

Welcome to the inaugural issue of MRCInfo,
a newsletter created to keep subscribers up to
date on the latest goings on with the Midwest
Regional Carbon Initiative and in the ever-
growing field of Carbon Capture, Utilization,
and Storage.

MRCInfo

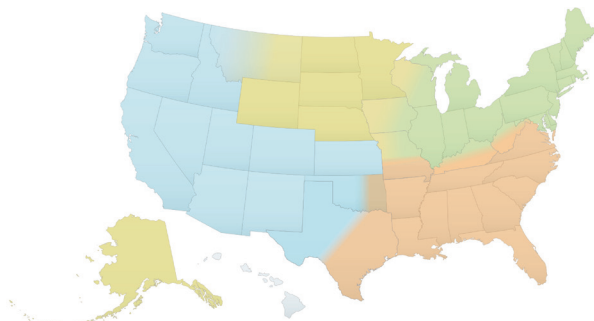
News from the Midwest Regional Carbon Initiative

JULY 2021

We created this newsletter based on feedback received from our February 2021 Stakeholder meeting and are working hard to provide you with the information you requested, including: technical webinars; CCUS-related fact sheets; upcoming Energy/Climate/CCUS events; access to databases, reports, and other resource materials; and links to industry-related headlines.

What is the MRCI?

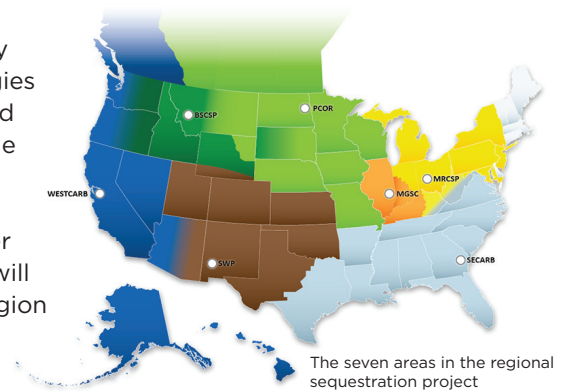
The Midwest Regional Carbon Initiative is a broad coalition of partners from research, academia, industry, NGOs, and the US government dedicated to the study and acceleration of carbon storage and sequestration in the Midwest, Northeast, and Mid-Atlantic regions of the United States.



The conflated four carbon initiative regions

Led by Battelle Memorial Institute and the Illinois State Geological Survey, the MRCI aims to advance carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) research by addressing key technical challenges, obtaining and sharing data to support CCUS, facilitating regional infrastructure planning, and performing regional technology transfer and engaging national and international stakeholders, including state geological surveys, universities, industrial partners and advisors, fossil fuel production and utilization companies, and NGOs related to this process.

The MRCI is the progression of the Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnerships (RCSPs) network created by the Department of Energy in 2003 to provide the foundation for validating that CCS technologies can be commercially deployed and monitored throughout the United States. The RCSP network was comprised of seven regions. Upon the completion of that 20-plus year program, those seven regions were conflated to create four. The MRCI is the combination of the former Midwest Geologic Sequestration Consortium (MGSC) and the former Midwest Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership (MRCSP) and will build off the foundation of the regional partnerships to move the region towards readiness and deployment of commercial CCUS.



The MRCI project study area includes states from the Midwest to east coast, covering more than one-third of the nation's CO₂ point sources, accounting for 945 million metric tons of CO₂. The geology of the region is diverse, covering multiple storage provinces and plays including the Michigan Basin, Illinois Basin, Appalachian Basin, Atlantic Coast, and Off-shore. The region hosts more than a dozen pilot and/or full-scale CCUS projects, which provide a solid foundation for future work.

The Midwest Regional Carbon Initiative is a structured five-year program funded by the Department of Energy.

MRCSP Research Now Available!

In early 2021, a multi-disciplinary team representing some of the nation's leaders in research, industry, and technology concluded nearly 20 years of work on the Midwest Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership (MRCSP) Carbon Storage Program. Formed in 2003, the collaborative initiative worked to assess the technical potential, economic viability, and public acceptability of carbon storage in ten states in the Midwestern U.S.

Led by scientists from Battelle and complemented by local and regional geology expertise from state geological surveys and universities and the participation of national laboratories and several major energy companies, the MRCSP has provided project leaders with a deep and comprehensive expertise in translating preliminary scoping and feasibility studies of CCUS (Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage) into successful field-scale projects that demonstrate the safe and efficient storage of more than a million metric tons of CO₂.

Read the full [press release](#)

Access the reports at www.midwestccus.org

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES



Clean energy investment is critical to meeting the United States goals of 100 percent carbon-free electricity by 2035 and net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. Financing of clean energy can rely on a variety of investment sources, including grants, tax credits, and institutional investors ranging from VCs to utilities. From 2 p.m. – 3 p.m. July 22, 2021, recent U.S. C3E Award recipients and investors who finance the energy transition—Mira Inbar from ArcTern Ventures, Britta von Oesen from CohnReznick Capital, and Libby Wayman from Breakthrough Energy Ventures will discuss a range of topics including: the evolving ecosystem of climate finance, the scaling of technologies, and consideration for early stage to late stage investments.

