

June 18, 2019

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski Chairman Committee on Energy and Natural Resources **United States Senate** 304 Dirksen Senate Building Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Joe Manchin Ranking Member Committee on Energy and Natural Resources **United States Senate** 304 Dirksen Senate Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Murkowski and Ranking Member Manchin:

Western Governors appreciate your introduction and sponsorship of <u>S. 1201</u>, the Enhancing Fossil Fuel Energy Carbon Technology (EFFECT) Act, which aligns with WGA Policy Resolution 2018-07, Enhanced Oil Recovery. Commercializing carbon capture and utilization has the dual benefits of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and producing a valuable commodity. Department of Energy (DOE) research, development, and demonstration programs and other federal incentives are necessary to increase the pace of the commercialization of carbon capture, utilization, and sequestration (CCUS) technology.

Transportation of carbon dioxide is also essential to fully utilize this resource and access other markets for and sources of carbon dioxide. Western Governors urge Congress to find ways to improve carbon dioxide pipeline infrastructure, such as through S. 383, the Utilizing Significant Emissions with Innovative Technologies (USE IT) Act. We appreciate that S. 1201 requires a study on barriers to commercializing carbon dioxide (such as pipeline capacity) and opportunities to expand carbon dioxide markets and develop new technologies. Further, we appreciate S. 1201's inclusion of net-negative emissions technology and its requirement for DOE to coordinate with the U.S. Department of Agriculture on the carbon removal program. Finally, Western Governors continue to value being a consulted party and request the inclusion of the Western Governors as one of the required entities for consultation.

Thank you for your efforts to further the commercialization of CCUS technology and to continue U.S. leadership in this field. Western Governors are eager to work with you to realize CCUS's environmental and economic benefits by advancing and incentivizing the development and demonstration of CCUS technology and infrastructure.

Sincerely,

David Ige

Governor of Hawai'

Chair, WGA

Doug Burg

Governor of North Dakota

Vice Chair, WGA

cc: The Honorable John Barrasso, Chairman, Committee on Environment and Public Works The Honorable Tom Carper, Ranking Member, Committee on Environment and Public Works