Carbon Sequestration leadership forum

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POLICY GROUP

Proposed CSLF Task Force on CCS in the Academic Community

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PROPOSED CSLF TASK FORCE ON CCS IN THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

Note by the Secretariat

Background

A new CSLF Technical Group Task Force on CCS in the Academic Community is being proposed by the Secretariat to replace the current Working Group on Student Body Initiative. This new Task Force would have a broader mission than the current Working Group.

Action Requested

The Secretariat is proposing that the Policy Group request the Technical Group to form a new Task Force on CCS in the Academic Community.

Proposed CSLF Task Force on CCS in the Academic Community

The CSLF's Technical Group formed a Working Group on Student Body Initiative in 2008 for the purpose of encouraging student / researcher collaboration and assembling a directory of student and researcher international activities. The Working Group has made some inroads toward that end, but intends to conclude its activities and sunset within the next year. The topic of carbon capture and storage (CCS) in the academic community is an important one, however. One of the high-level recommendations contained in the G8-IEA-CSLF report on results from the 3rd Workshop on Near-Term Opportunities for CCS on November 2007 is "Raising Public Education and Awareness", which is deemed critical to successful CCS deployment. There should be a continuing role for the CSLF in this area.

The proposed initial mission for this new Task Force would be to develop contacts within academic community, identify academic perspectives and programs on CCS for universities in CSLF Member countries, and determine the path forward for the CSLF in this area. One possible activity for the Task Force would be to investigate the possibility of an exchange program for university professors in CCS curricula. This would result in creating a stronger CCS network and information exchange within the academic community.

This Task Force could also investigate the concept and worth of assisting in the development of an international graduate degree program (first at the MS level and subsequent at the Ph.D. level) focused on CCS and Carbon Management for universities in CSLF Member countries. Such a program could be based on a combination of face-to-face and web-based classes and research projects, to be offered by faculty in the participating universities, in order to ensure maximum diversity and accessibility. A core principle of the program could be to integrate both student and faculty mobility in more than one core university location.