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## MIT Technology Review

### CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY

#### **The US just invested more than \$1 billion in carbon removal**

The move represents a big step in the effort to suck CO<sub>2</sub> out of the atmosphere—and slow down climate change.

By **James Temple**

August 11, 2023

**Full Article:** [The US just invested more than \\$1 billion to kick-start the carbon-removal market \(ampproject.org\)](https://www.ampproject.org)

The US Department of Energy announced today that it's providing \$1.2 billion to develop regional hubs that can draw down and store away at least 1 million metric tons of carbon dioxide per year as a means of combating climate change.

The move represents a major step forward in the effort to establish a market for removing the planet-warming greenhouse gas from the atmosphere, using what are known as direct air capture (DAC) machines.

The first recipients will include Occidental Petroleum's proposed carbon-removal project in Kleberg County, Texas, dubbed the South Texas DAC Hub, as well as a [partnership](#) between Battelle, Climeworks, and Heirloom to develop facilities in southwestern Louisiana, known as the Project Cypress DAC Hub. Those two projects will split roughly \$1.1 billion, with about \$100 million more going toward 19 feasibility or front-end engineering studies for earlier-stage projects across the country.

Friday's announcement represents the first tranche of \$3.5 billion in funding allocated under the [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#) to set up at least four regional DAC hubs. All told, those projects could boost the global capacity for carbon removal 400-fold, according to an estimate by Carbon180, a nonprofit that advocates for the removal and reuse of carbon dioxide.

"If we deploy this at scale, this technology can help us make serious headway toward our net-zero emissions goals while we are still focused on deploying, deploying, deploying more clean energy at the same time," says Jennifer Granholm, the US secretary of energy, who revealed the details of the program during a call with reporters on Thursday.



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