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**From:** Jones, Enesta [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=65B8E6C6E5CA4A7A9AE85D98A4C8EEDB-EJONES02]  
**Sent:** 7/6/2018 3:49:57 PM  
**To:** Ex. 6  
**CC:** Press [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b293283291dc44e0b5d1c36be9281d8a-Press]  
**Subject:** Re: Article on Regulation of Carbon Dioxide Storage in North Dakota

Mark,

**On background:**

**1. What is the significance of this agreement between the EPA and North Dakota?**

The action authorizes North Dakota, instead of EPA, to implement and enforce its Underground Injection Control Class VI program. Additionally, North Dakota is the first state to receive Class VI Program Primacy. More [information](#).

**2. Why did the EPA agree to grant this authority to North Dakota?**

After a review of the North Dakota application, EPA determined that the state is capable of administering a Class VI UIC program in a manner consistent with the terms and purposes of Safe Drinking Water Act and all applicable regulations.

**3. Why is carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) important? What is the EPA doing to promote this technology?**

Carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) is developing technology that can be used to significantly reduce emissions of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) from coal-fired power plants and ethanol production facilities.

EPA's Underground Injection Control Program establishes requirements to ensure protection of underground sources of drinking water where technologies such as CCS are being deployed. The EPA is not promoting the technology. However, the Department of Energy is sponsoring CCS efforts – from small-scale innovative research to large-scale demonstration projects – to promote the development and implementation of the technology

**4. What are the potential benefits of CCS technology for the CO<sub>2</sub> producers (i.e. coal-fired power plants and ethanol production facilities)? What are the potential benefits for CO<sub>2</sub> users (i.e. oil and gas wells)?**

CCS technology might allow coal-fired power plants, ethanol production facilities, and other CO<sub>2</sub> producers to capture CO<sub>2</sub> as a salable byproduct of the combustion process. Captured CO<sub>2</sub> can be utilized in oil and gas production using “enhanced oil recovery” or other enhanced extractive recovery methods. Captured CO<sub>2</sub> can also be used in the production of building materials such as cement.

**5. EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt has been quoted as saying that handing regulation over to the state would help advance carbon capture and sequestration technology How will this agreement help advance CCS technology?**

The Final Class VI Rule Preamble (75 FR 77242): “EPA believes that States are in the best position to implement UIC–GS [geological sequestration] programs, and by allowing for independent Class VI primacy, EPA encourages States to take responsibility for implementation of Class VI regulations. The Agency’s UIC program believes that this may, in turn, help provide for a more comprehensive approach to managing GS projects by promoting the integration of GS activities under SDWA into a broader framework for States managing issues related to CCS that may lie outside the scope of the UIC program or other EPA programs. This would harness the unique efficiencies States can offer to promote adoption of GS technology that incorporates issues in the broader scope of CCS, while ensuring that USDWs are protected through the UIC regulatory framework.”

**6. What does this agreement mean for the coal and ethanol industries in North Dakota (and/or the US in general)?**

EPA ensures that regulations are in place to enable permitting of projects to ensure protection of environmental resources (e.g., Underground Sources of Drinking Water) and public health. EPA's Office of Water has not studied the benefits to various industries under the UIC program.

With CCS, the coal and ethanol industries in North Dakota, and in the U.S. in general, can demonstrate one approach to operating with significant reductions of CO2 emissions and turning a pollutant stream into a revenue stream.

7. What does it mean for the oil and gas industry in North Dakota (and/or the US in general)?

See response #6.

**From:** Mark Halsall <[REDACTED]>

**Ex. 6**

**Date:** June 27, 2018 at 11:13:14 AM EDT

**To:** "Jones, Enesta" <[Jones.Enesta@epa.gov](mailto:Jones.Enesta@epa.gov)>

**Subject: Re: Article on Regulation of Carbon Dioxide Storage in North Dakota**

Thanks Enesta. I am writing this article for Basin Bits, a trade magazine published by the Western Dakota Energy Association.

