

The Honorable Don Jones, Chairman
The House Committee on Natural Resources
77 South High Street
12th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

April 30, 2025

Testimony in Support of House Bill 170

Mr. Chairman,

I appreciate the opportunity to testify today on Holcim's support for House Bill 170. My name is Andrew Schepers, and I represent Holcim. Holcim is the world's largest manufacturer of building materials, with significant locations in Paulding and Marblehead. Holcim has a long history of creating the materials that have built Ohio. Holcim products can be seen in the Amazon filament center in Rossford and the Honda battery plant in Jeffersonville, among others. We are committed to providing the needed materials to help Ohio continue to grow.

You may ask why a company like Holcim would support House Bill 170; it is all about the future. Holcim commits to having net zero CO₂ emissions by 2050, and the use of carbon capture, sequestration, and utilization paves the way for us and others in our industry to achieve net zero emissions in the process of calcination - the chemical process converting limestone to cement clinker - while ensuring our ability to manufacture the materials all Ohioians depend on and in the future.

Carbon capture and sequestration allows us to address the question of eliminating CO₂ from the process of making cement. Currently cement plants can only reduce direct CO₂ emissions through the use of alternative fuels and where possible, replacing clinker in cement with decarbonated cementitious materials such as slag or fly ash. Our ambition to achieve net zero cannot be accomplished without carbon capture and sequestrations. As carbon capture develops, there must also be carbon utilization and sequestration options. In addition, carbon pipelines will be needed for efficient transportation of carbon to sequestration units.

This legislation would allow us to see a path to create a system to capture the carbon from our process and then transport it to a deep well location where CO₂ can be geologically stored, keeping it from our atmosphere. This also provides the opportunity to create a new economic sector in Ohio; through refinement and reutilization of the CO₂ captured, we can reutilize the captured CO₂ for industrial processes, all the way to using it to carbonate your favorite canned or bottled soda.

The possibilities are endless, but all possibilities need a place to start. House Bill 170 provides that starting line. Ohio can become a leader in the storage and utilization of CO₂, and we are ready to partner with you to make that a reality. Thank you for your time and consideration of this critical legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew R. Schepers