

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 731

To develop a methodology for, and complete, a national assessment of geological storage capacity for carbon dioxide, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 1, 2007

Mr. SALAZAR (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. WEBB, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. BUNNING) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To develop a methodology for, and complete, a national assessment of geological storage capacity for carbon dioxide, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “National Carbon Diox-
5 ide Storage Capacity Assessment Act of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) **ASSESSMENT.**—The term “assessment”
9 means the national assessment of geological storage

1 capacity for carbon dioxide completed under this
2 Act.

3 (2) CAPACITY; GEOLOGICAL STORAGE CAPAC-
4 ITY.—The terms “capacity” and “geological storage
5 capacity” mean the portion of a storage formation
6 that can retain carbon dioxide under the parameters
7 (including physical, geological, and economic param-
8 eters) established under the methodology developed
9 under this Act.

10 (3) ENGINEERED HAZARDS.—The term “engi-
11 neered hazards” includes the location and comple-
12 tion history of any well that could affect potential
13 storage.

14 (4) RISK.—The term “risk” includes risks
15 posed by geomechanical, geochemical,
16 hydrogeological, structural, and engineered hazards.

17 (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
18 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-
19 rector of the United States Geological Survey.

20 (6) STORAGE FORMATION.—The term “storage
21 formation” means a saline formation, unmineable
22 coal seam, or oil or gas reservoir capable of accom-
23 modating a volume of industrial carbon dioxide.

1 **SEC. 3. METHODOLOGY FOR NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF**
2 **GEOLOGICAL STORAGE CAPACITY FOR CAR-**
3 **BON DIOXIDE.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after the
5 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall develop
6 a methodology for conducting a national assessment of the
7 geological storage capacity for carbon dioxide.

8 (b) POTENTIAL STORAGE FORMATIONS.—In devel-
9 oping the methodology under this section, the Secretary
10 shall consider—

11 (1) the geographic extent of all potential stor-
12 age formations in all 50 States;

13 (2) the capacity of the potential storage forma-
14 tions;

15 (3) the injectivity of the potential storage for-
16 mations;

17 (4) an estimate of potential volumes of oil and
18 gas recoverable by injection and storage of industrial
19 carbon dioxide in potential storage formations; and

20 (5) the risk associated with the potential stor-
21 age formations.

22 (c) COORDINATION.—

23 (1) FEDERAL COORDINATION.—

24 (A) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall
25 consult with the Secretary of Energy and the
26 Administrator of the Environmental Protection

1 Agency on issues of data sharing, format, devel-
2 opment of the methodology, and content of the
3 assessment required under this Act to ensure
4 the maximum usefulness and success of the as-
5 sessment.

6 (B) COOPERATION.—The Secretary of En-
7 ergy and the Administrator shall cooperate with
8 the Secretary to ensure, to the maximum extent
9 practicable, the usefulness and success of the
10 assessment.

11 (2) STATE COORDINATION.—The Secretary
12 shall consult with State geological surveys and other
13 relevant entities to ensure, to the maximum extent
14 practicable, the usefulness and success of the assess-
15 ment.

16 (d) OPPORTUNITY FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT.—
17 During the period beginning on the date that is 270 days
18 after the date of enactment of this Act and ending not
19 less than 45 days, and not more than 90 days, after the
20 commencement of the assessment, the Secretary shall pro-
21 vide the heads of stakeholder Federal agencies, the heads
22 of State land management agencies, industry stakeholders,
23 and the public with an opportunity to review and comment
24 on the proposed methodology developed under subsection
25 (a).

1 (e) INDEPENDENT VERIFICATION.—During the pe-
2 riod described in subsection (d), the Secretary shall con-
3 vene a committee of subject matter experts composed of
4 representatives of Federal agencies, institutions of higher
5 education, nongovernmental organizations, State organi-
6 zations, industry, and international geoscience organiza-
7 tions to conduct a review of the methodology for capacity
8 and risk estimation required to carry out this section.

9 (f) FINAL PUBLICATION.—Not later than 90 days
10 after the period described in subsection (d), the Secretary
11 shall—

12 (1) publish in the Federal Register a descrip-
13 tion of the final methodology to be used for con-
14 ducting the national assessment of the geological
15 storage capacity for carbon dioxide required under
16 subsection (a), taking into account any comments
17 received under subsection (d) and the methodology
18 review conducted under subsection (e); and

19 (2) issue a public report that responds to the
20 comments received under subsection (d) and the
21 methodology review under subsection (e).

1 **SEC. 4. COMPLETION OF NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF GEO-**
2 **LOGICAL STORAGE CAPACITY FOR CARBON**
3 **DIOXIDE.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the
5 date of final publication of the methodology, the Secretary
6 shall complete a national assessment of geological storage
7 capacity for carbon dioxide using the methodology devel-
8 oped under section 3.

9 (b) DATABASE.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish
11 a database on the Internet accessible to the public
12 that provides the results of the assessment required
13 under this section, including a detailed description of
14 the data collected under the assessment.

15 (2) DATA.—The database shall include the data
16 necessary to rank potential storage sites for capacity
17 and risk, across the United States, within each
18 State, by formation, and within each basin.

19 (c) REPORT.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
21 after the date on which the assessment required
22 under this section is completed, the Secretary shall
23 submit to the appropriate committees of Congress
24 and the President a report that describes the find-
25 ings of the assessment.

1 (2) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary
2 shall make the report required under this subsection
3 available on the Internet.

4 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

5 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
6 this Act \$20,000,000 for the period beginning on October
7 1 of the first full fiscal year after the date of enactment
8 of this Act and ending 4 years thereafter.

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