September 3, 2021

Brad Crabtree Nominated for Assistant Secretary for the Department of Energy’s Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management

On Thursday, September 2, President Joe Biden nominated Brad Crabtree for the Department of Energy’s Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management. Brad is the vice president of the Great Plains Institute’s carbon management program, co-directs the national Carbon Capture Coalition, and coordinates a 16-state carbon capture work group.

*Below is the statement from Rolf Nordstrom, President & CEO, Great Plains Institute:*

“Today we learned that President Biden’s Administration has nominated Great Plains Institute’s Brad Crabtree as Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy and Carbon Management within the Department of Energy. Brad has spent nearly two decades at GPI, working to build broad consensus around energy policies that meet our climate obligations and maintain a strong economy—and then see those policies enacted. He has played an outsized role in making carbon capture in all its forms part of the nation’s arsenal of emissions reductions strategies that also bring economic opportunity.

The phrase ‘uniquely qualified’ gets over-used, but in this case it fits. We believe Brad Crabtree is the best choice for this post, based on his demonstrated leadership, expertise and broad network of relationships across the country, the energy sector, and across the aisle.

We are incredibly proud of his accomplishments on behalf of GPI’s mission and the common good. Brad has dedicated his life’s work to improving the environment, climate and economy for the good of all of us, and we are grateful for his leadership and his ability to work with stakeholders across diverse sectors to make meaningful change.”
Below is the statement from Brad Crabtree, Vice President of Carbon Management, Great Plains Institute and Director, Carbon Capture Coalition:

“It is the honor of my life to be nominated by President Biden for the position of Assistant Secretary of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management. The President and Secretary Granholm have committed to an ambitious portfolio of carbon management policies and programs in the American Jobs Plan to meet our climate obligations, create high-wage energy, industry and manufacturing jobs and provide environmental and other benefits to communities. I am eager to dedicate myself to advancing this transformative agenda, and I look forward to working alongside the great team at the Department of Energy.”

Other coverage and statements:
- Statement by Secretary Granholm on President Biden's Nomination of Brad Crabtree | Department of Energy
- CATF supports Brad Crabtree's nomination to crucial carbon management position at Department of Energy
- Crabtree’s Nomination Underscores White House Commitment to Climate, Clean Energy Solutions (nwf.org)
- USW Praises Selection of Brad Crabtree for Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management | United Steelworkers
- Biden picks Crabtree for DOE carbon management post | InsideEPA.com
- N.D.’s Brad Crabtree nominated for Department of Energy post | INFORUM


The Great Plains Institute is hosting a CO2NNECT virtual event on Tuesday, September 14th, 2021, from 3:30 – 5:00 pm ET.

Leaders and experts in Congress, state government, industry, and labor and environmental organizations will outline key carbon management provisions in bipartisan legislation and President Biden’s American Jobs Plan and their prospects for passage this Congress. Congress is working to finalize major infrastructure and budget reconciliation legislation with profound implications for energy and climate policy. The event will showcase the importance of the economywide deployment of carbon management—carbon capture, removal, transport, utilization, and geologic storage—to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050, preserve and sustain high-wage jobs, spur investment and sustain American technology leadership.

Confirmed speakers include:
- The Honorable John Bel Edwards, Governor, State of Louisiana
The Honorable Ben Ray Luján, United States Senator, New Mexico

Alison Taylor, Chief Sustainability Officer, Archer-Daniels-Midland Company

Bryan Glover, President, Honeywell UOP

Cecile Conroy, Director, Legislative Affairs, International Brotherhood of Boilermakers

Lee Beck, International Director, Carbon Capture, Clean Air Task Force

Speakers will underscore the portfolio of bipartisan carbon management provisions endorsed by more than 170 organizations, companies, unions, and conservation and environmental groups in a recent letter to Congress. These complementary federal policy priorities include:

- Providing a direct pay option for the federal Section 45Q tax credit,
- Extending the commence construction window for the 45Q credit,
- Enhancing 45Q credit values for industrial and power plant carbon capture and direct air capture,
- Eliminating annual carbon capture thresholds in the 45Q program that deter innovation,
- Financing the buildout of regional CO2 transport and storage networks; and,
- Ensuring robust funding for commercial-scale demonstrations of carbon capture, direct air capture and carbon utilization technologies

Advanced registration is required. Those interested in the event can register here.

