



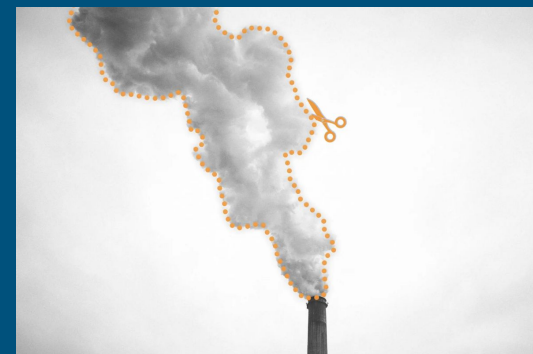
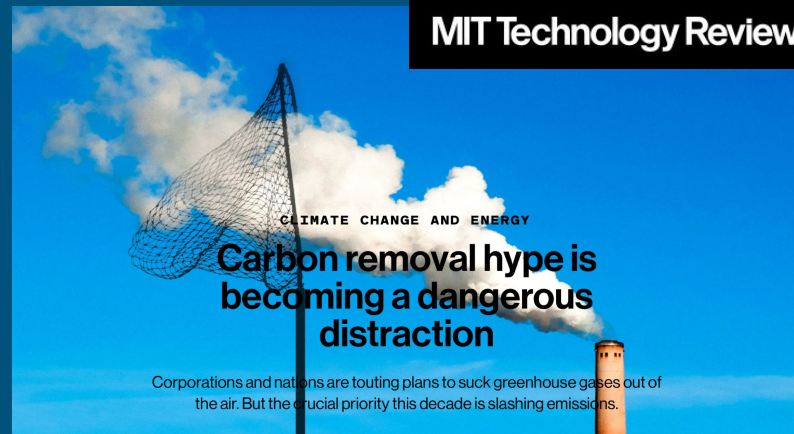
Western
Environmental
Law Center

Risks of Carbon Capture and Storage

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October 28th, 2024

CCS presents financial, environmental, and health risks to New Mexicans.

MIT Technology Review



The New York Times

Can Carbon Capture Live Up to the Hype?

Pipeline Ruptures

LOCAL

'Foaming at the mouth': First responders describe scene after pipeline rupture, gas leak

Sarah Fowler The Clarion-Ledger

Published 11:23 a.m. CT Feb. 27, 2020

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Story Highlights

- Approximately 300 people were evacuated and 45 treated at area hospitals after a pipeline rupture.
- The pipeline, which ruptured Saturday in Yazoo County, belonged to Denbury Resources out of Texas.
- The pipeline released CO₂ into the air, making people "act like zombies," said first responder.
- First responder rescued three people before he too was overtaken by the gas.



Storage Leaks

While Class VI well injections occur thousands of feet below the surface and below underground water sources, activities at the surface to build and maintain these wells, as well as improper sealing of an injection well, can threaten drinking water sources. If leaks occur in these wells due to improper siting, permitting, maintenance, monitoring, or other circumstances, carbonic acid can leach metals out of subsurface rock formations and potentially contaminate groundwater with arsenic, lead, copper, mercury, cadmium, and others at levels above EPA's maximum contaminant levels (MCLs).² These metals can gravely alter groundwater chemistry, introducing contaminants that can cause significant health risks, forcing public water utilities to spend millions or billions of dollars to remediate contamination and find alternative sources of water.

Storage Leaks

EPA Announces Proposed Order Requiring Archer Daniels Midland Co. to Take Actions to Ensure Safe Operation of its Carbon Sequestration Well in Decatur, Illinois



Grist

Donate



The nation's first commercial carbon sequestration plant is in Illinois. It leaks.

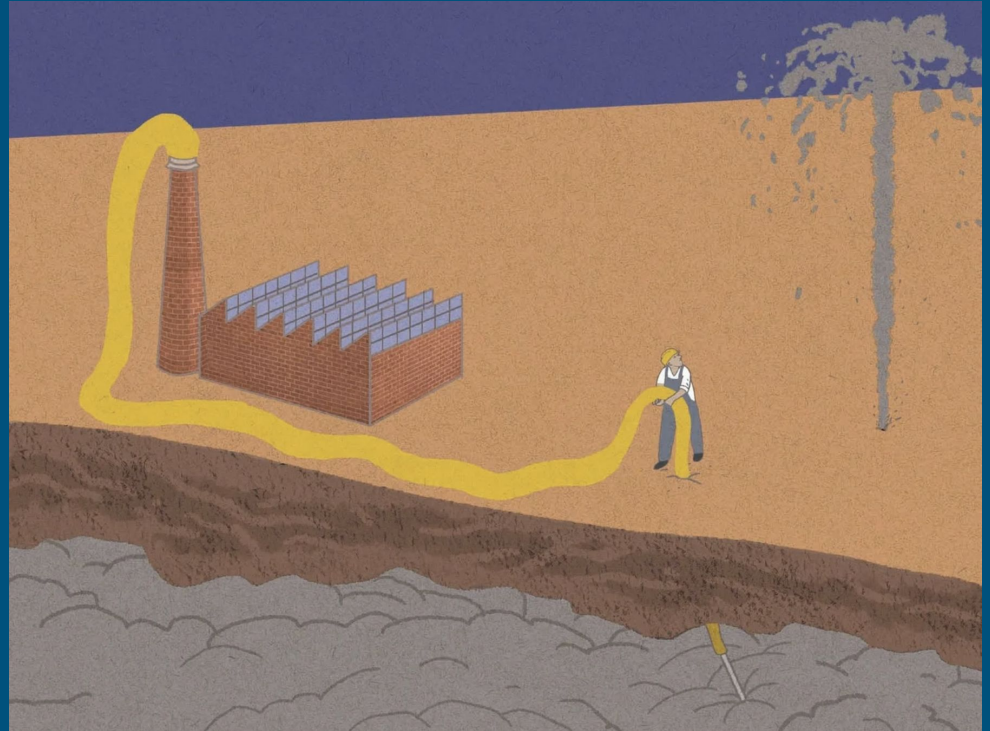
The locals are worried: "Just because CO₂ sequestration can be done doesn't mean it should be done."



Courtesy of Archer Daniels Midland

Financial & Climate Risks

- Emergency & Remedial Response Costs
- Financial Assurance for Closure & Monitoring
- False Claims of Climate Benefits



Pore Space & Liability

- Prohibit Severability of Surface Estate and Pore Space
- Establish High Threshold for Compulsory Unitization
- Reject Transfer of Liability to the State

State	Minimum Number of Years Before Transfer of Liability	Statute
Montana	50 ¹¹	Mont. Code Ann. §82-11-183(3)(f)
Wyoming	20	Wyo. Stat. Ann. §35-11-319(b)
North Dakota	10	N.D. Cent. Code §38-22-17(4)
West Virginia	10	W. Va. Code §22-11B-12
Louisiana	10	La. Stat. Ann. §30:1109
California	100	Ca. Pub. Res. Code §71464
Utah	10	Utah Code §40-11-16

Policy Recommendations

- Reject CCS as a Climate Solution
- Prohibit Severability of Surface Estate & Pore Space
- Establish High Threshold for Compulsory Unitization
- Reject Transfer of Liability to the State
- Create Trust Fund for Monitoring & Compensation for Harms

Thank You!



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