

# **Carbon Capture and Sequestration: The Evolving Regulatory Framework In New York State**

**Environmental Monitoring, Evaluation, and Protection Conference**  
NYSERDA

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# Presentation Outline

- Project Background
- Overview of Report Content
  - CCS Goals and Regulatory Challenges
  - Federal Regulatory Procedures
  - Lessons from other States
  - Common Law Precedents
  - Regulatory Framework in New York
  - Policy Issues in New York
- CCS Project Status in New York

# CCS Feasibility Study

## NYSERDA Project No. 10498

- Task 1: Carbon Sequestration Permit Strategy—  
Selection of Preferred Site
- Task 2: Selection of Sequestration Strategy
- Task 3: Evaluation of Costs and Potential Benefits
- Task 4: Assessment of Regulatory and Permitting  
Issues
- Task 5: Insurance and Indemnification Issues

# CCS Feasibility Study

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- Task 1: Carbon Sequestration Permit Strategy—Selection of Preferred Site
- Task 2: Selection of Sequestration Strategy
- “White Paper on CCS”
  - Task 3: Evaluation of Costs and Potential Benefits
  - Task 4: Assessment of Regulatory and Permitting Issues
  - Task 5: Insurance and Indemnification Issues

**Carbon Dioxide Capture  
and Sequestration:  
Developing a Regulatory  
Strategy for New York State**

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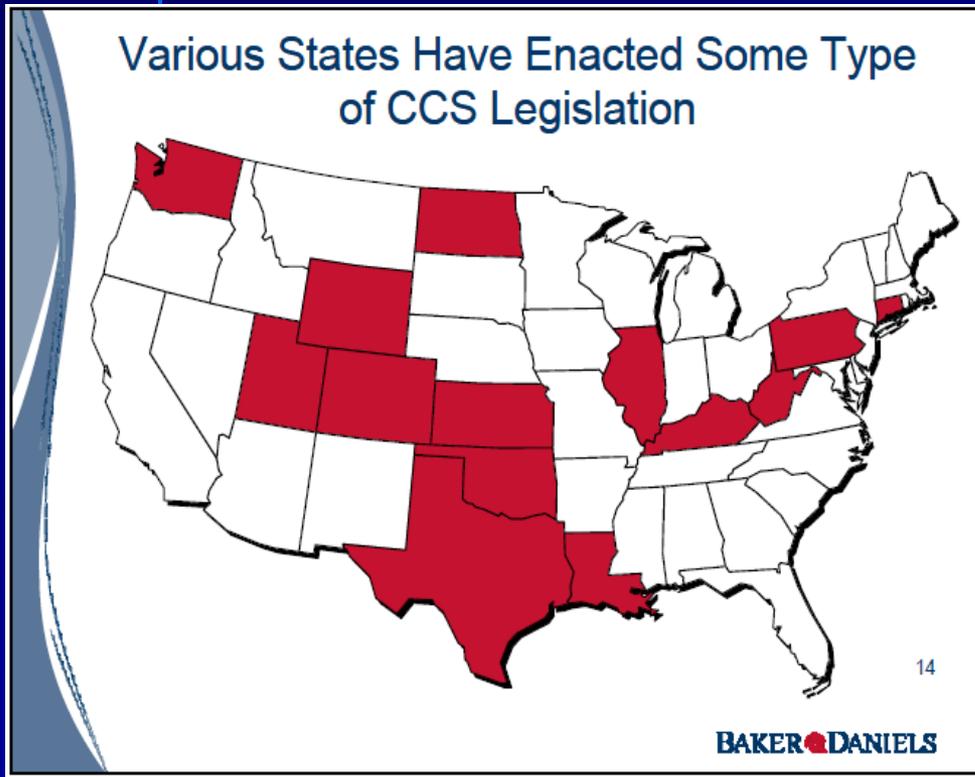
Agreement Number: 10498

1. Introduction
2. Developing CCS and Common Law Precedents
3. Regulatory Framework for CCS in NY State
4. Policy Issues Affecting CCS Implementation in NY State
5. Conclusions

# Highlights: The Devil's in the Details

- Federal Permitting: UIC Class VI proposed
- Detail: Trace contaminants in the CO2 stream could trigger RCRA or CERCLA, or the Supreme Court definition of CO2 as a "pollutant" could trigger CERCLA liability.

# Highlights: The Devil's in the Details



However, these laws are either:

- Project specific;
- Don't address liability;
- Fail to consider pore space ownership (except WY)

IOGCC Guidelines are more complete but have not been adopted anywhere.

# Highlights: The Devil's in the Details

## ■ Common Law Precedents

- American Rule
- Trespass
- Nuisance Claim
- Abnormally Dangerous Activity
- Negligence
- The Negative Rule of Capture
- The English Rule
- Etc.

# Highlights: The Devil's in the Details

- Existing Laws and Regulations
  - National Environmental Policy Act
  - State Environmental Quality Review Act
  - Air Permit (19 ECL)
  - Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative
  - Federal Clean Air Act

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# Air Permit (19 ECL)

## ■ NYS DRAFT CO2 Regulations

Source	NY CO2 Limit
Electric Generating Units (boiler, turbines, IGCC)	925 lb/MWh
Simple Cycle Turbines (<100 MW)	1450 lb/MWh
Very Large Boilers	125 lb/MMBTU
Gasification	125 lb/MMBTU

For Comparison, California Chapter 11/SB1368 limit is **1100** lbCO<sub>2</sub>/MWh for local publicly owned electric utility procuring electricity

# Highlights: The Devil's in the Details

- Existing Laws and Regulations that Require Modification to Apply to CO2
  - Oil, Gas, and Solution Mining Law (23 ECL)
  - Public Service Law
  - Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

# Key Policy Recommendations

- Develop a comprehensive CCS program consistent with existing regulations.
- Develop ownership regulations that clarify pore space ownership, vesting ownership with surface owner unless mineral rights have been severed.
- Create regulations that parallel regulations from the waste disposal, oil and gas industries.
- Build on existing Oil and Gas Law to authorization unitization of reservoirs, fair compensation, review, etc.
- Create incentives, particularly for “early movers.”

# Questions?



Stratigraphic Test Well, NY  
Ecology and Environment, Inc.



CO2 Injection Well, MI  
Courtesy Battelle



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