

Louisiana Climate Initiatives Task Force: Action Proposal Template

Please fill out this Action Template to the best of your ability. Some of the questions are technical or require research. If you do not know the answer to any of the questions below, respond "N/A" or share any considerations or uncertainties in your answer. Your proposal will be considered even if you leave questions blank. The Task Force, its committees and advisory groups, and staff will conduct research and fill knowledge gaps as needed.

For each recommendation, please complete one Action Template. Each subsequent page includes guidance and prompts to help you develop effective components that make up an Action and that will support its evaluation.

Submit completed action proposals through this Form by April 30, 2021. To submit an action, you may also utilize the fillable PDF found on our website at <https://gov.louisiana.gov/page/climate-initiatives-task-force>, which can be submitted to climate@la.gov or mailed to 1051 N 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA, 70802.

Background

The Louisiana Climate Initiatives Task Force, set forth by an Executive Order of Governor John Bel Edwards, aims to identify strategies for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions across all sectors of the Louisiana economy and society. The Task Force's Final Climate Report will lay out these strategies through compiling multiple actions and their implementation pathways that collectively set Louisiana on a path to meet its goal of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

An Action is based around a specific policy, program, or project that will result in a net reduction in GHG emissions and/or comprehensively address a cross-cutting implementation priority (Climate Equity, Economic Transition, Scientific Advancement, Governance).

Action recommendations can be developed and submitted by Sector Committee members, Climate Task Force Members, Advisory Group members, the Governor's Office, state agency partners, local organizations, and the public. We encourage Actions to be developed collaboratively. Each Action will follow a consistent format and include a title, description, impact on net GHG emissions, co-benefits, consequences, timeframe, lead and partners, climate equity priorities, and other implementation and feasibility considerations.

Action proposals submitted through this process will be reviewed and considered and may be modified or combined with other Action recommendations. Actions will be collectively evaluated against the Fundamental Objectives of the Climate Initiatives Task Force (see full list at the end of this document) and included in a trade-off analysis to inform decisions by the Climate Task Force on the best path forward for achieving net zero emissions by 2050.

Proposed Action Overview

Please note your name(s) and, if applicable, your affiliation(s) and any partners involved in development of your proposed Action, including any Sector Committee, Advisory Group, or Task Force members. *

Daniel Dehon

Please provide a short, descriptive title for this Action. *

Clearing up regulatory barriers that govern carbon capture and sequestration

Please describe this Action in one to two paragraphs. Include a brief overview of the specific policy, program, or project that you are proposing as well as important context on why this Action is needed. *

The LCI Draft Partial Final report identifies constructing, transporting, and storing vast amounts of carbon dioxide as an opportunity to reduce overall carbon emissions. One major impediment to this strategy is the current, onerous federal permitting structure required for carbon storage wells. Louisiana can streamline this process by applying to take over the Class VI permit process from the EPA. This has been done by both North Dakota and Wyoming and could be done by Louisiana as well.

What sector emission sources or sinks does this Action target? (Check all that apply.) *

- Agriculture
- Buildings & Housing
- Conservation
- Forestry
- Land Use
- Manufacturing & Industry
- Mining
- Oil & Gas
- Power
- Transportation
- Waste
- This Action does not directly reduce net GHG emissions, but addresses cross-cutting implementation priorities.

Which type of greenhouse gas does this Action target? (Check all that apply.) *

- Carbon Dioxide
- Methane
- Nitrous Oxide
- Fluorinated Gases
- N/A

Impacts of Proposed Action

How does your Action reduce Louisiana’s greenhouse gases? How do you know this? Do you have quantifiable evidence or research on how the Climate Task Force team can examine the emissions associated with your Action? *

Removes hurdles in the permitting process for carbon storage. Other states have taken this same action.

Achieving Other Fundamental Objectives

While the focus of this effort is on meeting the state’s GHG targets outlined in the Executive Order, the Climate Initiatives Task Force identified additional factors essential for consideration in emission reduction actions. Fundamental Objectives of the Task Force encompass these factors. Please reference the list of DRAFT Fundamental Objectives provided in the image below.

Fundamental Objectives

Fundamental objectives are the essential goals of this effort and will guide the development and evaluation of actions and strategies. The fundamental objectives (in bold) are grouped here by theme. The Task Force, its Sector Committees, and Advisory Groups have already begun to develop means objectives as they progress towards developing strategies.

REDUCING NET GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS

- **Minimize greenhouse gas emissions.**
- **Maximize greenhouse gas capture and sequestration.**

The ultimate goal of the Task Force is to reduce net GHGs in Louisiana. The Task Force will consider all means by which GHG emissions can be reduced or captured and sequestered.

IMPROVING QUALITY OF LIFE FOR RESIDENTS AND COMMUNITIES

- **Maximize quality of and access to essential goods, services, and infrastructure for residents.**
- **Maximize positive public health outcomes and public safety.**
- **Maximize the preservation of cultural heritage.**

The Task Force will consider the impacts of GHG emissions reduction strategies on quality of life in Louisiana and craft strategies that improve quality of life in Louisiana.

CREATING A MORE EQUITABLE SOCIETY

- **Reduce socioeconomic, demographic, and geographic disparities in future opportunities and outcomes.**
- **Maximize reduction and mitigation of historic and structural inequities and their impacts for underserved and marginalized communities, including communities of color and Indigenous peoples.**
- **Maximize engagement with and participation of communities in decision-making and implementation.**

The Task Force will consider the impacts of GHG emissions reduction strategies across socioeconomic, demographic, and geographic groups and craft strategies that ameliorate historic and structural inequities to create a more equitable Louisiana.

