

# US Public Perception of CCS – Implications for Deployment

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Engagement and Consultation

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# Overview

- Public Perception Spheres Of Influence
- Apparent Successes Being Achieved
- Yet, Is It Déjà Vu All Over Again?

# Public Perception Spheres of Influence



- Project Implementation:
  - Willingness for a private host to locate in a community
  - Permitting timelines (and related costs)
  - Additional local “permission to operate”
- Policy:
  - CO2 reduction requirements
  - Public funding for CCS

# Apparent Successes - Projects



- Majority of Phase 2 RCSP projects completed or nearing completion
- Decatur Phase 3 project permitted and well drilled; other Phase 3 projects moving ahead
- Southern launches CO2 Capture center in collaboration with others
- Mountaineer (AEP) permit obtained
- KY and PA moving ahead with state sponsored projects

# Apparent Successes - Policy



- Federal:
  - American Clean Energy & Security Act moving through House
  - Energy Bill 2009 moving through Senate; signals of movement on climate
- State:
  - Texas, Wyoming, Pennsylvania enacting legislation
  - Others getting very close

# Apparent Success - Funding

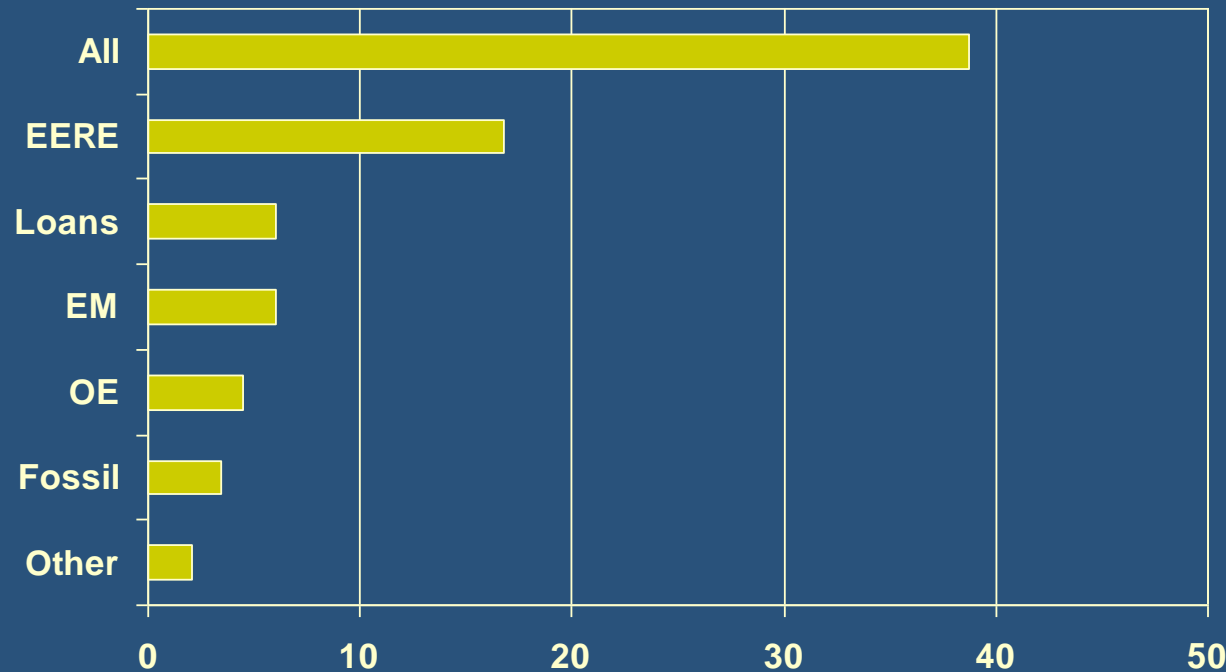


- DOE authorized to spend \$2.4 Billion on CCS RD&D
- **Clean Coal Power Initiative:** \$800 million in government co-financing for new coal technologies that can help utilities cut sulfur, nitrogen and mercury pollutants from power plants.
- **Industrial Carbon Capture and Storage:** \$1.52 billion for a two-part competitive solicitation for large-scale CCS from industrial sources.
- **Site Characterization:** \$50 million to characterize a minimum of 10 geologic formations throughout the United States.
- **Geologic Sequestration Training and Research:** \$20 million to educate and train a future generation of geologists, scientists, and engineers.

# CCS Funding 8.7% of Total Stimulus Spending on Energy



Authorized Energy Spending (Billions\$)



\$38.71B Authorized for Energy Expenditures Under American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act)

# Yet, Have We Progressed?



- Eugene Robinson – Op-Ed in Washington Post June 5, 2009 “Coal’s Pipedream”
  - Cites cost, uncertainty about subsurface behavior, Lake Nyos and slow seepage as reasons why it is a bad idea.
- MIT analysis of House Climate Bill: “On the technology front, the prospects for carbon capture and storage (CCS) have worsened: progress in commercial demonstration has been slow, and the full cost of the technology has become clearer as these efforts have proceeded. As a result, costs are likely much higher than those drawn from earlier engineering studies and applied in our previous analysis.”

# Public Perception of CCS a Pawn in Fight Over Climate Change?



\$>80 Million in Prime Time Advertising –  
Reality Campaign and ACCEE

Rush Limbaugh –  
Alka-Seltzer Village  
must be stopped  
WSJ – Costs too high  
NIPCC – Climate  
Science a Hoax

Public  
Perception  
of CCS

ENGOS – Auction 100% of  
Allowances; toughen  
provisions of climate bill  
Eugene Robinson, et al –  
no more coal

Brookings, MIT, DOE – CCS  
more costly and challenging to  
implement than earlier  
assessed

# Implications for Deployment



- Public perceptions are forming as CCS is developing – and not necessarily based on actual results
- Once formed, public perceptions are resistant to change
- Public perceptions of CCS have effects at multiple levels