

Abstract for Tenth Annual Conference on Carbon Capture & Sequestration

Paper Title: An Approach for Tailoring Public Outreach Programs

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Abstract

In 2003, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) initiated the Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership (RCSP) Program to identify and demonstrate the best approaches to carbon storage in each of seven regions spanning the United States and part of Canada. Based on the experience gained during this work, the RCSP Outreach Working Group collaborated on the development of a manual: *Best Practices for Public Education and Outreach for Carbon Storage Projects*. Published in 2009, the manual advised project developers on how to integrate public outreach into the design and management of carbon dioxide storage projects. In 2010, the U.S. EPA published the UIC Class VI rules and a Guidance Factsheet, *Public Participation Considerations for Geologic Sequestration Projects*, aimed at assisting EPA UIC Program Directors and project operators in planning programs that comply with permitting requirements for public outreach. Both the RCSP Best Practices Manual and the U.S. EPA Guidance Factsheet offer ideas and suggestions for developing effective public outreach and education programs for CCS projects. The challenge is that, like most aspects of a CCS project, outreach programs need to be specifically designed for the project at hand: methods that work well for one project may not be appropriate or effective for another. This presentation proposes an approach to tailoring public outreach and education programs associated with CCS to individual projects, based on the best practices described in the RCSP Manual and the EPA guidelines.