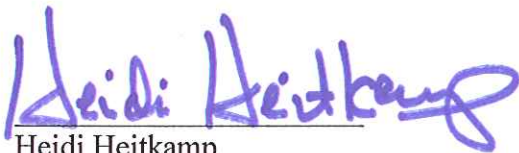
Our bipartisan bill is also supported by an unprecedented coalition of coal, oil, electric power, ethanol, and industrial companies, labor unions, and environmental groups that are concerned about both energy and the environment.

The U.S. has led the world in the demonstration of carbon capture technology. However, largescale commercial deployment of carbon capture will be limited without an effective federal incentive to encourage investment and implementation of the technology of the type Congress provided for other critical energy technologies, helping to reduce their costs and increase their competitiveness in the marketplace.

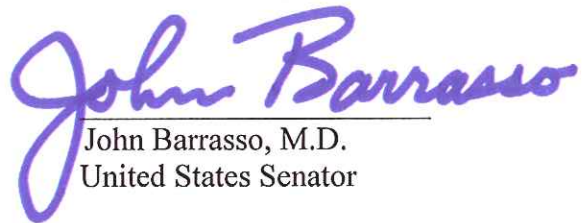
Federal investment in CCUS technologies is a critical component of our national energy and emissions reductions policies and has the potential to be an economic boon for U.S. companies and researchers. We urge you to include the FUTURE Act along with other needed extenders provisions in legislation to be considered before the end of the year.

Thank you for consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



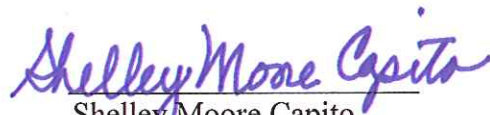
Heidi Heitkamp
United States Senator



John Barrasso, M.D.
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



Shelley Moore Capito
United States Senator