Bipartisan Members Pen Letter to Leaders: Prioritize Carbon Management

Eighteen bipartisan Members of Congress recently sent a letter to congressional leadership urging the prioritization of a targeted suite of complementary carbon management policies as an essential component of any forthcoming legislative vehicle.

The letter highlights many of the same key provisions called for in an open letter to congressional leadership from more than 170 companies, unions, conservation and environmental groups, and other organizations from across the nation last month.

Passage of the Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act, coupled with the key complementary tax measures outlined in the letter, could deliver economywide deployment resulting in an estimated 13-fold increase in carbon management capacity and annual emissions reductions of 210-250 million metric tons by 2035.

News Roundup

- Green, blue and pink: Bipartisan US infrastructure bill allocates $9.5bn to push down the costs of clean hydrogen | Recharge (rechargenews.com)
- Carbon Capture Could Dramatically Improve The LNG Outlook | OilPrice.com
- Using Tech To Suck Carbon Dioxide From Atmosphere, Explained (cnbctv18.com)
Calgary company partners with Elon Musk's XPRIZE

China's CNOOC launches first offshore carbon capture project

Indonesia approves Ubadari natural gas field, Vorwata carbon project

GE to Use 3D Printing to Extract Carbon Dioxide From the Air

The 'Clean Power Plan' Returns

Posco, four others join forces for liquid CO2 tanker

Trudeau Pledges Tighter Rules for Oil Companies to Cut Emissions

Sinopec plans to spend $4.6 bln on hydrogen energy by 2025

Heimdal pulls CO2 and cement-making materials out of seawater using renewable energy

Exclusive-Canada pushes to build 2 new carbon capture hubs – gov't document

EXCLUSIVE Canada pushes to build 2 new carbon capture hubs - gov't document

ADM's US flour milling reaches net carbon neutrality thanks to 'energy treasure hunts,' carbon sequestration & new, state-of-the-art facilities

Oil and gas pipeline industry tries to reinvent itself with carbon capture plans

Coal Country  AFL-CIO chiefs say federal climate action must create good union jobs

Twelve and LanzaTech Partner to Produce the World's First Polypropylene From CO2

DOE Awards $30M to Secure Domestic Supply Chain of Critical Materials

AT&T launches Connected Climate Initiative to reduce carbon emissions

Climate tech’s Netscape moment - Billions are pouring into the business of decarbonisation

Climate change will be a tougher burden for minorities in the US

Making Methane from CO2: Carbon Capture Grows More Affordable

With FERC now split 2-2, clean energy advocates call for caution and urgency to fill vacant seat

Eskom CEO Says Carbon Capture Being Considered in South Africa

Fossil fuels going nowhere fast, but carbon capture roll-out too slow, says DNV
New Podcasts, Reports, Statements & Blogs

- How Blue Hydrogen Can Help Decarbonize The Economy (forbes.com)
- WRI lays out options for large energy users to decarbonize beyond renewables procurement | Utility Dive
- Carbon Capture and Sequestration Market 2021 Break Down by Top Companies, Applications, Challenges | The Linde Group, Statoil ASA, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd. - Digital Journal
- Without help for oil-producing countries, net zero by 2050 is a distant dream | LinkedIn
- Techno-economic analysis of offshore isothermal compressed air energy storage in saline aquifers co-located with wind power - ScienceDirect
- Climate Change Is Here. Pass the California Climate Crisis Act (catf.us)
- Capturing a Carbon Opportunity - Public Policy Forum (ppforum.ca)
- Congress Can Slash Emissions by Supporting New Low-Carbon Industrial Technologies | ACEEE
- Bill Gates commits $1.5bn for clean technologies including hydrogen (h2-view.com)
- Voters Support All Provisions of the $3.5 Trillion Build Back Better Bill (dataforprogress.org)

News in the States

California
LA approves 100% clean energy by 2035 target, a decade ahead of prior goal | Utility Dive
Pending California Legislation Highlights Need for Stronger Commitment to Carbon Capture & Sequestration | Alston & Bird - JDSupra
Baker Hughes conducts CO2 sequestration study at California ethanol plant sites (worldoil.com)

Colorado

Illinois
Impending Illinois nuclear retirements seen creating steeper hill to hit carbon targets | S&P Global Platts (spglobal.com)
Senate passes clean energy proposal after House adjourns from special session | WCIA.com
Massive Illinois Energy Bill with Funding for Exelon’s Nukes Still Stuck (rtoinsider.com)
Prairie State coal plant at center of high-stakes Illinois energy debate | Energy News Network

