



February 23, 2007

Dear Colleagues:

In the nearly one year since the last full meeting of the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum (CSLF) in Delhi, Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) has become a more visible option for reducing carbon dioxide emissions. Its potential benefits are increasingly recognized by decision makers and diverse stakeholders throughout the world. The technology continues to advance and an enabling legal and institutional infrastructure is beginning to take shape in some countries. The world's press is starting to take note and the general public is starting to become aware of CCS.

As the leading institution for international collaboration on carbon sequestration, the CSLF can play a vital role in furthering this progress. By providing a forum for technical and policy experts from around the globe to work together to address critical challenges, by giving international recognition to important projects, by helping Members build capacity, and by communicating its potential, we can accelerate the development and widespread deployment of CCS.

The challenges facing CCS are increasingly those of deployment. The CSLF is addressing those challenges. The workshop series on "Near-Term Markets for CCS" which we are jointly holding with the International Energy Agency for the G8 is one example. Capacity building activities for emerging economies is another. Many of the elements of the CSLF Strategic Plan approved in June relate to deployment.

Appropriately, the overall theme for this CSLF meeting is "Overcoming Barriers to Deployment." In an effort to open the CSLF more to discussion and stakeholder input while appropriately reserving decision-making to its Members, we have restructured the CSLF meeting format. We will begin with an opening plenary session with a keynote panel focused on the theme. On the second day we will feature a day long inter-active workshop focused on the theme. The business meetings of the Technical and Policy Groups will take place on the final day. In these business sessions, the Policy and Technical Groups will continue to turn the broad directions of the CSLF Strategic Plan into specific actions to produce concrete results.

I remain excited about the CSLF and am greatly encouraged by the continued enthusiasm of Members and stakeholders alike and by the progress we are making. I am convinced we can and will do even better.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jeffrey D. Jarrett".

Jeffrey D. Jarrett  
Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy  
U.S. Department of Energy, and  
Chair, CSLF Policy Group