



Conaway Leads Bipartisan House Carbon Capture Push

45Q bill adds big complement to broader effort to finance projects

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14, 2017 -- ClearPath Action applauds Rep. Mike Conaway (R-Texas) for leading a bipartisan effort to extend and expand a crucial tax incentive for projects that capture and store carbon from power plants and other facilities.

“This bipartisan bill is now an important part of a bicameral effort to give the U.S. a global edge in technologies that responsibly grow coal and natural gas generation, while also magnifying the potential for enhanced oil recovery and other economic benefits,” ClearPath Action Executive Director Rich Powell said.

Conaway’s bill would target investments made through the Section 45Q tax credit, part of a multi-pronged financing effort for carbon capture projects that also includes private-activity bonds that would be authorized [in bipartisan bills](#) from Sens. Rob Portman (R-Ohio) and Michael Bennet (D-Colo.) and Reps. Carlos Curbelo (R-Fla.) and Marc Veasey (D-Texas). While the bonds provide low-cost financing for carbon capture development, the 45Q credit can then further complement that by driving equity investment in the projects.

Together, these incentives have the potential to dramatically boost commercial carbon capture deployment in the U.S., which can lead to significant increases in enhanced oil recovery and other economic benefits.

Conaway’s bill would increase the value of the credit for new projects, while limiting eligibility to projects that would begin construction within seven years or who haven’t yet received the credit. But the bill would also expand the range of projects that could receive the credit to also include carbon monoxide capture and other facilities.

Among the original 20 Republican and 9 Democratic cosponsors of the Conaway bill are Reps. Ryan Costello (R), Robert Brady (D), Tim Murphy (R) and Mike Doyle (D) of Pennsylvania, Republicans David McKinley and Evan Jenkins of West Virginia, Kevin

Cramer (R-N.D.), Carlos Curbelo (R-Fla.), Richard Hudson (R-N.C.), Elise Stefanik (R-N.Y.), Andy Barr (R-Ky.) and Collin Peterson (D-Minn.).

Sens. Heidi Heitkamp (D-N.D.) and Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.) are leading a similar effort that has earned backing from Senate leaders, including Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, Energy and Natural Resources Chairman Lisa Murkowski and Environment and Public Works Chairman John Barrasso.

The Petra Nova carbon capture project, located outside of Houston, is emblematic of the burgeoning potential. It created more than 500 jobs and attracted hundreds of millions in private investment. By capturing emissions and injecting them into a nearby oil field, it is expected to increase production from just 300 barrels of oil per day to upwards of 15,000 barrels daily.

According to the National Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute, more than 300,000 barrels per day (or about 5 percent) of domestic oil production is harvested using carbon

ClearPath Action is a 501(c)(4) working to create and influence conservative clean energy solutions. Find out more at clearpath.org and clearpathaction.org . Also follow us on Twitter: [@JayFaison1](https://twitter.com/JayFaison1) and [@ClearPathAction](https://twitter.com/ClearPathAction).