

**Brad Crabtree**  
**Nominee for Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy at the U.S. Department of Energy**  
**Hearing of the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources**  
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Chairman Manchin, Ranking Member Barrasso, and distinguished Members of the Committee, it is an honor to appear before you today and this Committee. I also want to recognize my own Senator John Hoeven, with whom I have had the pleasure of working since his first term as then Governor of North Dakota.

It is a tremendous honor to be nominated by President Biden to be Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy and Carbon Management and, if confirmed, to have the opportunity to work with Secretary Granholm and the terrific team at the Department of Energy (DOE).

As a native North Dakotan, I spent my early years hunting and fishing with my father who was a deeply conservative and passionate conservationist, and I grew up among people who earned their livelihoods on farms and ranches and in mines, power plants and oilfields. My wife, daughter and I also raised cattle and sheep and direct-marketed grass-fed lamb and beef for 15 years on our small family ranch in North Dakota, where I still live and work today.

Shaped by these experiences, I have dedicated my professional life to advancing energy solutions that fulfill our climate obligations, while meeting the needs of people, communities and regions that depend on traditional energy, agriculture, and industry. My work as Vice President for Carbon Management at the Great Plains Institute has built bridges—in some instances, for the first time—among industry, agriculture, NGOs, organized labor, and others; across different states and regions; and, above all, between Democrats and Republicans.

Carbon management—a mission priority of DOE's Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management—has been a principal focus of my work for 20 years. Beginning in 2001, I co-led the Institute's Powering the Plains project that forged private sector, NGO and state policymaker agreement on a comprehensive 50-year energy blueprint for the Upper Midwest. This informed the 2006 launch of an energy and climate initiative of the Midwestern Governors Association for which I coordinated energy and climate advisory groups—which ultimately made groundbreaking commitments to carbon capture and storage at that time.

In 2011, I co-founded and still serve as staff director of the Carbon Capture Coalition, an 80-plus member partnership of companies, labor unions, and conservation and environmental organizations dedicated to economywide adoption of carbon capture, direct air capture, carbon utilization and CO2 transport and storage infrastructure. Over several years, the Coalition actively supported legislation that became the landmark bipartisan reform and expansion of the federal 45Q tax credit in 2018.

Finally, I understand the important role states must play in implementing carbon management. Working with former Republican Governor Matt Mead of Wyoming and Democratic Governor Steve Bullock of Montana, my Institute colleagues and I established the State Carbon Capture Work Group in 2015. This now 16-state Work Group has produced important analyses and bipartisan recommendations to accelerate commercial deployment of technology and infrastructure.

I believe the United States must lead in developing technologies to tackle climate change and that DOE's Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management has a key role to play in helping commercialize and deploy innovative technologies to decarbonize our energy and industrial system, while maintaining reliability and affordability. Proving out these technologies at scale here at home enhances our credibility in persuading China, India, and other major emerging economies to do their part, vastly increasing prospects for averting the worst impacts of climate change. And domestic leadership can position the U.S. to manufacture and export these critical technologies globally.

Deployment of carbon management technologies also provides the opportunity retain and create jobs at existing industrial facilities and power plants that consistently pay above prevailing wages, benefitting affected communities in energy-producing and industrial regions across our country. At the same time, carbon capture and utilization technologies significantly reduce some traditional air and other pollutants from industrial and power generation facilities that have long unjustly burdened many communities. Through responsible project development supported by DOE, additional pollutants of concern can be addressed.

Recent and pending legislation before Congress substantially increases the scale and scope of responsibilities for the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management. If confirmed, I

commit to working with you to faithfully meet our climate commitments, sustain high-wage jobs and domestic energy and industrial production, provide environmental benefits to communities, and position the U.S. for continued technology leadership.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before the Committee today. I look forward to your questions.