MANAGING FOR SHORT- AND LONG-TERM SUCCESS

- **Maximize confidence of the public and stakeholders in the outcome of emissions-reduction strategies to increase support for their implementation.**
- **Maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of emissions-reduction strategies.**
- **Maximize timely implementation of emissions-reduction strategies.**
- **Maximize the durability of emissions-reduction strategies in an uncertain future.**

The Task Force will consider the pathways and obstacles to implementing GHG emissions reduction strategies and craft strategies that are durable and supported by Louisianans.

STRENGTHENING THE ECONOMY AND WORKFORCE

- **Maximize job creation and support for Louisiana workers.**
- **Maximize economic growth.**

The Task Force will consider the impact of GHG emissions reduction strategies on the economy and workforce and craft strategies that support Louisiana workers, foster free enterprise, and spur economic growth.

CONSERVING NATURAL RESOURCES & PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

- **Maximize preservation of natural resources and ecosystem services.**
- **Maximize environmental stewardship and support of healthy ecosystems.**

The Task Force will consider how GHG emissions reduction strategies can also conserve, protect, or replenish the state's natural resources.

ADAPTING TO A CHANGING CLIMATE

- **Increase resilience of the built and natural environment to climate change.**
- **Increase the resilience of communities to climate change.**

The Task Force will consider the impacts of climate change on GHG emissions reduction strategies and craft strategies that increase climate resilience.

Emissions don't happen by themselves - they impact our lives, health, economy, and culture. What other benefits does the proposed Action have? (Please list all that apply.) How do these co-benefits help to achieve the DRAFT Fundamental Objectives of the Climate Initiatives Task Force? Describe the significance of these co-benefits and potential ways to measure them. *

With the existing infrastructure the state has in place, removing this regulatory hurdle has the potential to make LA one of the leaders in carbon capture and storage. Much like coastal restoration, other states may look to us for guidance.

EQUITY LENS: What groups primarily benefit from this Action? (Industry, socioeconomic, demographic, geographic) Are there ways to ensure more equitable access to these benefits? How can traditionally marginalized communities be prioritized in the distribution of benefits? How will the Action improve equity in the state? How do marginalized populations benefit from the Action? *

I believe this action would benefit all groups equally.

Are there potential negative consequences associated with implementing these Actions? How might these negative consequences impact the DRAFT Fundamental Objectives identified by the CTF? Describe the significance of these negative consequences and potential ways to measure them. *

No

EQUITY LENS: Who primarily bears the burden of the potential negative consequences associated with this Action? (Industry, socioeconomic, demographic, geographic) Is the burden placed disproportionately on specific group(s) (particularly lower income, minority, Indigenous, or rural communities)? Does this burden exacerbate historic and structural inequities? Are there ways this burden can be mitigated or distributed more equitably? *

This is simply a change in the regulatory process. The only negative impacts will be the additional cost incurred by the state to set up and administer the permitting process.

Are there potential concerns with transferring emissions or negative consequences to other states? If so, how might this be mitigated? *

Not that I am aware of

Feasibility of Proposed Action

What research, data, or experience support this Action? Is further research, additional data, and demonstration needed to better understand the Action, its emission reduction potential, and potential challenges before adoption? *

I have not done any research yet on the long term storage of carbon, but I believe it exist. Again this is simply a method to replace a federal process with a streamlined state process.

Does this Action require supporting investments in infrastructure or other systems to work? If so, can those investments support other GHG reduction Actions? *

Many of the transfer pipelines and potential storage facilities already exist. The regulatory system would need to be set up to allow the state to process these permits. This could be done by an exiting state agency or a new sector of an existing state agency that would support other GHG reduction efforts.

Has this Action been successfully implemented elsewhere? Describe. *

yes North Dakota and Wyoming

Does this Action build on existing successful efforts in Louisiana? Explain. *

No

Implementation Pathway

Recognizing the state's short, medium, and long-term emission reduction goals, how quickly can the proposed Action be implemented or scaled up to meaningfully reduce net GHG emissions? Please factor in the time needed to develop, design, permit, and construct (if applicable). Please select one timeframe. *

- Short Term (0-5 years)
- Medium Term (5-10 years)
- Long Term (>10 years)

What entity would lead adoption and implementation of this Action? Who is ultimately responsible for this Action's successful reduction of GHG emissions? *

State Government

Who are key public, private, nonprofit, and civic collaborators necessary for successful adoption and implementation? *

Oil and gas industry

Does adoption, implementation, and/or acceleration require or benefit from government action (e.g. executive or legislative; federal, state, local, or tribal)? *

Requires government action to implement

How does this Action align with and leverage existing efforts, concurrent public or private initiatives, and existing partnerships? *

Not Applicable

What are the necessary steps to adopt and implement this Action? *

State would need to setup the regulatory process and apply with EPA to take over the permitting

Describe the potential scientific, legal, economic, and political hurdles associated with successful adoption and implementation of the Action. How could these challenges or opposition be addressed? How can support be expanded (e.g. partnerships, messaging, etc.)? *

Unsure

What are the estimated costs to implement this Action, are those costs expected to change over time, and do they change with scale? What is the basis for the provided estimate? *

I do not have this information

What sources are available or could be used to fund implementation of this Action? *

This has not been investigated. Possibly 45Q Tax credit

Given the distribution of costs, benefits, and consequences associated with this Action as well as historic, structural, and geographic contexts, are there specific equity concerns that should be addressed in how this Action is implemented? *

Not that I'm aware of

What stakeholder or community engagement is recommended to support further development and implementation of this Action? *

Check with O&G sector to see if they would use the storage facilities if the process was made easier

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