Indiana
Region port booming, seeking to diversify, invest and go green | Northwest Indiana Business Headlines | nwitimes.com

Iowa
Heartland Greenway Just First Step in Carbon Sequestration Future | AG | kmaland.com
Opinion: We need a climate-change version of the interstate system (desmoinesregister.com)
Proposed carbon dioxide pipeline would cross 30 Iowa counties - Radio Iowa
Second carbon capture pipeline would also run through North Iowa | Technology | globegazette.com
Axne: Iowa's work on carbon, renewable energy points to next farm bill - Iowa Capital Dispatch

Kansas
K-State experts outline climate change effects on Kansas, tips to reduce impact | News | themercy.com

Louisiana
Venture Global Nets Additional LNG Commitment From PGNiG (spe.org)

Michigan
Study Shows Which Carbon Capture Methods Are Most Beneficial - Gas World
DNR, DTE Energy finalize agreement on nation's 1st carbon-credits project on state forest land - Michigan Farm News

Minnesota
After a Clash Over Costs and Carbon, a Minnesota Utility Wants to Step Back from Its Main Electricity Supplier - Inside Climate News
Company proposes carbon capture project that would include Granite Falls Energy, other Minnesota ethanol plants | West Central Tribune (wctrib.com)
Otter Tail Power to sell stake in North Dakota coal plant (apnews.com)

Missouri
Experts tell Ameren to dump the scrubbers, close the coal plant | Local Business | stltoday.com
Judge tosses Missouri AG lawsuit targeting 'social cost of carbon' emissions • Missouri Independent

New Jersey

New Mexico
New Mexico Gov joins Biden's 30x30 environment goal | TheHill
Carbon capture, sequestration 'adjacent to the core' of DCP Midstream's business | S&P Global Market Intelligence (spglobal.com)
New York

North Carolina
Rabo Carbon Bank Takes Pilot Program to Three States, Partners with Continuum Ag | AgWeb

North Dakota
ND Transmission Authority Report shows wind power going up, and coal going down (kfyrtv.com)
Japanese delegation touring North Dakota, talking about hydrogen, carbon capture opportunities | Oil And Energy | willistonherald.com
PSC approves transfer of Coal Creek permits | State & Regional | bismarcktribune.com
N.D.'s Brad Crabtree nominated for Department of Energy post | INFORUM

Ohio
Appalachia’s clean energy transition must address racial inequity, advocates say | Energy News Network

Oregon
Local researchers examine blue carbon from Salish Sea to Arabian Gulf | Environment | goskagit.com

Pennsylvania
Pa. set to enter northeastern initiative limiting carbon from power plants | Pennsylvania Capital-Star (penncapital-star.com)

South Carolina
Duke explores shutting coal-fired plants by 2030 in South Carolina plans | Utility Dive

Texas
Researchers seek to use carbon to decarbonize global economies (mrt.com)
Tomlinson: Carbon is damaging the climate, but also critical to clean energy (houstonchronicle.com)
Offshore carbon capture project green-lit for waters south of Port Arthur (beaumontenterprise.com)
Port of Corpus Christi beefs up its CO2 storage capacity (caller.com)
MMEX secures 450 acres for hydrogen production projects in West Texas (h2-view.com)

Virginia
Letters to the Editor for Aug. 29: Infrastructure bill fails on pipelines, fossil fuel | Letters | richmond.com

West Virginia
U.S. Senator Manchin wants a pause in Democrats’ push for $3.5 trillion spending bill | Reuters

**Wisconsin**
Wisconsin regulators pass on policy changes, order further study of clean energy transition | Science & Environment | madison.com

**Wyoming**
Wyoming’s biggest utility is closing the curtains on coal | National News | kpvi.com
Wyo. governor talks climate solutions, carbon capture with curious Jackson Hole residents | Town & County | jhnewsandguide.com
University of Wyoming School of Energy Resources Hosts ‘Pathways to Net Zero’ Workshops – UW School of Energy Resources Energy Review (ampproject.org)

**Upcoming Events**

- **September 14**  

- **September 21**  
  C2ES Webinar: Scaling Carbon Dioxide Removal: Limitations and Potential

- **October 12**  
  GCCSI Report Release & Webinar: Global Status of CCS 2021

- **November 8-10**  
  Midwest Regional Carbon Initiative Stakeholder Meeting