

Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum

www.cslforum.org



September 4, 2012

Dear Colleague:

The Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum (CSLF) is now planning its next annual meeting to be held in Perth, Australia, on October 24 - 26, 2012. I would like to thank Australia, which hosted the second CSLF Ministerial in 2004, for its generous hospitality in again hosting a major CSLF meeting.

At last year's Ministerial in Beijing, the CSLF Charter was renewed and the mandate of the CSLF was expanded from Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) to Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage (CCUS). The importance of the CSLF was clearly recognized by our Ministers. Under that new Charter and its broadened mandate, we began to collaborate on our new CSLF Strategic Plan. These are all important steps but, as we all know, much more needs to be done to make CCUS a reality.

The value of collaboration through the CSLF is greater today than at any other time in its history. The need for CCUS has increased over that time, but so have the challenges to its development and commercial deployment. Global carbon dioxide emissions continue to increase and much of that increase is from facilities that would benefit from CCUS. The International Energy Agency has gone from projecting a 2-degree Celsius increase in global temperatures as a worst case scenario to projections of 4 and even 6 degrees Celsius increases. Many integrated, commercial-scale CCUS projects are now ready to be built. But these projects face the challenges of the high costs of first plants. Many projects have been cancelled due to their inability to obtain financing, much of the public still lacks an understanding of CCUS, and legal and regulatory frameworks remain not fully developed. These are challenges that we have long discussed, but global economic uncertainty and tight government budgets make these business challenges even more difficult.

We all share a common commitment to advancing CCUS as a vital and necessary means of mitigating climate change. Yet, we face the realities of today's challenges and must act on that commitment. Collaboration through the CSLF will make our actions more effective and timely.

The 2012 CSLF meeting must focus on meeting these critical challenges, and the Policy Group and Technical Group have much to discuss. The Policy Group will address how international collaboration should be used to advance demonstration projects and develop a strategy for next year's Ministerial. The Policy Group will also elect a Chair. The Technical Group will develop a plan for launching its 2013 Roadmap and will also elect a Chair, as well as three Vice Chairs. Our agenda is very wide ranging and promises to be productive.

I look forward to working with you and seeing you in Perth.

Sincerely,

Charles D. McConnell
Chairman
CSLF Policy Group