Mark

On Wed, Jun 27, 2018 at 10:04 AM, Jones, Enesta <[Jones.Enesta@epa.gov](mailto:Jones.Enesta@epa.gov)> wrote:

Who are you writing for?

Hi Mark, I'm now looking into your questions.

**From:** Mark Halsall <[REDACTED]>

**Ex. 6**

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 27, 2018 10:32 AM

**To:** Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)>

**Subject: Re: Article on Regulation of Carbon Dioxide Storage in North Dakota**

Hi Lynn.

Here are those questions for the carbon capture and sequestration article I'm writing, as promised:

- North Dakota is the first state in the U.S. to be given authority to regulate underground wells used for long-term storage of waste carbon dioxide captured from industrial sources. What is the significance of this agreement between the EPA and North Dakota?
- Why did the EPA agree to grant this authority to North Dakota?
- Why is carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) important? What is the EPA doing to promote this technology?

What are the potential benefits of CCS technology for the CO2 producers (i.e. coal-fired power plants and ethanol production facilities)? What are the potential benefits for CO2 users (i.e. oil and gas wells)?

- EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt has been quoted as saying that handing regulation over to the state would help advance carbon capture and sequestration technology How will this agreement help advance CCS technology?

- What does this agreement mean for the coal and ethanol industries in North Dakota (and/or the US in general)? What does it mean for the oil and gas industry in North Dakota (and/or the US in general)?

That's about it. As previously indicated, July 6 is when I need to have either conducted a phone interview or received written responses in order to make my deadline. If a phone interview is the route the EPA chooses to go, appreciate it if you could let me know as soon as you can so we can set this up.

Thanks for help, Lynn.

Regards,

Mark Halsall

**Ex. 6**

On Wed, Jun 20, 2018 at 1:30 PM, Mark Halsall <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Thanks for getting back to me Tricia - much appreciated. I will get you a list of questions early next week. The hard deadline for the piece is July 6.

Mark

On Wed, Jun 20, 2018 at 1:23 PM, Lynn, Tricia <[lynn.tricia@epa.gov](mailto:lynn.tricia@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hi Mark—

Thanks for your inquiry.

I'm happy to check into the possibility of an interview, but please be aware that they're not always available. If not, we can typically respond in writing. Any response is more likely to come from our subject matter experts than the Administrator. Even then, we may not be able to provide a specific source for attribution.

In any case, to begin I'll need a list of your specific questions and hard deadline. Can you please supply those at your earliest convenience?

Thanks so much,

Tricia

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Tricia Lynn

Office of Public Affairs

U.S. EPA

Office: 202.564.2615

**From:** Mark Halsall [mailto: ] **Ex. 6**  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 20, 2018 1:24 PM  
**To:** Press <Press@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Article on Regulation of Carbon Dioxide Storage in North Dakota

Hello. I just sent an interview request to Richard Mylott, but he's suggested I contact the EPA national press office at this email address instead. If you could get back to me about request at your earliest convenience, I'd really appreciate it.

Regards,

Mark Halsall

**Ex. 6**

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mylott, Richard** <Mylott.Richard@epa.gov>

Date: Wed, Jun 20, 2018 at 12:14 PM

Subject: Re: Article on Regulation of Carbon Dioxide Storage in North Dakota

To: Mark Halsall **Ex. 6**

Thanks for this Mark. Folks in our national press office should be able to help with this. Best is 202-564-4355 or [press@epa.gov](mailto:press@epa.gov).

Rich **Ex. 6**

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 20, 2018, at 11:11 AM, Mark Halsall **Ex. 6** wrote:

Hello Rich,

My name is Mark Halsall, and I'm writing an article on the move by the EPA to give North Dakota the power to regulate carbon dioxide storage wells within the state for Basin Bits, a trade magazine put out by the Western Dakota Energy Association. It would be great if I could include a comment or two from EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt in the article, and I am contacting you in the hopes we can make arrangements for interview (either via phone or email). If you could get back to me at your earliest convenience to let me know if this is doable, I'd really appreciate it.

Thanks - hope to hear back from you soon.

Mark Halsall

**Ex. 6**