[Register Here](#)

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY



Ohio Rep. Tim Ryan, along with representatives from Michigan, West Virginia, Illinois, Pennsylvania (all states within the MRCI region), Texas, and North Dakota recently introduced the CATCH Act before the House of Representatives, boosting carbon capture tax credits for industrial facilities and power plants.

Specifically, the CATCH Act increases 45Q credit value to \$85 per ton for saline storage and \$60 per ton for EOR. And it eliminates minimum eligibility thresholds. A number of similar bills have been introduced in Congress recently and deliberations on those bills are expected to proceed over the summer.

[More Information](#)

Stay up to date on all the legislative action in the energy sector by following the webpage for the United States Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Watch live committee hearings, read the transcripts, and sign up for news alerts to make sure you are on top of everything happening inside the beltway!

[More Information](#)



Ohio Rep. Tim Ryan

FACT SHEETS



This Fact Sheet from the Clean Air Task Force sums up a series of pending bills before the US Congress that enhance 45Q, along with the SCALE Act, and would enable the decarbonization of industrial facilities, power plants, transportation fuels, and catalyze the removal of CO₂ directly from the atmosphere.

[Open Fact Sheet](#)

The Department of Energy – Loan Programs Office put together this Fact Sheet to explain how, through its Title 17 Innovative Energy Loan Guarantee Program, LPO can finance CCUS projects at commercial scale with \$8.5 billion of available loan guarantees.

[Open Fact Sheet](#)

WATCH THIS SPACE!

The MRCI is working on a series of our own Fact Sheets featuring graphics and content that will make even the most complex aspects of CCUS easy to understand.

IN THE NEWS



Battelle and Catahoula Resources recently announced intentions to jointly develop solutions for the capture, transport, and sequestration of carbon dioxide produced at ethanol facilities in Nebraska.

[Read More](#)



ADM, a global leader in human and animal nutrition and the world's premier agricultural origination and processing company, and the University of Illinois recently announced the successful completion of the Illinois Basin – Decatur Project (IBDP), a CCS project designed to evaluate and test the technology at commercial scale.

[Read More](#)



In an effort to support the deployment of advanced CCUS technologies within the United Kingdom, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) has launched the CCUS Innovation 2.0 competition with up to £20 million in grant funding available. Applications will be accepted June 28 – August 8, 2021.

[Read More](#)



The completion of the MRCSP and formation of MRCI were recently featured in articles in Energy Capital and Gas World magazines.

[Energy Capital](#)

[Gas World](#)

RELATED UPCOMING EVENTS



The UK Carbon Capture and Storage Research Center (UKCCSRC) Summer 2021 Web Series

Virtual, 2 p.m. to 3 pm. Thursdays (BST), April 15 – July 8, 2021

<https://ukccsrc.ac.uk/event/ukccsrc-summer-2021-web-series-15-april-8-july-2021/>

International Pittsburgh Coal Conference

Virtual, Sept. 20–23, 2021

<https://www.engineering.pitt.edu/pcc/>

Global Energy Show Exhibition & Conference

Calgary, Canada, Sept. 21–23, 2021

<https://ccsknowledge.com/about/events/global-energy-show-exhibition-and-conference>

Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition

Dubai, UAE, Sept 21–23, 2021

<https://www.atce.org/welcome>

Joint annual meetings of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG) and the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG)

Denver, CO, Sept. 26–Oct. 1, 2021

<https://ace.aapg.org/2021>

Eastern Section of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (ES AAPG) 50th Annual Meeting

Pittsburgh, PA, Oct. 2–6, 2021

<https://www.esaapg.org/event/2020-eastern-section-annual-meeting-pittsburgh/>

Geological Society of America (GSA) Connects 2021 Annual Meeting

Portland, OR, Oct. 10–13, 2021

<https://community.geosociety.org/gsa2021/home>

The International Energy Agency Greenhouse Gas (IEAGHG) R&D Program's 6th Annual Post-Combustion Capture Conference

Virtual, Oct. 19–21, 2021

<https://ieaghg.org/conferences/2-uncategorised/1042-pccc-6>

Carbon Capture Technology Conference and Expo

Stuttgart Messe, Germany, Oct. 20–21, 2021

<https://www.carboncapture-expo.com/>

CCUS Gordon Research Conference series

Waterville Valley, NH, Oct. 24–29, 2021

<https://www.grc.org/carbon-capture-utilization-and-storage-conference/2021/>

SAVE THE DATE!

MRCI Partners Meeting In Person!

Morgantown, WV
Nov. 9-11 (tentative)

Interested in attending?

[Let us know](#)

Like what you see?
Have ideas for future features?
Want your news or resources spotlighted?
[Email us!](#)

The Midwest Regional Carbon Initiative is a structured five-year program funded by the Department of Energy. The MRCI is co-led by Battelle and the Illinois State Geological Survey and is comprised of team members from multiple state geological surveys, academic institutions, and industry. Backed by more than 20-years of experience in the field, the initiative works to connect science, technology, and research to advance CCUS in 20 states across the Midwest, Mid-Atlantic and New England regions.

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